

***** (BEGIN NEWS RELEASE) *****

For Immediate Release

Upcoming Farm Vineyard Field Day

A Farm Vineyard Field Day will be held on Saturday, July 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Richard Black resident located at 3228 Xenia Avenue northwest of Farnhamville.

Again this year, there will be concurrent sessions being conducted with both viticulture and enology topics. Dr. Paul Domoto, Iowa State University Extension Fruit Specialist, will begin the day with a discussion on “Viticulture 101” covering the basics of grape production. At the same time, winemakers Darrell Morse from Breezy Hill Winery in Minden and John Guinan from the Santa Maria Vineyard and Winery in Carroll will discuss Iowa winery issues.

The second series of presentations will include Tom Thiesen, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship Pesticide Investigator, to discuss vineyard worker protection. Following Tom’s presentation, Charlie Caldwell from the Black Squirrel Vineyard in Council Bluffs will share comments on growing organic grapes. On the enology side, Paul Gospodarczyk, Des Moines Area Community College Enology Instructor, will give a presentation entitled “Marketing Grapes, Wine, and a Regional Industry”.

The third pair of presentations has John Marshall, Great River Vineyard and Nursery in Lake City, Minnesota, discussing the elements of producing a high quality grape crop, and Nicholas Smith, University of Minnesota Enology Lab Assistant Scientist, providing information on managing acidity in wine.

Later, the entire audience will hear from Ed Swanson, Cuthills Vineyard in Pierce, Nebraska, presenting “Getting Past Brix, pH, and TA”.

To conclude the day, Ed Swanson will share his expertise and comments in the wine tasting segment of the program.

Participants are urged to come dressed for the day equipped with mosquito protection and their own lawn chair. Lunch and other refreshments will be provided.

Please call the Iowa State University - Calhoun County Extension office at 712-297-8611 or e-mail xcalhoun@iastate.edu to pre-register for the event. There is a \$45 early bird registration fee for the event if received before Saturday, July 12th. After that date, the program fee is \$55. The program is sponsored by Richard Black, and Iowa State University Extension - Calhoun County. Other financial sponsors include Practical Farmers of Iowa, regional financial institutions, wineries, and vineyard suppliers.

***** (END NEWS RELEASE) *****