# 2011 Lodi Winegrape Grower Survey





#### **Research Project Director:**

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#### **Research Project Sponsors:**





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## 2011 LODI WINEGRAPE GROWER SURVEY

### **Respondent Confirmation**

This survey is intended for people with primary decision responsibility for viticulture management in the winegrape growing enterprise indicated on the cover letter. If you are not the person with primary decision responsibility for viticulture management in the winegrape enterprise, please give this survey to the person with primary responsibility.

Are you the individual addressed in the cover letter (please mark one)?



**No** 

If you were given this survey by the person addressed in the cover letter, please briefly explain your relationship. For example, you might be the vineyard manager for a landowner.

If your winegrape growing enterprise is associated with multiple viticulture managers and you need more surveys, or if you have received multiple surveys through the mail or from other people, or if you have any other questions, please contact principal investigator Mark Lubell using the information below:

> Mark Lubell, Ph.D. University of California, Davis vitresearch@ucdavis.edu (530) 752-5880

### Instructions

This is the third installment of the Lodi Winegrape Grower Survey. The first and second surveys, administered in 1998 and 2003, collected important information used by the Lodi Winegrape Commission (LWC) to improve outreach strategies and services to Lodi winegrape growers. This survey allows you to express your views and opinions about viticulture management and outreach programs. If you decide to complete this survey it will take approximately 30 minutes of your time. All data from this survey will be kept anonymous. Your privacy is our priority. Thank you in advance for helping to improve Lodi viticulture and California agriculture.

SECTION A:

## **Viticulture Management Practices**

For the following list of management practices, please indicate whether you regularly use each practice, whether you tried the practice in the past but later discontinued it, or whether you never used the practice at all. Regularly used practices might be implemented every year, but also could be less frequent if appropriate. For each practice that you regularly use or tried, please estimate what year you first started using it.

		and Past Use of Prase $\checkmark$ the best answer	<b>Year First Used</b> Enter year; e.g., 1970	
Insect and Mite Management	Regularly Use	Tried & Discontinued	Never Used	
Maintain written monitoring records for pests				Year
Spot spraying instead of treating entire vineyard				Year
Reduced pesticide application rates (using conventional equipment)				Year
Pheromones for pest mating disruption				Year
Cover crops (planted or resident) for natural enemy refuge				Year
Release beneficial/natural predators or parasites				Year
Maintain written monitoring records for natural enemies				Year
Dust reduction on roads				Year
Dust reduction with cover crops				Year
Disease Management				
Using computer disease forecasting model (e.g., Powdery Mildew Model)				Year
Irrigation management to reduce disease				Year
Leaf pulling				Year
Remove diseased wood and fruit and clean berms				Year
Remove infected vines				Year
Manage pruning decisions (e.g., timing and sanitation) to reduce disease spread				Year
Weed Management				
Written monitoring records and need-based spraying				Year
Mechanical weed management				Year
Use only contact herbicides/no pre-emergents				Year
Narrowing the width of the treated strip				Year
Shielded sprayer to minimize drift				Year
Reduced herbicide application rates using conventional equipment				Year
Water and Soil Management				
Use ET-based methods to determine when to irrigate				Year
Rely on visual observations to determine when to irrigate				Year
Use regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) methods				Year
Soil moisture tests to track water availability				Year

Measure plant water stress (e.g., pressure bomb)		Year
Mapping for soil water holding capacity		Year
Use of vegetative filter strips to reduce runoff into waterways		Year
Written erosion control plan		Year
Diversion structures (e.g., straw bales, water bars) to divert or contain seasonal water flows		Year
Soil tests for nutrient content, pH, electrical conductivity (EC), and toxicity		Year
Other Vineyard and Operation Management Practices	 	 
Use of compost in vineyards		Year
Owl boxes/perches for birds of prey		Year
Develop a written company "sustainability" plan		Year
Develop a written human resource plan		Year
Develop a written plan to transition the operation to the next generation, or a "succession" plan		Year
Vineyard management implemented to achieve overall "vine balance"		Year
Monitor and record canopy microclimate throughout growing season		Year
Third-party certification for "sustainable" or "green" viticulture		Year
Use of alternative electricity sources such as wind or solar		Year
Use of alternative fuels such as bio-diesel, propane, natural gas, or methane		Year
Disposal of removed vines by means other than burning		Year
Monitor and record total energy (fuel and electricity) use		Year
Mechanical methods for major viticultural activities (i.e., mechanical pruning/harvesting)		Year

We are interested in how you prioritize different goals in your viticulture management decisions. For each goal listed below, would you say it is never, sometimes, often, or always a major priority in your viticulture management decisions? Please mark the best answer. *How often is each goal listed below a major priority in your viticulture management decisions? (Please ✓ the best answer)* 

Management Goal	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
Profitability of your operation				
Wildlife habitat restoration				
Employee well-being				
Public health and safety				
Local community quality of life				
Winegrape quality				
Winegrape quantity/yield				
Water quality				
Meet winery expectations				
Ecological biodiversity				
Generational succession of farm enterprise ownership				
Regional reputation				
Meet government regulations				
Water availability				

## SECTION B: Viticulture Outreach and Education Programs

The Lodi Winegrape Commission (LWC) and other organizations offer different types of outreach activities and programs. Please indicate whether or not you have participated in the following outreach activities and programs in the past five years. Mark "Never heard of the activity" if appropriate.

