Recovering Value from Organic Waste Materials...Winecycling

by
Eric Leber
AprèsVin Enterprises, Inc.
FruitSmart, Inc.
Prosser, Washington



...more goodness from the grape



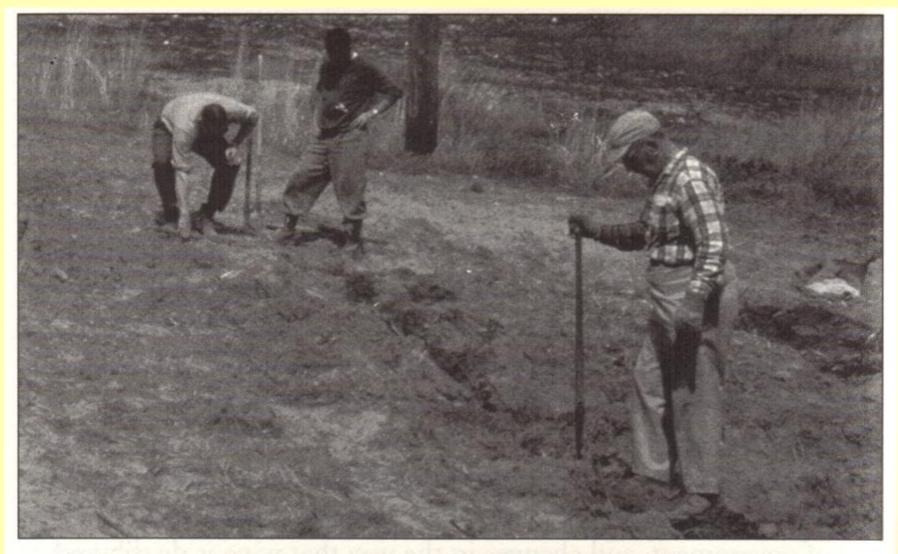
First, a brief historical perspective...





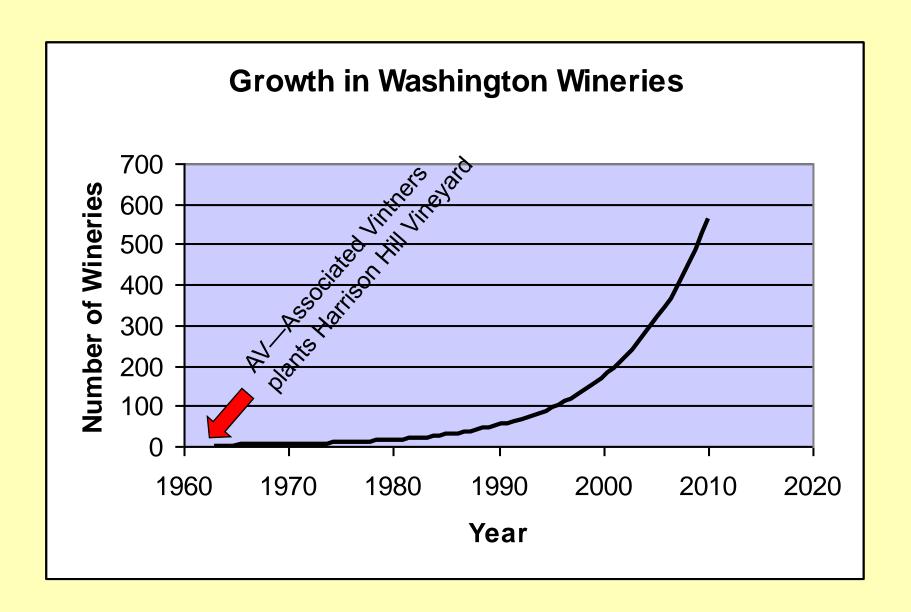
TED LEBER

Co Founder



Associated Vintners shareholders planting their Harrison Hill vineyard.

—Photo courtesy of Associated Vintners.





