

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2005/2006

The composition of the Committee hasn't changed this year and is as below;

John Ward	Chairman & Victorian Grower Representative
Barry Cock	Deputy Chair & New South Wales Grower
Jeff Mitchell	Industry Representative
Bob Shields	Industry Representative
Ron Hutton	New South Wales Government Representative
Andrew Murdoch	New South Wales Grower Representative
Stuart Holland	Victorian Government Representative
Len Schliefert	Victorian Grower Representative
Jan O'Connor	Victorian Grower Representative

I report on the activities of the Murray Valley Wine Grape Industry Development Committee (herein referred to the IDC), research and development projects for the levy funds provided by growers.

This year the IDC has worked to give wine grape growers best return for their levy dollars. As the industry has descended to a very difficult economic position, the challenge is to find other ways of giving wine grape growers value in this changed circumstance.

Our Industry Development Officer, Liz McGuire, is working on many ideas and contributing to grower field days with new procedures to help alleviate costs in vineyards. Liz is a valuable resource that many growers avail themselves of her help.

In these difficult times the help and cooperation of Michael DePalma and Mike Stone has been outstanding and I thank them for their contribution.

The projects completed in 2005/2006 and those approved for 2006/2007 are shown below. For further details go to the industry website at www.murrayvalleywinegrapes.com.au

I would again like to invite growers to participate in the voting process to select projects for the following financial year. It has been disappointing that only 11% of growers have taken the opportunity to vote. The Committee sends over 1300 voting papers to growers prior to the annual meeting in December. Please exercise your democratic right.

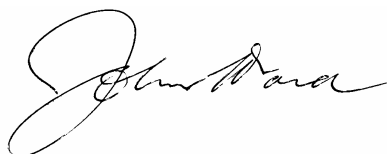
Projects Funded	Project Cost 2005/2006 Actual \$	Project Cost 2006/2007 Approved \$
Annual Regional Crop Forecasting	3,300	-
Grapevine & Australian Viticulture Magazine - Newsletters & Publications	54,888	58,632
Grower Survey	12,892	-
Grower Workshops	11,385	-
Industry Development Officer	73,480	68,920
Industry Development Committee Administration	75,362	79,270
Market Information & Statistics	50,746	48,044
Regional & National Viticulture Input	61,133	68,621
Pruning Advice	5,114	-
Reducing Powdery Mildew	5,115	-
Regional Wine Shows	4,400	5,060
VAMVVIA Site Development	10,000	10,000
Vineyard Mapping	15,450	-
Grower Groups	-	15,750
Grower Services & Projects Officer	-	62,148
Improving Grape Sale Prospects	-	9,014
Nutrition Scoping	-	29,150
Soil Health	-	21,000
Production of Spray Diary	-	7,150
Total (GST exclusive)	383,265	482,759

Contact Liz McGuire the Industry Development Officer for viticulture related assistance or Ashley Turner regarding voting or administration of levy funds.

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I encourage all growers to participate in the project approval and voting process.



JOHN WARD
CHAIRMAN
MURRAY VALLEY WINE GRAPE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE