



# The Stomper

The Free Monthly Winemaking Newsletter  
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Welcome to the latest issue of "The Stomper", a newsletter of winemaking hints and other wine-related articles. You are receiving this newsletter because you requested it. Instructions to cancel are at the end of this newsletter. Feel welcome to pass along this newsletter to your winemaking friends; we only ask that it be sent in its entirety. HOT TIPS are sprinkled throughout the newsletter, and if you look carefully, you may even find a HIDDEN SPECIAL!

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Get the "American Spirit" for your July 4th celebration at [grapestompers.com](http://grapestompers.com)!

## Hot Tip

### Where is it From?

Are you wondering what country of origin your Pinot Grigio kit is when it is not listed on the box? If the grape is spelled "Grigio" most likely it is Italian. If the spelling is "Gris", the grape most likely hails from France.

Submit your hot winemaking tip here:  
[www.grapestompers.com/submit\\_ideas.aspx](http://www.grapestompers.com/submit_ideas.aspx)

### Important Announcement

## Thistle Meadow Winery to Open New Shop

By Pam Wyatt

Grapestompers' sister company, Thistle Meadow Winery is expanding...again! On March 16 we opened a new wine shop in Kernersville, NC—Thistle Stop Wine Shop—in "The Factory" downtown. Since that was not enough of a challenge for Tom, he has decided to open another shop in Mooresville, NC. The new shop—Thistle Meadow Wines—will be located at 240 N. Main Street downtown.

The shop is slated to carry all 60+ wines from Thistle Meadow Winery in Laurel Springs, as well as gift shop items and wine making supplies from grapestompers.

No firm opening date or hours of operation are set at this time but barring any unforeseen problems, we hope to open during July. The opening date will be announced on Facebook as well as the Thistle Meadow Winery website ([www.thistlemeadowwinery.com](http://www.thistlemeadowwinery.com)) and grapestompers so keep checking back.

### Wine Kit News

## Vineco Announces Specialty Ports

By Brant Burgiss

Vineco just recently announced pricing and targeted release dates for the two Cellar Craft Specialty Chocolate Port kits. Like last year, these 6-week kits make 3 US gallons; the pertinent information is below.

- [VC3192](#) Chocolate Hazelnut Port, 12L – Your price: \$79.00
- [VC3193](#) Chocolate Strawberry Port, 12L – Your price: \$79.00

**We are accepting pre-orders for these delicious kits through Wednesday, July 25, 2012.**

In order to get these kits, you MUST pre-order them and commit to their delivery; no extra kits will be ordered. These kits are scheduled to be manufactured the first week of September 2012. We **expect** them to arrive in our warehouse on or about September 18, 2012.

Even though these kits will come with either a hazelnut or strawberry flavoring, you CAN omit these flavorings and just make a straight Chocolate Port like last year. These ports pair well with banana bread, angel food cake, chocolate chip muffins or strawberry trifle.

So order now while you can get these because they will not be available again until next year.

## Bullets from Grapestompers

- Did you know that Beaujolais is presently being tested medically for prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's? Do you realize you can make a superior Beaujolais to any you may have purchased at 1/3 the price!!!!
- Antioxidant Wines are: [Blueberry](#), [Acai Raspberry](#), [Pomegranate](#), [Blackberry](#), [Black Currant](#), [Strawberry](#), [Grapefruit](#) and [Black Cherry](#). Live longer so you can make more wine! All of our warehouse concentrates are kept in a climate-controlled atmosphere by our warehouse manager, James Hines, who makes sure your order spends the shortest delivery time to your door to insure its freshness!
- Packaging materials; we use biodegradable packing peanuts that do not stick together and cling to your items, therefore - less mess and superior insulation. We try our best to protect your wine order by making it a rule to not ship concentrate kits on Friday in the hot summer months. We do not want it sitting on a hot truck on a hot loading dock over the weekend.
- You should always keep an empty cooler in you car when buying wine to protect your purchase. It is not necessary to have ice. An empty cooler will protect your wines. Another good rule of thumb, if you are comfortable traveling in the car, your wine is comfortable. If you are too hot, so is your wine.

If you are a grapestompers customer and were a medal winner in the Wine-maker Magazine 2012 International Amateur Wine Making Contest, please let us know. We would love to hear from you and would like to know what medal you won with which wine. Send an email to [tom@grapestompers.com](mailto:tom@grapestompers.com) or send us a letter if you prefer to Grapestompers.com, 102 Thistle Meadow, Laurel Springs, NC 28644.

Happy 4th Of July!  
Tom



### Important Announcement

## Spagnols Announces Fall Specialty Line

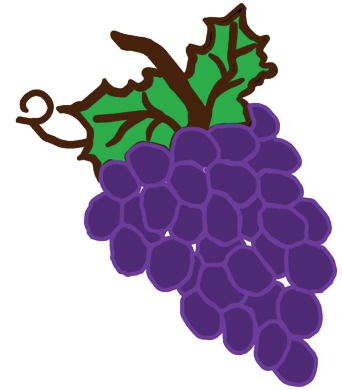
By Pam Wyatt

Some of you have been making the popular specialty wine kits by RJ Spagnols for many years and are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the 2012 line. We recently were advised that these are now available for pre-order and are currently listed on our web site.