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THE CITYHERALD.COM

Sunday, March 30, 2003

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Northwest @2

Top Mid-Columbia stories for

Lawsuit highligh

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS YAK

Almost seven years ago into a deep pit of smold

Phillip Hickle, then a sol would still lose both his

"The top of this pile, it v Doug Merritt, recalling h accident. "The top is kin extremely hot."

Here in the Yakima Valle are a \$40 million indust

Fruit juice companies Si contracted with Whitney left over from their loca

Prosser grapes, gripes grow or

By MIKE LEE

Herald staff writer

PROSSER - Sitting atop his grape harvester and Phil Whitney couldn't have been happier. The sn ago when the Prosser farmer started dumping he the vine rows.

Using old grapes to grow new ones is nothing no middle of a movement to recycle biowaste in the dividends for business and the environment, said Richland.

But the practice is controversial, and the Benton regulate it closely.

Four years ago, Whitney was sued for negligent crime, but the practice came under fire again las after falling into a pit of recycled biowaste on or

"That's what alerted us to the problem," said Ric started working at that point to make sure this st

Decomposing organic material can ignite even the can be smelly, Dawson said.

Northwest

Lease Canceled Over Grape Waste Stink

RICHLAND — Grape waste is raising a stink in this Eastern Washington town, and the business blamed for the sour stench has lost its lease and been told to move, officials say.

Since March 15, the Benton Clean Air Authority has reported getting 30 to 40 complaints about the reeking heaps of grape waste on land owned by the Port of Benton.

"It's a very bad, nauseating odor," said Monica Smith, executive vice president of Garlick Enterprises Inc., which owns a nearby business park.

The Tri-City & Olympia
Railroad, which leases the port
land, has canceled a sublease
for the grape waste business
and asked that it be moved by
the end of next month, air quality inspector Terry Flores said.

The agency may issue a notice of violation demanding faster action, and "I think we're going to try to get them to get that place cleaned up quicker than that," Flores said.

