



Duncan's Comments

Biggest opportunities for progress in catchment relations and exotics. Annual programs ongoing needs for good information. Desire to do better with Phylloxera and Fruit fly.

CAPs and Catchments	Opportunities for deeper and more strategic engagement between the CMA and the Wine Industry
IPM and Beneficials	Opportunity to better understand predators and beneficial organisms operating in Queensland Vineyards
Annual Programs	NWGIC has specific expertise on bitter and ripe rots that we could get to you.
Trunk Disease	Would be good to include a short Trunk disease presentation next year.
Farm Hygiene	Good idea to keep weevils and crown gall out of Queensland vineyards. Perhaps opportunity to be strategic about movement of some weed seeds. Short communication next year recommended on these issues.
Phylloxera and Fruit Fly	Hopefully presentation 10 Nov 2010 will take step forward with Phylloxera. Comments on QFF are helpful for us and maybe we can request answers to these Q's for next year.
Planting Material	Note Helen Waite's presentation at www.nwgic.org
Exotics	Will ask for a presentation from AQIS for next year
Winery	Sounds like winery relationships working OK, will check earwig ecology for you.

1. Please rate how your vineyard fits into your region's landscape?

No knowledge on this currently.

Working with the Murray CMA, but not aware of specifics of CAP's
It's something I need to learn more about and the general wine industry has shown good leadership on this issue.

No knowledge.

Employed by Murray CMA as catchment officer. Work happening on Nutrient Management Scheme and capacity building within TVA.

Hopefully within the next few years our vineyards will see the difference using biodiversity
The vineyard is dry grown, and water catchments are not impeded. Using organic and biodynamic principles to maximise soil health.

Not aware of any CAPs in our area

Don't know a thing about it.

Not sure about the Catchment Action Plans for this area. I would suggest that we have all provided enough information for the plan to be accurate.

Catchment Management Authorities maintain and develop plans for environmental progress at the regional level in Australia. These plans are a regional focal point for Australian sustainable development goals. Our concept of vine health includes how vineyards interact with other natural assets at the catchment scale. The purpose of including these ratings and comments is to build increasingly helpful relationships at the catchment and community level for the wine industry.

2. Do you know enough about beneficial organisms?

Using IPM approach and finding it very beneficial.

Apply IPM principles on vineyard.

Important in soil health as well!

Change of management approach has led to a gradual reduction in chemical usage over last 5 years.

Would like to increase knowledge of soil biota

We are always attending workshops & through experience we are gaining more knowledge & these subjects are easier to understand & put to use.

Using organic and biodynamic principles to increase the beneficial insects and microorganisms to help combat pest and disease pressure. Organic and biodynamic principles used.

As I am doing a double degree in Wine Science and Viticulture we are really focussing on the IPM schemes and I would love to see more of it happening in this area.

Our concept of vine health includes optimising the vineyard biological system to grow quality fruit. The purpose of including these ratings and comments is to build relationships with the research community to help growers understand the dynamics of beneficial organisms in the vineyard.

3. How do you manage powdery mildew, downy mildew, botrytis and other annual disease control programs?

Botrytis was present last season at low levels after harvest.
Powdery has been a concern for a couple of years. No Downey Mildew. Botrytis infection last season late.

South Burnett is a very difficult region to grow quality wine grapes. Sub tropical conditions increase disease pressures and an all round approach gives you the best chance to supply good quality fruit to the winery.

Only Botrytis last season. Some evidence of vine bunch canker.
Powdery mildew main ongoing issue year to year for district. Botrytis problems more sporadic. Apply high level canopy management, Pruning, timely movement of foliage wires, good weed control and effective spray program.

Using organic principles and using soft chemicals when necessary to combat the diseases. If the vines are healthy and not full of synthetic fertilisers, they can resist attack.

Our only problem to date has been occasional outbreaks of downy mildew. Fruit fly can also be a problem. Organics sprays and baits are used as needed

We understand these diseases are a problem in the area and we spray every 10 - 14 days regardless. We do not have a botrytis problem as we are too hot, we have a ripe rot and sour rot problem which we would love the DPI to look into further...

Grape growers spend a lot of time and money controlling powdery mildew, downy mildew, botrytis and other pests and diseases. The purpose of including these ratings and comments is to give feedback to suppliers and researchers to build better and more effective Integrated Pest Management solutions for growers.

4. Is Trunk Disease an issue on your vineyard and how do you manage it?

Have experienced dieback in cordons. Confirmed as trunk disease. Associated with large cuts. Problem 7-8 years ago. No diagnosis. Replaced cordons Now OK. Samples went to Knoxfield but inconclusive

There have been signs of trunk disease predominantly in Chardonnay. We have seen problems in other varieties but not to the same degree. Most vines recover and can be re-trained with a ground level sucker. The drought conditions of the previous 4 seasons have seen some vines struggle with both trunk and cordon arms dying. This may be due to vascular damage!

Have recognised a problem and in the process of fixing it by cordon replacement.

Working on this. TVA members attended a seminar at Young NSW on trunk canker. We do not have this problem now. Therefore we hope to be in the same condition in 5 years time.

There doesn't seem to be an issue with trunk disease due to the soil microflora present. The Qld industry is very young in industry terms. Trunk diseases can be expected to show from this point in time and training now will assist future diagnosis

Never had the problem

This is a hard one to pick, we currently do not have a problem but our vineyard is only 6 years old so we wouldn't be expecting any problems for a couple of years at least. We do have fairly good checks on the vines during pruning.

