

Contract

UNL Viticulture - #18-01-188

Grant Amount

\$14,000

Contact

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Issue of Interest

Preliminary information was obtained regarding possible establishment of an American Viticultural Area (AVA) for parts of eastern Nebraska. Climatic and soil data are being accumulated, but to pursue this project further will require significantly higher infusion of funds. It has been ascertained that there is interest in a "Loess Soils" AVA being investigated as a joint effort with Iowa growers, as both sides of the Missouri River are bounded by regions of loess soils.

Approach to Problem

Funds for this project were to be used to enable varying University of Nebraska-Lincoln Viticulture Program (UNVP) activities.

- Cultivar and new genotype evaluation;
- Multi-state project evaluating performance of a common set of grape cultivars in multiple locations;
- Studies of trellis construction systems and new cultivar performance;
- Evaluation of cold-hardiness, spring bud-break, and cold temperature damage prevention and management;
- Potential efficacy of chemical and physical treatments on seedless table grape vines to delay spring bud-break;
- Disease and insect management;
- Trunk studies; and
- Sustainable and potentially organic grape production projects

Goals/Achievement of Goals

This grant was used to enable a wide variety of important and ongoing projects. Due to the continual nature of these research projects, measuring goals is rather difficult at this time.

Results, Conclusions, Lessons Learned

These ongoing projects will serve to better understand suitable genotypes to Nebraska and cultivation practices. Knowledge from these research projects will help increase the sustainability and profitability of the overall industry in Nebraska. More specific results and lessons learned can be seen in other final reports from this fiscal year. Further and more in-depth results should also be forthcoming over the next several fiscal years.

Progress According to Outcome Measures

UNVP research activities, while ongoing, serve to provide technical and research support for the grape growing industry in Nebraska. The aforementioned research projects allow UNVP to conduct an array of studies and contribute to developing a sustainable and profitable wine and grape-growing industry in Nebraska.