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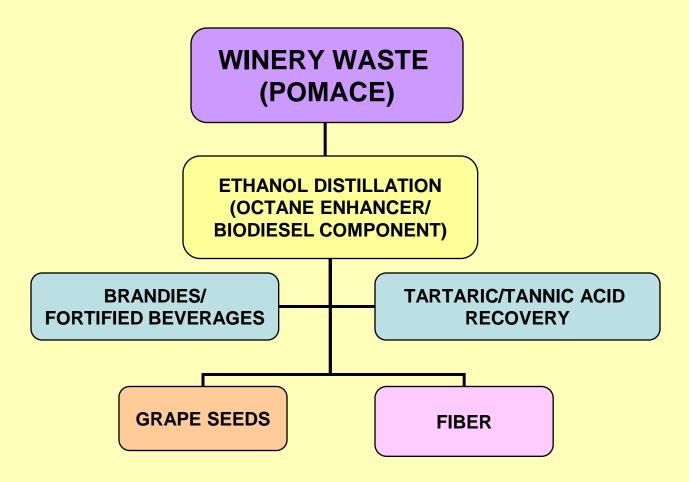
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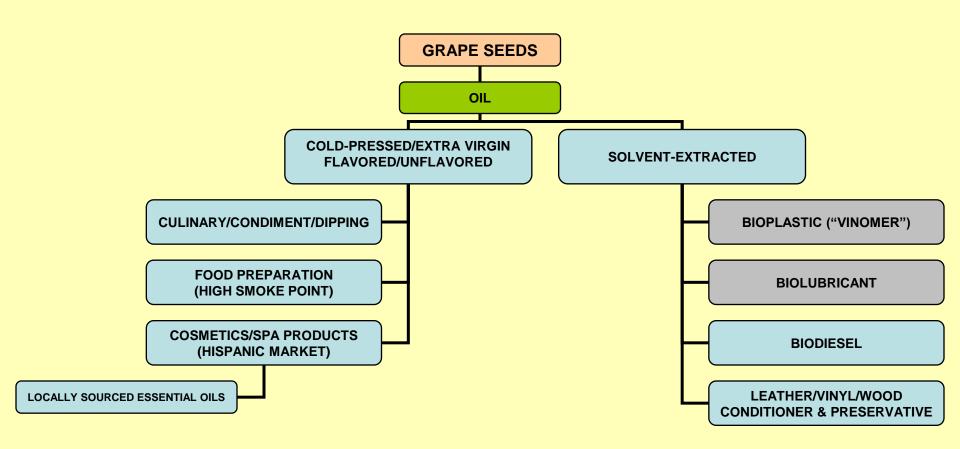
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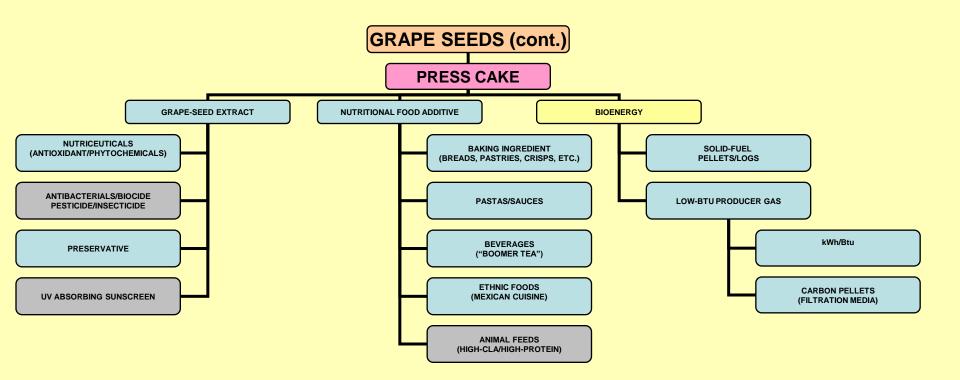
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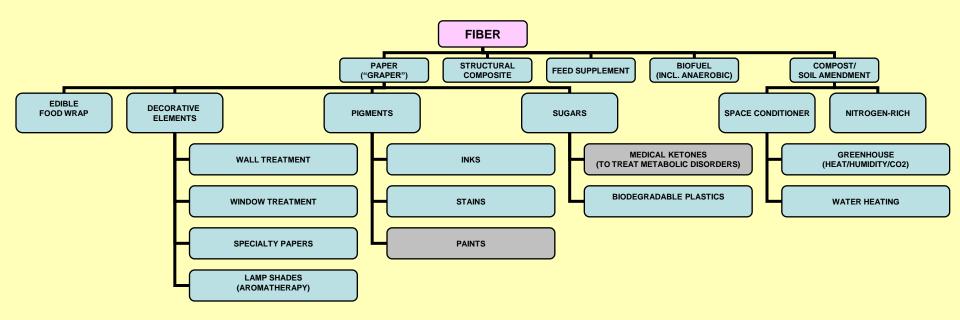
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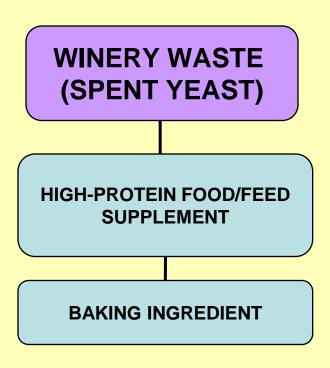
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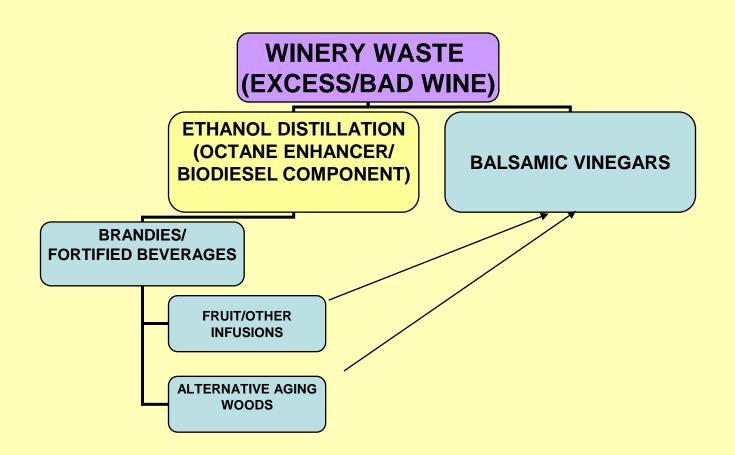














