



The Stomper

The Free Monthly Winemaking Newsletter
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Winter Hours: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Eastern Monday - Friday

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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Wine Kit News

Cellar Craft Changes

By Brant Burgiss

Like many of you, we have been patiently waiting for the 2013 Limited Release announcement concerning the Cellar Craft brand. We have learned that this standalone program was recently merged with the KenRidge Showcase Collection program. To quote a letter we received from the manufacturer:

It was recently announced that the Cellar Craft Limited Release program will be eliminated as a standalone program and that we will be improving the KenRidge Showcase Collection Program to incorporate some of the elements of the Cellar Craft Limited Release Program. This decision was not taken lightly but in the end it was felt that we could do a much better job providing you with one complete program rather than trying to execute 2 separate programs. I understand that many of you were unhappy with this decision but we are confident that the new and improved KenRidge Collection Program will provide the same level of quality in the grape skins reds that was offered in previous Cellar Craft Limited Release programs. In fact, the grape skins reds in this year's KenRidge Collection Program will be formulated using a lot of the learning inherited from previous Cellar Craft Limited Release Program recipes.

Last month we announced the 2013 KenRidge Showcase Collection of limited release kits. As it turns out, two of the red kits (the [California Grand Red](#) and the [French Mélange à Trois](#)) in this year's lineup were formulated in the same manner as the Cellar Craft Showcase kits, including the addition of Cellar Craft-styled grape packs. We hope this will be an acceptable alternative to having no grape pack kits at all.

Please remember the deadline for reserving any of the Limited Release kits from Vineco is November 28.

On another note, you may have seen a change in the look of the Enzyme sachet packs used in Cellar Craft wine kits (paper poly foil, solid white package vs. clear). The new-look sachets are packaged in a Safe Quality Food (SQF) certified facility. The film used for the sachet is food grade and will keep the Enzyme fresher for longer periods.

Due to bottle availability, please note that the Cellar Craft Reserve bottles have changed a bit. The new bottles can be seen below..



Tom and his granddaughter, Mary Beth Burgiss, are entertained by a lovely lady from West Jefferson, NC who recently visited our tasting room at TMW to celebrate her 90th birthday.. WHAT???

Hot Tip

Why Rack?

Over time, particles and dead yeast cells fall to the bottom of your wine making vessel. If the wine is not removed periodically from these particles, it can develop off flavors.

Submit your hot winemaking tip here:
www.grapestompers.com/submit_ideas.aspx



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Good Ideas for your Christmas List

Time passes fast, but with a wine kit you can start, ferment, bottle, and label a personalized gift just in time to give as gifts to your neighbors, your kin, and other special friends for the holidays.

Since we have been in the business of wine for 18+ years, it has amazed me just how fast, how efficient, and how good our concentrate manufacturers have become in making their products these past years. So here is a list of wines to consider in order to accomplish this "holiday feat"!

In the **White Wine Category** I recommend;

VC0874 Legacy Piesporter - German white wine that goes good with any seafood or salad. You can make this wine for about \$3.65 per bottle.

VC0870 Gewürztraminer - another German white which goes with Spicy or Thai food at about \$3.95 per bottle.

In the **Red Wine Category** I recommend;

3114 Bergamais - a light French wine that is recommended for your health in regard to Cholesterol and heart, \$2.49 per bottle

VC0876 Legacy Pinot Noir - a French wine made famous in the California area of USA from the Movie, "Sideways". This wine will cost about \$3.73 per bottle to produce.

In **Sweet Wine Category** my recommendation is:

VC0368 Green Apple Sauvignon Blanc - which goes excellent with Salmon off the grill. A hit for folks no matter what time of wine they prefer.... At only \$2.31 per bottle.

Keep in mind that the per bottle prices described above does not include the cost of the bottle or the cork, but still, where can you get a present this nice for this amount these days??

The staff and I at grapestompers would like to wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving and remember...**Cranberry Chianti (#3168)** goes great with turkey and ham!