Order deadline for these kits is **July 5, 2012** and the offerings this year are:

- [3187 Cabernet Franc Ice Wine, 7.2L—\\$99.00](#)
- [3191 Cranapple Chardonnay, 7.2L—\\$69.99](#)
- [3178 Apple Tatin White Port, 12L—\\$89.99](#)
- [3171 Orange Chocolate Port, 12L—\\$89.99](#)
- [3173 White Chocolate Port, 12L—\\$89.99](#)
- [3197 Toasted Caramel Port, 11.5L—\\$89.99](#)

Be sure and get your orders in by the July 5 deadline as no kits will be ordered after this date. These kits are scheduled to arrive in our warehouse in late August for shipping, just in time to make for the holiday season!



## Customer Feedback

As an occasional customer over the last 15 years, I still trust Tom and Grapestompers when I need something. I'll never forget the "how to" video.

Todd Benitone  
Memphis, TN

On Thursday, June 7th we stopped by for a tasting and we tried and bought your [Old Vine Zinfandel](#). Tonight we had it with a rib eye on the grill and it was wonderful! Maybe exceptional is a better word. We will be back for more wine.

Jill Holmes  
Boone, NC

Just wanted to let you know... I have thoroughly enjoyed every visit I have made to your winery! If I had access to it all the time...I would never buy any wine from the store!!! I live about 2 to 2 1/2 hrs away and can't come often but love sooo many of your wonderful wines!! As soon as you start distributing it, please let me know!!!! I want to be the first on the list!!!!!!

Renee Lewis  
Denton, NC

We love all the wines we have ordered. You guys are the best. Thank you as always.

Tori Harrison  
Bloomsburg, PA

Many thanks for your hospitality in accommodating us at the festival on Sunday, May 27. Look forward to visiting again and ordering more supplies.

Tom Montgomery  
Bedford, VA

## New Products

Here is a list of new products we've recently added to our online catalog:

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
5548	American Spirit Napkin, \$5.00
5506	American Spirit Coozie, \$9.99
5662	Love the Wine Tank Top, M, \$23.99
5563	Love the Wine Tank Top, L, \$23.99
5664	Love the Wine Tank Top, XL, \$23.99
5658	Foil Cutter, Asst. Colors, \$6.89
5659	Owl Cork Cage, \$27.00
5660	Dog Cork Cage, \$27.00
4186	Retro Bitch Apron, \$15.99

[See all these new products online now.](#)

If you have a suggestion for a new product, please call us at 1-800-233-1505.

Hidden Special for the month of July is a Firecracker of a Deal! #2611 Mini Jet Filter, regular \$193.00 - this month only \$175.00.

**CMLR112 Cheeky Monkey 20Eleven Red, 10L \$89.00**  
**Only 1 Left, First Come, First Served**

Happy  
4th of July



Corky's Corner

## Winemaking Definition

### MOG

A winemaking abbreviation for "Material Other than Grapes". This usually refers to debris such as leaves, dirt and stems that could be unintentionally harvested with the grapes.



### Speed Cleaning

When you are emptying a carboy filled with cleaning solution, try inserting a small (one foot length or so) of tubing while the carboy is upside-down so part of it sticks above the water line. Air will exit out of the tube allowing the liquid to come out fast, which speeds up your cleaning time.

Have a winemaking tip to submit? Go to: [grapestompers.com/submit\\_ideas.aspx](http://grapestompers.com/submit_ideas.aspx)