In the shadow of Rattlesnake Mountain...

Winemaking begins with the grape harvest in the fall.



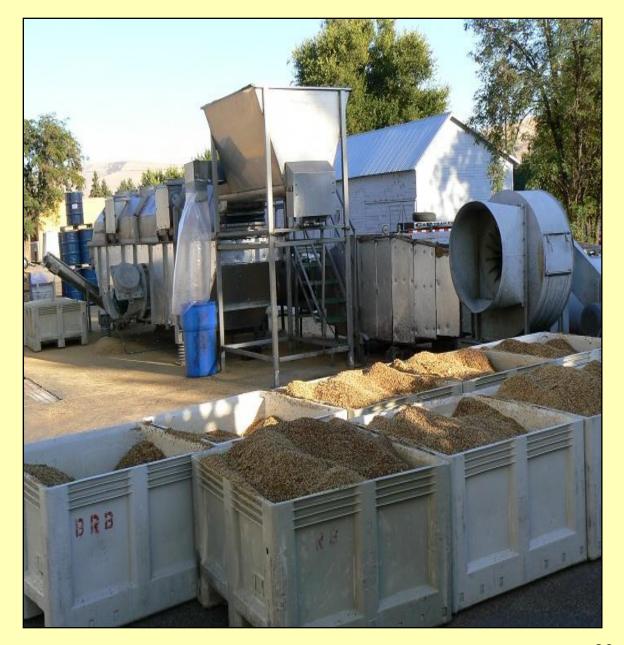
After the grapes are crushed and the wine is made, the grape residues (the "pomace") are collected and then blended for uniformity.



A trommel screen provides an initial separation of the seeds from the larger grape residues.



Within a few hours after leaving the winery, the wine byproducts are ready for drying.



When most of the water is removed from the seeds, they can be more easily separated from any remaining grape skins.



A multi-step process results in a clean, dry product that is 99.9% pure seed.



Seeds flow from the hopper into the expeller press for cold-pressing. The varietal grape-seed oil drips from the barrel while the press cake is extruded from the nozzle.



Bottling the oil for market is a team effort.



A filler is used in bottling the grape-seed oils.



Adding corks, labels, and heat-shrink capsules is the finishing touch before the bottles are ready for market.



The solid part of the seeds, the "press cake", is collected for subsequent milling.