#### Have you participated in this activity in the last five years? (Please $\checkmark$ the best answer.)

	Yes	No	Never heard of the activity
Attended field meetings			
Attended breakfast meetings			
Read LWC newsletter			
Talked with LWC staff			
Completed Lodi Rules Certification			
Completed Lodi Winegrowers Workbook self-assessment			
Attended Lodi Winegrowers Workbook workshops			
Accessed LWC internet resources			
Attended Grape Day			
Completed the state-wide workbook (Code of Sustainable Winegrowing) self-assessment			

In your opinion, how successful has the Lodi Sustainable Winegrowing Program been at achieving the following goals? Please base your answer on the activities in which you have participated, or if you have not directly participated, based on what you have learned from other sources. For each goal, do you think the program has been very unsuccessful, somewhat unsuccessful, neutral, somewhat successful, or very successful in meeting that goal? Answer "Don't Know" only if you have not heard enough about the program to provide an opinion for a given goal. (Please  $\checkmark$  the best answer.)

	Very Unsuccessful	Somewhat Unsuccessful	Neutral	Somewhat Successful	Very Successful	Don't Know
Improve economic returns to growers						
Reduce input costs						
Improve consumer perceptions of the region						
Improve relationships between viticulture industry and regulatory agencies						
Improve vineyard yield						
Improve well-being of farm laborers						
Reduce labor costs						
Improve winegrape quality						
Improve wildlife habitat						
Reduce health risks to the community						
Improve biodiversity						
Reduce environmental risks						
Reduce quantity of recordkeeping necessary to participate						
Reduce amount of time needed to manage vineyards						
Reduce uncertainty about vineyard productivity						
Other (please list)						

In general, how do you rank your level of support for Lodi's Sustainable Winegrowing Program? (Please 🗸 the best answer.)

Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neutral	Somewhat Support	Strongly Support	Don't Know

In general, how do you rank your level of support for the Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing certification program? (Please  $\checkmark$  the best answer.)

Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neutral	Somewhat Support	Strongly Support	Don't Know

In general, how do you rank your level of support for the state-wide Sustainable Winegrowing Program sponsored by the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance? (Please  $\checkmark$  the best answer.)

Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neutral	Somewhat Support	Strongly Support	Don't Know

In general, how do you rank your level of support for the state-wide Certified California Sustainable Winegrowing certification program sponsored the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance? (Please  $\checkmark$  the best answer.)

Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neutral	Somewhat Support	Strongly Support	Don't Know

"Sustainable" means different things to different people. How do you define sustainable agriculture? Please use the space below to define sustainable agriculture in your own words.

## SECTION C: Learning about Viticulture Management

Winegrape growers learn about viticulture management from a variety of sources, including outreach organizations, published materials, personal relationships, and personal experience. If you have used the resource, did you think it was not useful, somewhat useful, or very useful? If you have never used the listed resource, please mark "Never Used".

#### Please $\checkmark$ only one answer per source.

Organizations	Never used	Not Useful	Somewhat	Very Useful
State or County Farm Bureau				
County Farm Advisors				
County Agricultural Commissioner				
Resource Conservation District				
Regional Water Resources Control Board				
Local Grape Grower Association				
State Grape Grower Association				
Winegrape Sustainability Programs				
Natural Resources Conservation Service				
Trade association conferences/symposiums				
Published Materials				
Trade journals				
Internet resources				
Viticulture textbooks or other reference books				
University publications				
Newspapers				
Lodi Winegrowers Workbook				
California Code of Sustainable Winegrowing Workbook				
Personal Relationships				
Winery personnel				
Your field crew				
Pest Control Advisors				
Winegrape growers who are not your relatives				
Viticulture consultant				
Winegrape growers who are in your family				
Personal Experience				
Trial and error with vineyard practices				
Observations of your own vineyard conditions				
Observations of other growers' vineyard conditions				
Written records of vineyard inputs and performance				
Field trials conducted on your vineyards				
Field trials conducted by others				
Other important sources of information				
(Please list)				
(Please list)				

#### **SECTION D:**

#### **Communication about Viticulture Management**

We would like to know about the people you communicate with regarding viticulture management, including other growers and other types of individuals with expertise in viticulture management. In the boxes below, please list up to four other growers, and four other types of individuals, with whom you communicated and shared knowledge about viticulture management in the past year. We would also like to know your opinion about how much they support regional sustainability efforts.

