6th Annual Wine Conference Set For Penn State

The Sixth Annual Pennsylvania Wine Conference will be held December 6 and 7 in the J. O Keller Conference Center on the campus of The Pennsylvania State University. Topics will be of special interest to vineyardists and specialists in wine making.

Presenting the keynote address will be the Deputy Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Jane Alexander, who will discuss the future role of the Department in the Commonwealth's wine industry.

A complement to this presentation will be the banquet address by Dr. James M. Beattie, Dean of the College of Agriculture at Penn State. Dean Beattie will describe the future role of Penn State in the newly emerging wine industry in Pennsylvania. Both of these topics are scheduled for the opening day, December 6.

The December 6th afternoon session will include a panel discussion on the performance of wine grapes in Pennsylvania. This panel will be moderated by Dr. Carl W. Haeseler, associate professor of pomology at Penn State's Erie County Field Research Laboratory at North East. Panel members are: Richard E. Bailey, county agent of Bucks County; Thomas H. Obourn, associate county agent of Erie County; and assistant professor John Yocum, superintendent of Penn State's Southeastern Field Research Laboratory in Landisville, Lancaster County.

Next, assistant professor, Gerald L. Jubb, Jr. will present an evaluation and discussion of various vineyard sprayers. Dr. Jubb is research entomologist in grapes at Penn State's Erie County Field Research Laboratory. The evaluation and discussion are based upon research that Dr. Jubb has conducted over the past three years in Erie County and a grower survey.

Black Rot disease of grapes was so widespread in southeastern Pennsylvania during the 1973 season that it brought about the need for a thorough discussion of Benlate and grape disease control. This discussion will be presented by Dr. Donald H. Petersen, Extension plant pathologist at Penn State.

To complete the December 6th afternoon session, Dr. Cyril B. Smith, professor of horticulture at Penn State, will discuss foliar analysis as a tool in the vineyard management program. A wine tasting session will commence the December 6th evening activities which will be followed by a banquet and banquet address.

The morning session of December 7th will open with a presentation by Wayne B. Kelly, Extension farm management specialist at Penn State. He will discuss "Surviving Taxes in the Vineyard Enterprise." Following this, Dr. Haeseler will discuss preliminary results concerned with crop control and its relationship to vine performance and juice quality in wine grapes.

Dr. Robert B. Beelman, assistant professor of horticulture processing at Penn State, will continue the morning session with an important discussion of the characteristics and quality of wines fermented from a number of varieties in 1972. Three faculty members are sharing responsibilities for conference arrangements, Dr. Haeseler, Dr. Beelman, and Dr. Gerald D. Kuhm, associate professor of food technology extension.

Recent studies in New York have revealed that a number of factors are associated with the occurrence of hydrogen sulfide in wines. A pertinent and broad discussion of some of these factors will be presented by Dr. Terry Acree, Department of Food Science, New York Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.

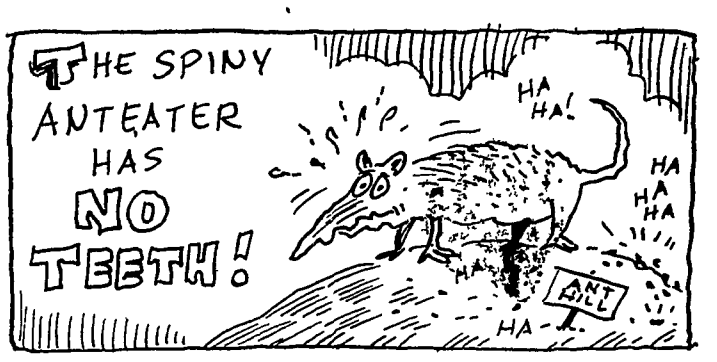
Following this presentation, Philip Wagner, former owner of Boordy Vineyards, Riderwood, Md., will discuss "Cellar Operations for Optimizing the Quality of Wines" from Eastern Grapes. Wagner also serves as consultant to Boordy Vineyards of Penn Yan, N. Y.

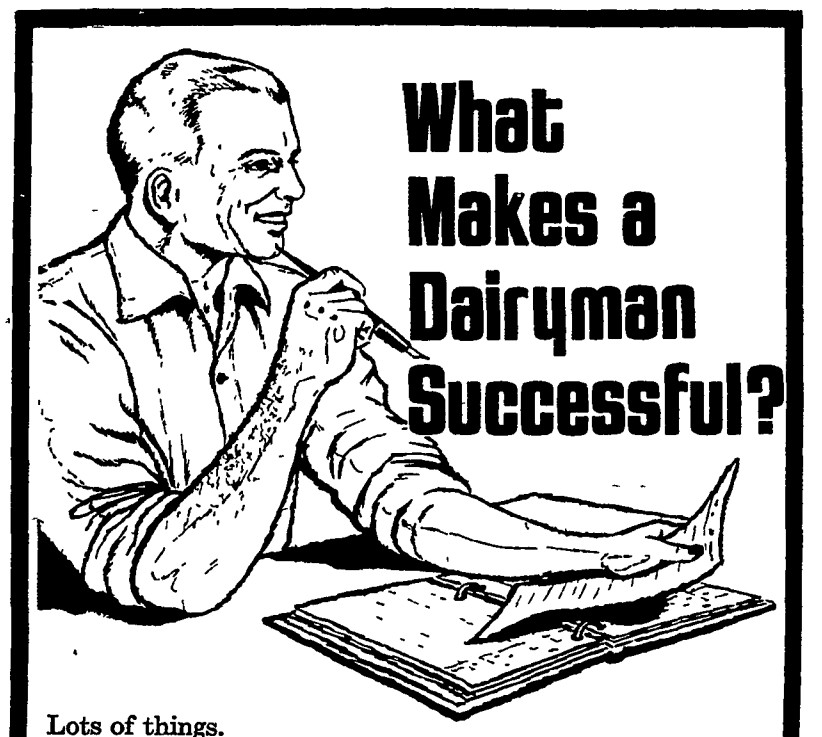
A new concept concerned with acid reduction in wines will be presented by Dr. Beelman. The "Maceration Carbonique" concept will be discussed in light of his preliminary results utilizing this procedure.

The afternoon session of December 7th is of vital interest to those planning to become commercial vineyardists or specialists in wine making. This session consists of a panel of highly qualified men in the areas of financial assistance and farm management, says Dr. Haeseler. Discussion will center around the various requirements and avenues of approach for successfully acquiring financial backing. This panel will be moderated by Joe Oberman, economist for the Delaware Valley Planning Commission. Oberman, also has started a small vineyard in Leithsville, Northampton County.

Panel members are Fred Hughes, Extension farm management specialist at Penn State; Philip Bohr, president, Girard Trust Bank of Doylestown, Pa.; Allan Schiffman, certified accountant for Lanenthal, Krekstein, Horwath and Horwath of Philadelphia, Pa.; and, Philip K. Frederick, vice president and secretary of the Federal Land and Federal Intermediate Credit Banks of Baltimore, Md.

Sponsors of the Conference are the Cooperative Extension Service and the Agricultural Experiment Station of the College of Agriculture at Penn State, the Pennsylvania Grape Council, and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. For additional information about the Conference contact the Agricultural Conference Coordiantor, Room 410, J. O. Keller Conference Center, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa. 16802.





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