



Limestone Coast Grape and Wine Council Incorporated

Technical Sub – Committee meeting – 21st November 2024.

8am start – Zoom [link](#)

Attendees: Krysteen McElroy, Warren Birchmore, Paul Petrie, Pete Bissell, James Freckleton, Cath Kidman, Hans Loder, Dave Gerner, Brian Nitschinsk, Marty Wirper, Uli Grey-Smith

Apologies: Mardi Longbottom, Ben Harris, Susie Harris, Jen Shilling, Anita Goode, Catherine Wotton, Paul Smith, Jo Hargreaves, Samantha Scarrett, Paul Chiesa, Dan Reman, Alex Sas.

Previous Minutes (May 2024) – seen.

VineHealth Australia Report – Warren Birchmore & Krysteen McElroy.

Warren Birchmore presented, salient points were

- Introducing Sam Scarett to the VineHealth team who will be in Padthaway and Coonawarra in early December.
- Fruit Fly Vintage planning reminders & plant health certificates, especially out of Riverland and Adelaide Plains /Salisbury North.
- Meetings with regional associations is ongoing
- South Australian vineyard register review is now complete – will upgrade critical software.
- VHA working with PIRSA on outbreak logistics, joint control.
- Yarra Valley phylloxera fact sheets have been released
- Regional Stats for LC total as per Pete Bissell request
- Applications for the Inaugural Biosecurity Champion have been received, with winner announced soon

Krysteen & Warren salient discussion points

- Cross-border activities, Tourism & Forestry in particular.
- Also risks with SA Power networks vehicle and foot traffic,
- Movement of other agricultural & non-agricultural equipment (including drill mining trucks and other.)
- Target contractors to attend the field days,
- education of sub-contractors.
- Wrattontully Head is available to these contractors.
- This may require letterbox drop to all associated industries and companies (suggestion from Paul Petrie)
- VHA will continue to produce the annual SA Grape Utilisation Survey, which includes a vineyard register for SA. VHA is working with Wine Australia on the national vineyard register, but this will take time and considerable investment in new technology.
- Initial frost mapping 10m resolution too low to be of use.

Regional Partners (Wine Australia) Activities

Completed activities

- Hazardous inversions <https://limestonecoastwine.com.au/library/workshop-tools-to-help-understand-hazardous-inversion-in-the-vineyards-of-the-limestone-coast/>
 - A Wind-down email from Mesonets was discussed.
 - Hans Loder will contact Damon Grace and offer a letter of support from the LCGWC.
- Soil Carbon <https://limestonecoastwine.com.au/library/vineyard-soils-workshop-11july24/>
 - Cath Kidman will check Airbourne Logic presentations are up to date.

- Cabernet Symposium <https://limestonecoastwine.com.au/library/cabernet-symposium-2024-and-agtech-field-day/>
 - Cath Kidman, thanks for the support
 - Next Symposium will be in 2027, same time of year and similar format, but more winemaking topics.
 - Collaboration with Richard Fennessy (Western Australia /Margeret River). Yalley Valley would also like to join next time.
- Ag Tech day (day 2 Cabernet Symposium)
 - Good format and maybe link to Cabernet Symposium again in 2027.
- (Sustainability in the Greater Limestone Coast with the Landscapes Board)
 - See link to completed activity <https://limestonecoastwine.com.au/library/sustainable-winegrowing-in-the-greater-limestone-coast/>

Approved Activities

- Eucalyptus removal in wine – Pete Bissell.
 - Larger project involving multiple research providers & commercial interests.
 - Adelaide Uni and VA Filtration are the lead partners.
 - Wine companies are being approached to provide samples of affected wines for testing and trials. Once we have results seminars/tasting workshops will be organised later next year.
 - Next planning meeting will be February 2024
 - Hans asked if it were possible to get a hygiene ‘fact sheet’ for distribution before vintage.
- Naracoorte Highschool Vineyard – Hans Loder
 - Meetings underway with Dept Ed.
 - PIRSA & Tafe connections
 - Higher education linkages with UniSA, Adelaide & Flinders Uni
 - Wine Australia resources to be presented to and discussed with Nara. HS
 - PIRSA Agtech HS program and broader ag (and agtech specific) curriculum.
- Robe Workshop soils Workshop – Feb 2025 (Planning required)
 - Decide Date & Venue
 - Brian Nitschinsk will lead this activity
 - Sandier soils of Mt Benson and Robe
 - Carbon Neutral topics – Julian Marchant (Wine Australia) will help.
 - Ask Thomas Lines & Dan French to be involved
 - Landscapes board may be able to present.

Correspondence:

- Letter of Support for SARDI - Paul Petrie
 - Presentation shared online
 - Encourage a direct email discussion group on ideas and updates.
- Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference
 - Diary Marker – encouraging involvement.

Around the room

- A link to the recording will be shared with attendees.
- Direct emails and discussions encouraged.

Close 10.04 and next meeting date. TBA