These questions are important for understanding how growers communicate and learn from each other about viticulture management. We value your privacy and are legally required to protect it. Identity is confidential, your answers will be used anonymously, and no personal names will **ever** be publicly released.

Please list the names of up to four growers with whom you communicate about viticulture management. List in order of frequency of communication, with most frequent first.	For each grower you communicate with, would you say they strongly oppose, somewhat oppose, are neutral towards, somewhat support, or strongly support <i>regional</i> sustainability programs like Lodi Rules? Mark the appropriate answer or DK if you don't know.								
	Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neutral	Somewhat Support	Strongly Support	Don't Know			
Grower 1 Name									
Grower 2 Name									
Grower 3 Name									
Grower 4 Name									

Please list the names of up to four other types of individuals with whom you communicate about viticulture management. Please write down their type of job (for example: PCA, Extension Specialist, Viticulture Consultant, or any others). List in order of frequency of communication, with most frequent first. For each individual you communicate with, would you say they strongly oppose, somewhat oppose, are neutral towards, somewhat support, or strongly support regional sustainability programs like Lodi Rules? Mark the appropriate answer or DK if you don't know.

	Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neutral	Somewhat Support	Strongly Support	Don't Know
Other Individual 1 Name						
Type of Job						
Other Individual 2						
Name						
Type of Job						
Other Individual 3		_	_	_	_	
Name						
Type of Job						
Other Individual 4 Name						
Type of Job						

SECTION E: Grower and Win	egrape E	interprise Info	ormation			
What is your age? Please che	eck one.					
□ Younger than 25	25-35	35-44	45-54	55-64	$\Box$ Older than 65	
What level of formal education have you completed? Please check one.I High school, no degree earnedI High school, degree earnedCollege, degree earnedPost college, no degreeAdvanced degree (e.g. MS, PhD, JD)						
Have you received any speci		<b>ng in viticulture o</b> e degree □ En	0			
How many years have you b	een working	in viticulture?				
How many generations has y		-	·		ions (Grandparents)	
□ Four generations (Great gra	and parents)	☐ Five generations	s (Great, great grand	dparents)		
$\Box$ More than five generations						
Do you consider yourself a f	full-time or p	art-time winegrap	e grower? Please	check one.		

□ Full-time □ Part-Time

Winegrape growing enterprises may have complex ownership and management structures. Please answer the following questions about the ownership status of the land you manage for winegrapes, acres under different certification, number of varietals, and diversity of your operation in 2010. *We value your privacy and are legally required to protect it. Your answers are confidential, will be used anonymously, and no personal names will ever be publicly released.* 

Ownership	Enter a number
Number of acres of winegrapes managed in 2010 in Lodi	Acres
Number of acres of winegrapes managed in 2010 in total (all regions)	Acres
Number of acres owned of total in all regions	Acres
Number of acres leased of total in all regions	Acres
Number of acres managed as hired consultant/contractor of total in all regions	Acres
Certifications	
Of the total acres you manage, how many are certified organic?	Acres
In what year did you begin organic certification?	Year
Of the total acres you manage, how many are third-party certified sustainable?	Acres
In what year did you begin third-party sustainable certification?	Year
Operation Diversity	
Approximately how many counties do you manage winegrapes in?	Counties
Approximately how many individual ranches do you manage?	Ranches

Winegrape growing enterprises have a diversity of marketing and sales strategies. Please estimate the number of wineries your enterprise sells grapes to for each scale of winery below. If you are a hired employee, please answer for the winegrape enterprise you are employed by.

Scale of winery	Number of wineries at each scale you sell winegrapes to. Please enter a number.
Less than 2000 cases per year	
2,000-9,999 cases per year	
10,000-49,999 cases per year	
50,000-99,999 cases per year	
100,000-499,999 cases per year	
500,000-999,999 cases per year	
Greater than 1 million cases per year	

If you grow certified sustainable winegrapes, do you sell your winegrapes to a winery that offers a price premium for certification? Please check one.

If you grow certified sustainable winegrapes, is your relationship with wineries stronger and more secure as a result of certification? Please check one.

□ Yes □ No

Do any	of the viticulture	enterprises y	ou manage or o	wn also opera	te a winery	(vertical i	ntegration)?	Please check o	ne.
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			Yes		No		] Not Applicable
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□ No

Do you consider your viticulture enterprise to be economically secure? Please check one.

2 Yes 🗆 No

Please estimate your vineyard operation's annual gross income from winegrape growing before expenses and taxes. Please check one. We value your privacy and are legally required to protect it. Your answers are confidential and only summary and anonymous results will be reported.

\$4,999,999

Less than \$50,000	□ \$50,000 - \$99,999
□ \$500,000 - \$999,999	□ \$1,00,000 - \$4,999

□ \$100,000 - \$499,999 Greater than \$5,000,000



## Thank you for your Help!

Please use the space below if there is anything you would like to tell us about.

If you would like to receive a summary report of this survey, please contact:

Dr. Mark Lubell

DESP

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