Trunk diseases are the major limitation to the productive lives of vineyards the world over. The purpose of including these ratings and comments is to give feedback to suppliers and researchers to build better and more effective solutions for growers in preventing damage from trunk disease.

5. How are weevils, crown gall, weeds and other farm hygiene issues managed?

No weevils or crown gall observed. Currently less concerned about having a few weeds in the vineyard taking a softer approach to weed management than previously.

No weevils or crown gall. Like to keep a clean vineyard and maintain weed free strip undervine.

Summer weed pressure is strong due to the summer rainfall. Weevils, crown gall have not been a major problem.

No weevils and No Crown Gall. Actively managing weeds mostly by cultivation. Not aiming for weed free strip.

No Weevils or Crown Gall. 5 years ago, hygiene was generally better. Currently have difficulty with Blackberries, Paspalum, couch and mallow.

We always practice good housekeeping on our vineyards
weevils are difficult to eradicate without chemicals but with increased biodiversity the pest can be kept in check. We've not had any issues with crown gall due to the high levels of good soil microflora. weeds are manually pulled out by hand.

Weeds are controlled by regular spot spraying and mulch. Haven't had weevils etc

We are aware of these organisms and weeds are a major problem with keeping the vineyard looking good for weddings. Therefore we do keep weeds under a very tight control, and weevils and crown gall have as yet not been detected in the vineyard.

Some pests, weeds and diseases are avoidable if they are not introduced. The purpose of including these ratings and comments is to build an ability to prevent arrival and spread of pests, weeds and diseases that could reduce vineyard productivity. Effective farm hygiene systems achieve this purpose.

6. How does the region deal with Queensland fruit fly and Phylloxera?

No QFF. Mindful of phylloxera risks. maintain quarantine procedures footbaths etc. Not enough signage in the district for Phylloxera. low awareness outside of industry. Concerns about harvesting bins.

No QFF. RE : Phylloxera...PRAY ! Quarantine practices have relaxed in the district in recent years therefore lower rating for present time. Concerned about possible spread.

Fruit fly can create headaches and impact on fruit quality by facilitating bunch rot issues.

The region is very isolated so phylloxera pressure is not intense but in saying that you can never have enough awareness of the devastation phylloxera can cause and the rules and regs we must all adhere to.

Rely on PEZ

No QFF. PEZ - through DPI. I enforced protocols to the letter on my property. No outside contractors Pruning or harvesting.

Becoming well aware of phylloxera

Use baits and traps for the males and females. pickup any fallen fruit. sprays are the last resort. Rootstocks are always used.

Fruit fly is not an issue for winegrapes in Queensland

The presence of Phylloxera is the unknown there is a good understanding of the process Don't understand the question - we deal with fruit fly in our vineyard by regular baiting - don't know if others have fruit fly problem.

Phylloxera - ongoing discussion over PFZ

As of now we do not have phylloxera and I do not expect any in the future either. Queensland fruit fly is another story, we definitely need some help in prevention methods. The only biological control I have come across is the Mayfield traps that trap the males, I do not know where I can get hold of this, as I currently have to spray an insecticide, when they have already infected which is far too late...

Queensland Fruit fly and Phylloxera are regulated pests that vignerons need to consider. The purpose of including these ratings and comments is to build an ability to more effectively deal with these regulatory requirements.

7. Do you use certified planting material?

Always

All stock on own roots and all certified.

An absolute necessity!!

5 years ago used Cuttings from Courabyra vineyard. All new plantings from certified material and resistant rootstocks.

We have not planted recently & have no plans for the future but are aware of the planting material

Material sourced from Chalmers nursery when it was still operational.

Planting material is a potential source of disease and quality assured accredited planting material is Australia's best practice approach in this area. The purpose of including these ratings and comments is to build on the culture of continuous improvement in delivery of disease free nursery material.

8. Is the region adequately protected from exotic diseases and pests?

Rate 7 for awareness of Biosecurity risk. Need to know more.

Industry body should be responsible for monitoring this.

Our region may be more vulnerable given our proximity to tropical areas further to our north.

Currently no knowledge. Expect to learn more.

Expect to increase awareness in this field.

The vineyard is constantly monitored for anything that is out of the ordinary.

There is currently no discussions on this topic in our area

The council are pretty quick in coming forward, so I think our situation is adequately protected.

Exotic pests threaten to damage the health of Australia's vineyards if not controlled at the borders. The purpose of including these ratings and comments is to build support for and understanding of Australia's plant quarantine system including the role of growers in surveillance for new pest incursions.

9. Do problems with pest and disease impact on your relationship with the winery?

Very aware of the issues here. Recent concerns about smoke taint from bush fires and forestry burns. Earwigs....are these a problem?

MRL's very important. Withholding periods. Important to be seen as clean and green. Given the very high disease pressures we face it's critical to have a good relationship with your winery. There are times that weather conditions may dictate that fruit lands at the winery without the perfect specs but in sound condition. Sacrificing the sound fruit while trying to chase perfect specs can be disastrous in our region.

Fully aware. Current target yield is 11T/ha

Fully aware. % infestation levels stated in contracts. Getting excellent viticultural support from winery.

Good understanding between vineyard & winery

You can't make good wine from bad fruit.

The pests and diseases cost us a lot more money than vineyards in other regions as we have to deal with fungal diseases as well as the abundant population of insects when we have that great growing weather, not sure what anyone can do about this??

The biological status of fruit entering the winery is important for wine quality. The purpose of including these ratings and comments is to build an ability to recognise and deal with biological issues that are important in making quality wine.