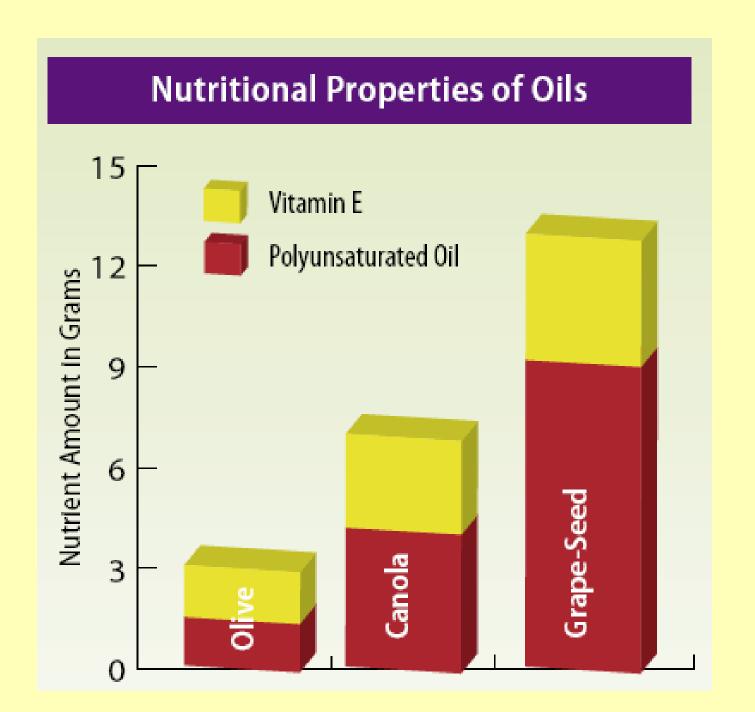


A flour mill is used to fine grind the press cake into a highly nutritious baking flour.



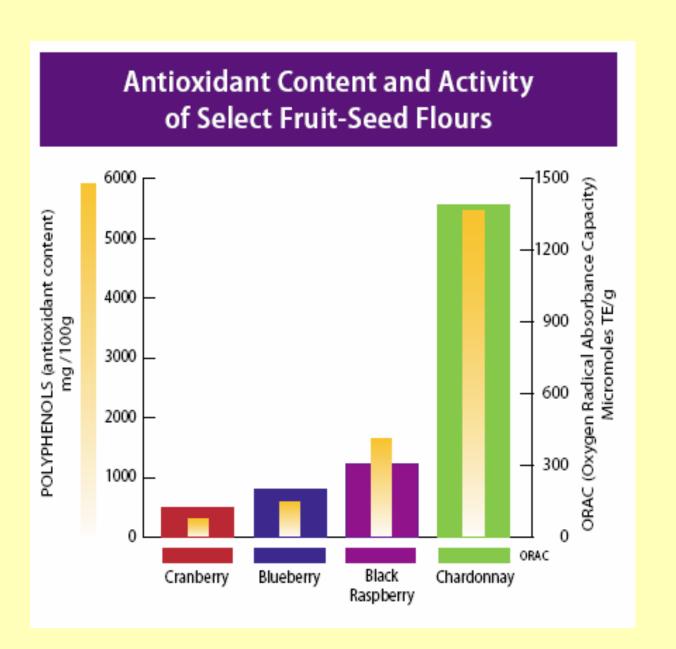
Oils...





Flours...





Bioenergy...

solid fuels...

Clean Energy & Environment Project

A Feasibility Study and Demonstration Project Evaluating Biomass as a Fuel for Gasification to Produce Energy

Funding received from Washington State Community Economic Revitalization Board

Primary Participants

- Port of Benton
- FruitSmart
- Center for Strategic Alliance
- Pacific NW National Laboratory
- REL Associates

Additional Participants

- Yakima Chief (pellet mill owners/operators)
- Mid-Valley Milling (pellet mill owners/operators)
- Seattle Biodiesel (crude glycerin supply)
- WSU Chemical Engineering

misc. byproducts for fuel blending



loading feedstock into blending tank



adding glycerin from Seattle Biodiesel



fruit, wood, and glycerin being blended



feeding blend into pellet mill



pellet mill at Yakima Chief



pellets ready for gasification



gaseous fuels...

gasifier as installed at FruitSmart



2 million Btu/hr of bioenergy



combustor at air-to-air heat exchanger



inside air-to-air heat exchanger



dryer air inlet



...filtering contaminants out of water or air with the charcoal leftovers



liquid fuels...

synthesizing...



and testing biofuel blends



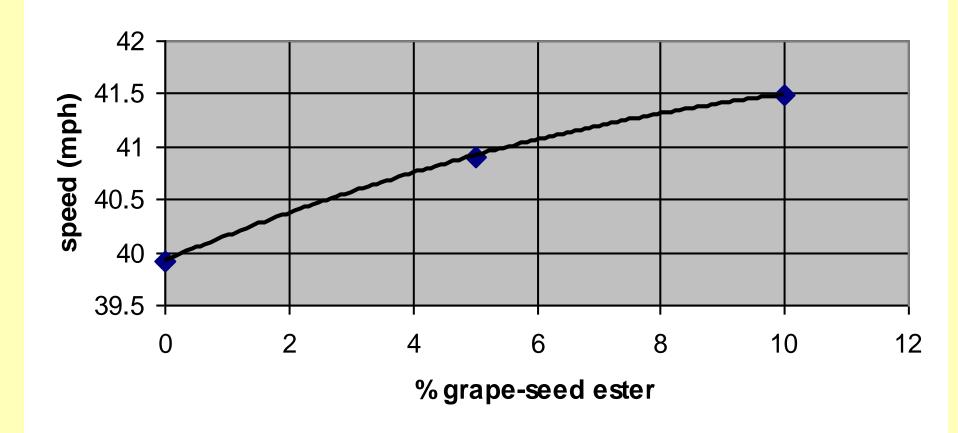
testing oil lubricities



testing performance-enhancing fuel additive ...eau de vitesse



Additive Performance

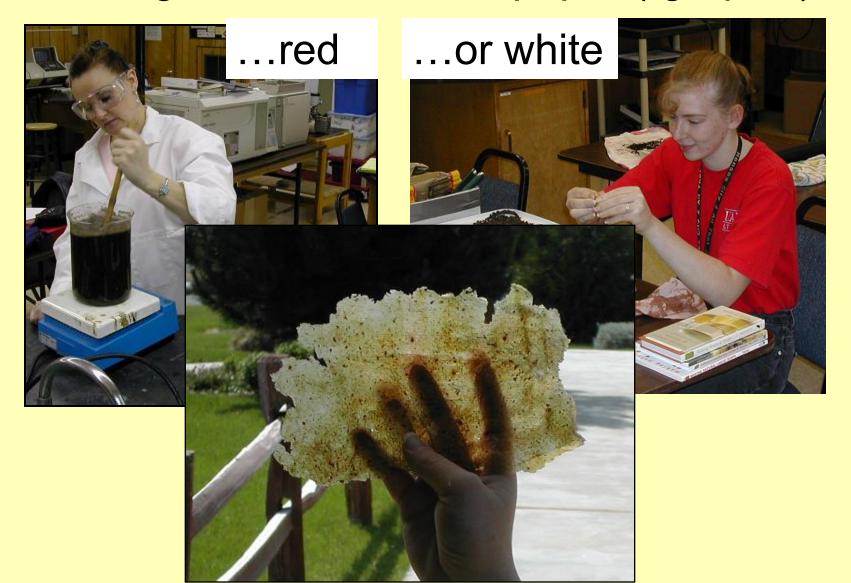


Other values...

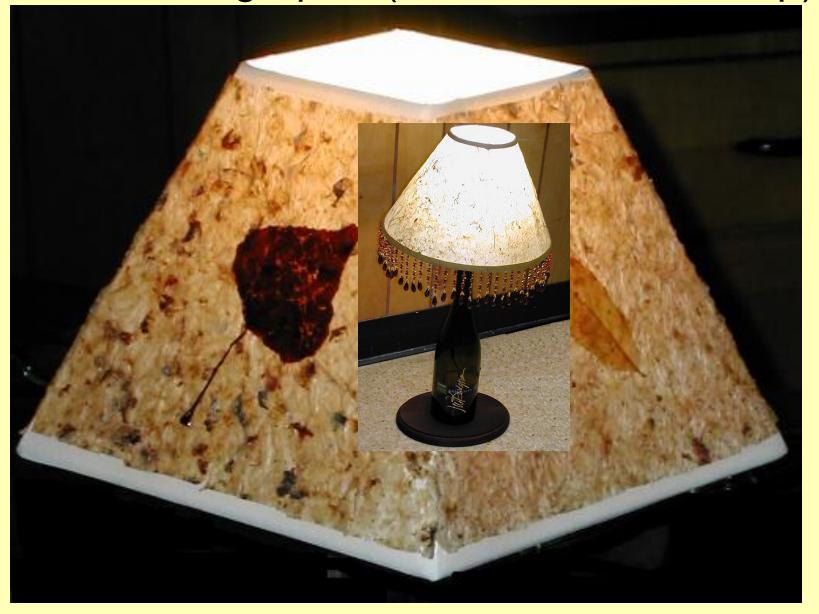
"vinomers"



converting residual fibers to paper ("graper")

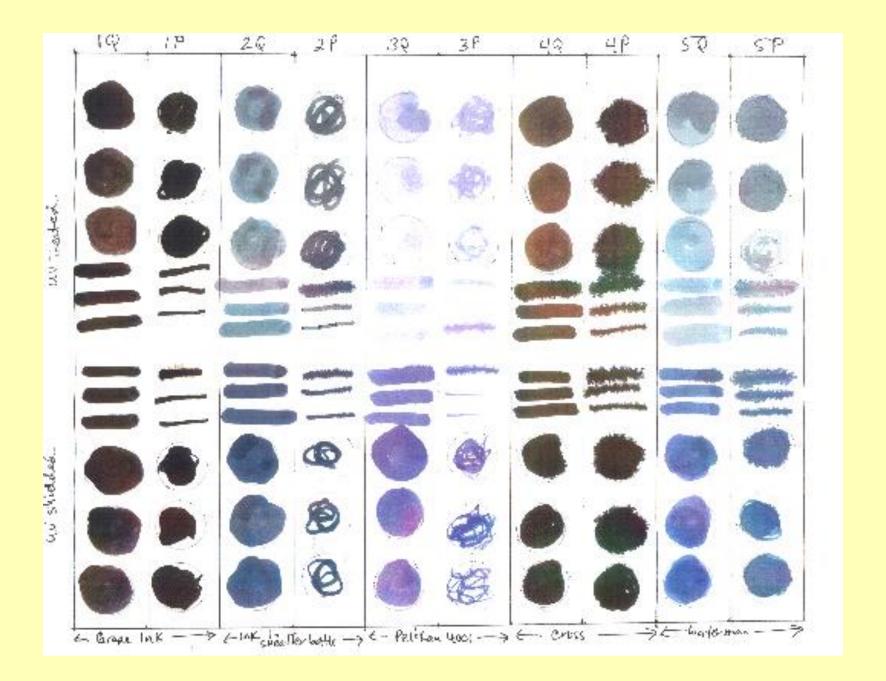


decorative "graper" (also edible food wrap)



pigments for ink and pens...





and water-based stain... cabernet franc pigment pellets



Pucker Power: Chardonnay "coffee" and "Boomer Tea"



residual alcohol as a fuel additive (high octane) or marc brandy (aged with oak)



balsamic vinegars



searching for...



and finding

fragrances for soaps & cosmetics

some serious sniffing!



direct from Hillbilly Stills (via eBay)... an essential oil extraction system



essential oil garden



out of discarded grape wastes.

Pulp - can be used to manufacture paper. Seeds - are grown and extracted to produce glycerol and oils, essential ingredients used to make cosmetics and bio-diesel oils.

Notes: My project is to grow and maintain healthy plants in the field. The lemon grass and french lavender are grown for use to extract oils. The extracted oils will be used as an ingredient in various cosmetic formulation, vinegar, and edible oil.

on warm, well-drained loans; a fairly easy culture in almost any friable, garden soil. It requires little maintenance.

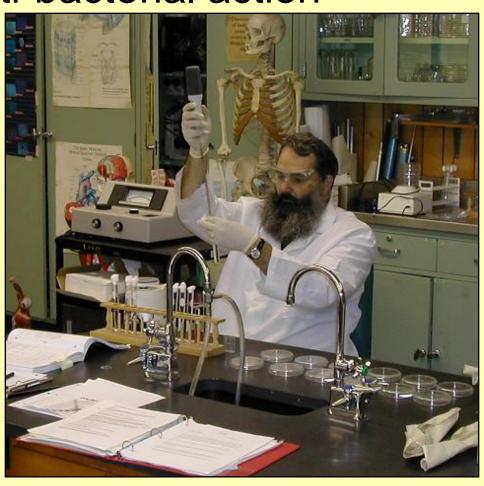
Practical Uses: Lawender was used in earlier days as a condiment and for flavoring dishes. It has aromatic and healing properties. This herb has uses in culmary, counciles, medicine, and landscaping. Interest in this plant continues to grow from large-scale operations to small home gardeners.

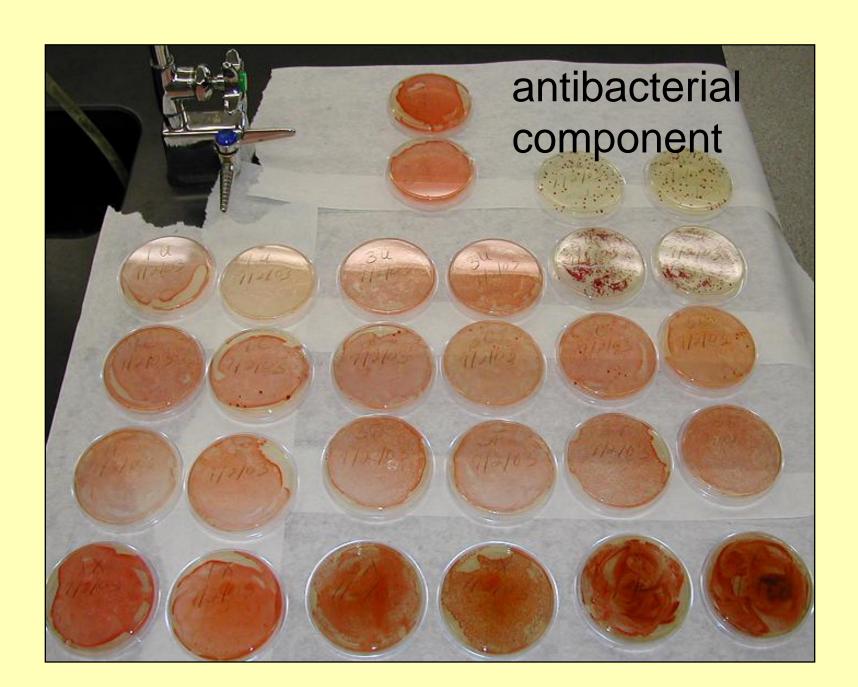
grasses that have been re-potted in either all nitracle grow, grape compost, or a mixture of miracle grow and grape compost.

This study should allow us to estimate the fertilizer seed of an essence producing plant. Likewise, his will help growers determine if grape wasters an effective alternative fertilizer. If so, this will mitigate grape cost to producers.



Frank Chandler developing bioassays for UV protection and anti-bacterial action





Commercialization Challenges:

- Consumer awareness and understanding
- Market assessment
- Intellectual property management
- Technical questions
- Export market
- Production infrastructure
- Sourcing...extent of participation by wine industry

- Several hundred new, year-round, living-wage jobs;
- Healthier rural economies;
- Improved environmental quality;
- Sustainable supply of feedstocks for conversion processes;
- More diverse energy-resource options;
- Better regional and national security;
- Near zero net greenhouse gas emissions; and
- Technology exports.