Later, Tom

GS and TMW to Observe Winter Hours

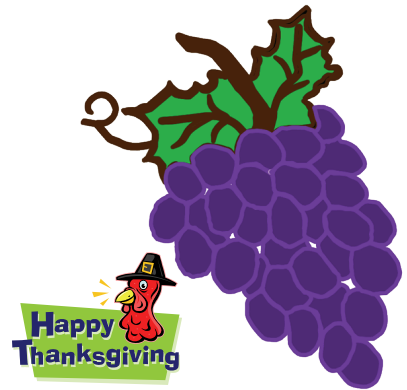
By Tom Burgiss

It is almost time for colder weather here in the mountains and it is also time here at Grapestompers and Thistle Meadow Winery to begin observing winter hours.

Hidden Special for November—6 gallon glass carboy #2201, regular \$46.06 on sale for \$35.00! That's over \$10 savings! Get one and make your favorite kit. Just mention the Hidden Special in the comments section of your order.

Beginning November 1st our winter hours will be **9am-4pm** at grapestompers and **12pm-4pm** at Thistle Meadow Winery with both stores **Closed on Sundays**. These hours will be in effect until April 1, 2013.

Normally we can get items that you need on Saturday as well during winery hours of **12pm-4pm**. Call ahead and we can have your items ready to pick up when you arrive, 800-233-1505.



Customer Feedback

Really enjoyed the festival on Oct. 7. Weather, although damp, gave a nice touch of fall. We all appreciate the great customer service and the quick response to my question is a perfect example! :-)

John Washam
Huntersville, NC

Pam, I forgot to thank you for our wine labels. They look great as always.

Dempsey Fritts
Thomasville, NC

Thanks Pam, You folks are SUPER.

Tom & Deb Filkins
Cougar Run Winery
Concord, NC

Thank you for your newsletter advice regarding the re-fermentation in Orchard Breezin'. I recently had a similar experience with my own grapes. A gallon bottle of wine (which had already been opened) EXPLODED in my kitchen. Thankfully no one was home at the time as there were glass shards and wine everywhere—even in the ceiling. Obviously my potassium sorbate is bad and I need to order a fresh batch.

Rachel Casillas
Cudahy, WI

Received the order today.....all in good condition thank you for the great service.

Delroy Wolfe
Valley View, PA

New Products

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

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
5690	Eiffel Tower Cork Cage, \$32.99
4826	Wine Flies Towel, \$5.00
4465	Screw It Polo Cap, \$15.00

**Vineco Limited Release Kits, 18L
Order by November 28, 2012**

[VC4385 Australia Shiraz/Mataro,](#)
\$129.00

[VC4386 California Grand Red, \\$149.00](#)

[VC4387 Italian Pinot Grigio/
Chardonnay/Trebbiano/Gewurtz.,](#)
\$119.00

[VC4388 French Mélange a Trois,](#)
\$129.00

[VC4389 Italian Sangiovese/Cabernet
Sauvignon, \\$149.00](#)

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

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

Corky's Corner

Winemaking Definition

Glugger

A jokey word for a simple, undemanding, easy to drink wine that would please everybody's palate. Perfect for a party!

"Women cannot live by chocolate alone, that's why there's wine."



Anonymous



Water, Water Everywhere But Not a Drop for my Wine.....

Often we are asked what type of water should be used in winemaking. If your tap water has no chlorine, it is perfect so use it, otherwise, use bottled spring water. Distilled water should be avoided as it has no trace minerals, which yeast needs in order to work.

Have a winemaking tip to submit? Go to:

grapestompers.com/submit_ideas.aspx

Monthly Specials

Specials for November, 2012

Item #	Description	Reg. Price	Special Price
3132	CC Valpolicella, 15L (Exp. 9/12, 2 Avail.)	\$121.06	\$69.00
VC0301	Ital. Sangiovese Syrah, 10L (Exp 1/13, 2 Av)	\$94.51	\$54.00
VC810	Chamblaise, 7.5L (Exp. 9/12, 2 Avail.)	\$72.66	\$39.00
VC2664	S. Cab/Merlot/Garnacha, 10L (Exp 1/13, 1 Av)	\$89.99	\$52.00
CF3556	S.A. Pinotage, 18L (Exp. 11/12, 10 Avail.)	\$150.23	\$105.00
3128	CC Cabernet Merlot, 15L	\$126.83	\$101.46
3235	CC Johannisberg Riesling, 15L	\$115.29	\$92.23
3147	CCH Cabernet, Syrah, Zinfandel, 15L	\$141.90	\$113.52
3273	GC Chardonnay, 10L	\$86.44	\$69.15
3256	CSP Riesling Traminer, 16L	\$132.60	\$106.08
3114	VDV Bergamais, 9L	\$74.52	\$59.62
3188	OB Black Currant White Merlot, 7.2L	\$72.12	\$57.70
3168	OB Cranberry Chianti, 7.2L	\$72.12	\$57.70
CF3575	White Shiraz, 12L	\$83.54	\$66.83
CF3507	Sauvignon Blanc, 7.5L	\$66.88	\$53.50
CF3504	Merlot, 7.5L	\$67.73	\$54.18
VC0367	Tropical Fruit Riesling, 7.5L	\$69.41	\$55.53
VC0871	Legacy Liebfraumilch, 16L	\$106.04	\$84.83
VC0884	Legacy Vieux Chateau du Roi, 16L	\$117.64	\$94.11
2111A	P E T Beer Bottles w/lids, 24 pk, amber	\$19.13	\$15.30
2254A	Bottle Drainer, 45 bottle	\$28.75	\$23.00
2660	Funnel, 8" nylon w/strainer	\$6.63	\$5.30
2609A	Bottle Brush	\$2.98	\$2.38
6105	Grapestompers Winemaking DVD (kit wines)	\$19.95	\$15.96
2730	Acid Blend, 3 oz.	\$2.31	\$1.85
2731	Campden Tablets, 2 oz.	\$3.37	\$2.70
2721	B-Brite Cleaner, 8 oz.	\$2.60	\$2.08
2732B	Potassium Metabisulfite, 5lb.	\$19.13	\$15.30
2826	The Winemaker's Answer Book	\$14.95	\$11.96
2801	Winemaker's Recipe Handbook	\$3.85	\$3.08
2692	Vinbrite Filter w/ 6 Crystalbrite Filter Pads	\$49.90	\$39.92
2645	Crystalbrite Filter Pads, 6 pk.	\$12.79	\$10.23
5628	Red Winged Corkscrew, 6"	\$6.25	\$5.00
5905	Fusion 15 Bottle Wine Rack	\$29.00	\$23.20
3100	Complete Wine Kit—Red	\$303.33	\$245.99
3200	Complete Wine Kit - White	\$297.16	\$236.99

Cellar Craft Changes

Continued from page 1

Reserve pack color change, starting August 7th production. The color of the liquid in the White Shiraz reserve pack will change from red to white. There will be no change to the final color or taste of the finished wine.

Customer Corner

Photos from TMW 15th Annual Festival

By Pam Wyatt

The weather did not cooperate but we moved inside and had a wonderful time at the 15th Annual Thistle Meadow Winery Festival held here in Laurel Springs on October 7th.

Below are just a few photos of the festivities, sent to us by Monty and Brenda Combs of Wilkesboro, NC.



The Stomper

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Wine Drops

Wine Drops is a catch-all for various tidbits that we find interesting. This month we have a reminder to order your Restricted Quantity RJ Spagnols kits and give you a chance to tell us what you would like to see next month.

Don't forget that all orders for remaining Restricted Quantity kits from RJ Spagnols must be received by November 30th.

These kits come with 16 liters of concentrate. The kits are;

RQ313 Australian Style Grenache Syrah, \$149.66

(will ship in January 2013)

RQ413 Italian Style Sangiovese Merlot, \$129.03

(will ship in February 2013)

RQ513 New Zealand Style Pinot Gris, \$129.03

(will ship in March 2013)

Next time you want to listen to music and enjoy a glass of wine, you might consider drinking wine created by musicians. The band [Train](#) (one of my favorite bands) has a line of wine called [Save Me, San Francisco Wine Company](#). It's the band's music translated into wine and bottled.

Do you ever get a craving for cookies with your wine? If so, check out the new [Cookies and Corks](#) website for some amazing cookie flavors designed to compliment your favorite wines creating a one of a kind pairing.

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.