Monthly Specials

## Specials for July, 2012

Item #	Description	Reg. Price	Special Price
3249	VDV Chardonnay Semillon, 9L (Exp. 5/12, 1)	\$72.12	\$45.00
3132	CC Valpolicella, 15L	\$121.06	\$96.85
3143	CC Rosso Grande, 15L	\$128.75	\$103.00
3237	CC White Zinfandel, 15L	\$115.29	\$92.23
3270	GC Johannisberg Riesling, 10L	\$76.83	\$61.46
3161	GC Petite Sirah, 10L	\$85.58	\$68.46
3289	OB Strawberry Riesling, 7.2L	\$72.12	\$57.70
3168	OB Cranberry Chianti, 7.2L	\$72.12	\$57.70
VC770	Cal. Connoisseur California Red, 7.5L	\$61.30	\$49.04
VC771	Cal. Connoisseur California White, 7.5L	\$59.49	\$47.59
VC0872	Legacy Merlot, 16L	\$124.86	\$99.89
VC0879	Legacy Riesling, 16L	\$109.57	\$87.66
VC0361	Niagara Mist Peach Chardonnay, 7.5L	\$69.41	\$55.53
CF3575	White Shiraz, 12L (Only 3 Available)	\$83.54	\$66.83
CF3541	Viognier, 16L (Only 1 Available)	\$156.63	\$125.30
CF3516	Chardonnay, 16L (Only 4 Available)	\$104.49	\$83.59
CF3520	Late Harvest Riesling, 16L (Only 1 Available)	\$144.23	\$115.38
CF3568	Malbec Syrah, 12L w/CGP (Only 3 Available)	\$90.46	\$72.37
CF3556	S.A Pinotage, 18L w/CGP (Only 2 Available)	\$150.23	\$120.18
3711	Mexican Cerveza Beer, 15L	\$51.83	\$26.95
2730	Acid Blend, 3 oz.	\$2.31	\$1.85
2662	5" Funnel Without Strainer	\$1.73	\$1.38
2735	Bentonite, 4 oz.	\$1.58	\$1.26
2733	Fermax Yeast Nutrient, 4 oz.	\$2.87	\$2.30
2721	B-Brite, 8 oz.	\$2.60	\$2.08
2732B	Potassium Metabisulfite, 5 lb.	\$19.13	\$15.30
2605	Carboy Brush	\$6.06	\$4.85
2239	Straining Bag, Large, Coarse 20" x 22"	\$2.98	\$2.38
2239A	Straining Bag, Large Coarse Elastic Top	\$5.19	\$4.15
2743C	French Oak Chips, 4 oz.	\$1.87	\$1.50
Various	All Lalvin Yeast Packets (Limit 10 Each)	\$0.89	\$0.71
Various	All Red Star Yeast Packets (Limit 10 Each)	\$0.51	\$0.41
5548	American Spirit Beverage Napkins	\$5.00	\$4.00
5506	American Spirit Wine Bottle Coozie	\$9.99	\$7.99
3100	Complete Wine Kit - Red	\$303.33	\$245.99
3200	Complete Wine Kit - White	\$297.16	\$236.99

## Customer Corner Elmer in the Cellar

We love receiving stories, comments and photos from our customers here at grapestompers.

Elmer Baugess of Whitsett, NC sent this nice story and photos of what he has been up to in the world of wine. Enjoy and thank you, Elmer! His comments are below:

Grapestomper team:

Just a few photos of what I have been making lately. Mr. Burgiss is very high on the two in the photos and with good reason. I have had nothing but compliments on the [Red Mountain Cabernet](#) (9 months old now). It is a little early but already the [Legacy Chardonnay](#) (just 2 weeks old) tastes great. I will be starting a [Yakima Valley Syrah](#) and an [Italian Barbera](#) in a few days at the same time.

Keep up the good work,



Vineco Legacy  
Chardonnay & Red  
Mountain Cab

## The Stomper List Maintenance: How to Subscribe or Unsubscribe

To subscribe to *The Stomper* winemaking hints newsletter, simply go to our subscription request page at <http://www.grapestompers.com/stomper.aspx> or go to our home page and click the "Subscribe to the Stomper" button. If your email address has changed and you have ordered from us before, update your email address the next time you shop or send an email to [tom@grapestompers.com](mailto:tom@grapestompers.com) and let us know your name and your old and new email address.

To quit receiving *The Stomper* winemaking hints newsletter, simply visit this page: [http://www.grapestompers.com/quit\\_stomper.aspx](http://www.grapestompers.com/quit_stomper.aspx)

If you have never purchased anything from us, and wish to change your email address, simply unsubscribe the old address using the link above, then subscribe with the new one.

Past issues of the Stomper can be found at this page on our web site:

<http://www.grapestompers.com/newsletter.aspx>

*Boring stuff for lawyers: Content is gathered from sources considered to be reliable, but the accuracy of this info cannot be guaranteed. Opinions expressed by guest columnists and customer letters are those of the authors and not necessarily those of grapestompers.com.*

## Wine Drops

*Wine Drops is a catch-all for various tidbits that we find interesting. This month we have info on the wine competition for women only, something fun for the Olympics and give you a chance to tell us what you would like to see next month.*

Registration is now open for the International Women's Wine Competition sponsored by Vineyard and Winery Management. The mission of this competition? To provide the female perspective to professional wine buyers and consumers. So ladies, get your best wines and enter! For more information or to register go to [Vineyard and Winery Management](#).

The Olympic games are coming up soon and for those of you who host an Olympic viewing party, here is something you may want to check out; [Ten Steps to Hosting Your Very Own "Wine Olympics:"](#) sponsored by The Daily Sip. Great ideas for your Olympic party.

Being a dog lover myself I couldn't help but chuckle when I read about the new winery for dogs that recently opened in the Napa Valley. The name is Frenchie (named after a 5 year old bulldog) and features red wine colored water that our furry friends can lap up from doggie tasting tanks then relax in a custom dog bed while owners taste wine. Only in California! Read more about Frenchie [here](#).

### WineMaker Magazine

[Get a free trial issue](#) to WineMaker Magazine, the leading magazine and reference guide for the hobby of home winemaking.

You'll be amazed at all the winemaking articles, including hints, recipes, stories, new products, and much, much more. Start your risk-free subscription today.

### Your Turn!

Have some input as to what you'd like to see in a future issue of *The Stomper*?

We'd love to hear your idea! Just call us at 800-233-1505 or complete and [submit our contact form](#) to let us know.