

# Wine grapes information kit

Reprint – information current in 1997



## REPRINT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ!

For updated information please call 13 25 23 or visit the website [www.deedi.qld.gov.au](http://www.deedi.qld.gov.au)

This publication has been reprinted as a digital book without any changes to the content published in 1997. We advise readers to take particular note of the areas most likely to be out-of-date and so requiring further research:

- Chemical recommendations—check with an agronomist or Infopest [www.infopest.qld.gov.au](http://www.infopest.qld.gov.au)
- Financial information—costs and returns listed in this publication are out of date. Please contact an adviser or industry body to assist with identifying more current figures.
- Varieties—new varieties are likely to be available and some older varieties may no longer be recommended. Check with an agronomist, call the Business Information Centre on 13 25 23, visit our website [www.deedi.qld.gov.au](http://www.deedi.qld.gov.au) or contact the industry body.
- Contacts—many of the contact details may have changed and there could be several new contacts available. The industry organisation may be able to assist you to find the information or services you require.
- Organisation names—most government agencies referred to in this publication have had name changes. Contact the Business Information Centre on 13 25 23 or the industry organisation to find out the current name and contact details for these agencies.
- Additional information—many other sources of information are now available for each crop. Contact an agronomist, Business Information Centre on 13 25 23 or the industry organisation for other suggested reading.

Even with these limitations we believe this information kit provides important and valuable information for intending and existing growers.

**This publication was last revised in 1997. The information is not current and the accuracy of the information cannot be guaranteed by the State of Queensland.**

This information has been made available to assist users to identify issues involved in wine grape production. This information is not to be used or relied upon by users for any purpose which may expose the user or any other person to loss or damage. Users should conduct their own inquiries and rely on their own independent professional advice.

While every care has been taken in preparing this publication, the State of Queensland accepts no responsibility for decisions or actions taken as a result of any data, information, statement or advice, expressed or implied, contained in this publication.



Queensland Government

# Wine Grape Information Kit

## Contributing authors

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*Alex Banks  
Di Davidson  
David Oag  
Shane Dullahide  
Tom Dunn  
Angelo Puglisi*

## Coordinating author

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*John James*

**AgriLink**  
your growing guide  
to better farming  
**SERIES**  
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## **Wine Grape Information Kit**

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Agrilink concept devised by Noel Vock and Brian Cull.

Agrilink products are proudly produced by the Agrilink Project Team:

Information coordinators — Noel Vock, John James, Jerry Lovatt, Irene Kernot

Publishing production — Loraine Chapman

Editor — Glenis Ayling

Multimedia production — Roy Verge

Customer service — Lourelle Heintjes

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Enquiries should be addressed to:

Agrilink Manager

Department of Primary Industries

Maroochy Horticultural Research Station

PO Box 5269 SMC

Nambour 4560 Q Australia

Phone: (07) 5444 9690 Facsimile: (07) 5444 9694 Int Code: + 61 7

### **Disclaimer**

Information contained in this publication is provided as general advice only. For application to specific circumstances, professional advice should be sought.

The Department of Primary Industries, Queensland has taken all reasonable steps to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate at the time of publication. Readers should ensure that they make appropriate enquiries to determine whether new information is available on the particular subject matter.

# Foreword

The Queensland Horticulture Institute is a business unit of the Department of Primary Industries with staff located at 16 centres across the State. It is the service delivery arm of the Queensland Government's support for the fruit, vegetable and amenity horticulture industries.

The core business of the Queensland Horticulture Institute is information. Our team of researchers, extension officers and other skilled professionals generate, format and distribute information to advance the horticultural sector.

Agrilink is a new concept in developing and packaging the information regularly sought by producers of horticultural commodities.

Each Agrilink kit has been designed to be both comprehensive and practical. As they are arranged to answer questions of increasing complexity, they are useful references for both new and experienced producers of specific crops. Agrilink integrates the technology of horticultural production with the management of horticultural enterprises.

Agrilink is a team effort. Each kit has been conceived and written by a team of extension and research staff with specialist knowledge of the crop and commodity. Most of the kits have been field-tested by producers and other users. Agrilink products are being produced to high quality standards so that you can obtain maximum benefit from your investment in information.

Technology and crop management information are changing rapidly. Agrilink has been designed so that each kit can be regularly updated and kept relevant as a practical aid for horticultural producers.

The Queensland Horticulture Institute aims to be the key provider of innovative research services and support for the development of horticulture in Queensland. We seek to find solutions through science. Agrilink is a means of bringing that information to you.

Geoff Behncken  
Convenor, Steering Committee  
Queensland Horticulture Institute

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The information in the *Agrilink Wine Grape Information Kit* applies to growing conditions in Queensland. Local information should be consulted before applying the information in this kit to grape growing areas outside Queensland.

# Preface

To be viable and competitive, horticultural growers face many challenges. These require significant economic and social restructuring and the adoption of new, complex and high risk technologies. The main prerequisite for these decisions is the availability of high quality, timely and relevant information.

Producing this information was the challenge that triggered the Agrilink information concept in 1992. Agrilink evolved from research that showed our existing information at that time lacked completeness, quality, easy access and regular updating. Over the last four years, Agrilink has developed and trialled a new information system to address these deficiencies. This has culminated in this new series of information kits.

Agrilink is built around several important principles. Its products focus on the core information that is most needed and regularly sought by growers. The information is presented in line with how it has been sought from us over the last 15 years. The contents are packaged into integrated information kits that make access and information retrieval easy. For the first time, we are providing a commitment to updating the information on an annual basis. The whole system is being operated under quality management to guarantee product quality and integrity.

The development of Agrilink has been a team effort. I thank all of the DPI staff, consultants and growers who have cooperated in our information gathering workshops. I also thank the artists, printing consultants and editors who have helped to turn the raw information into information kits. This new stage of Agrilink is possible through the funding support of DPI's New Initiatives Program, for which I am particularly grateful. This support has enabled a specialist project team to be developed to carry on the work. I thank this team for the wonderful effort they have put in to getting this new stage off the ground.

Four people deserve special mention. Brian Cull helped to develop the Agrilink concept and has vigorously encouraged its development since. Geoff Behnken provided the initial funding and was instrumental in helping secure the special funding for this new stage. Loraine Chapman has provided a range of specialist design and desktop publishing skills, a contribution which has been outstanding. Cheryl Hutchings helped to develop the Agrilink logo and has provided valuable commercial advice throughout.

I believe that Agrilink has made considerable progress in the challenge to provide high quality, timely and relevant information to Queensland's horticultural industries. The Agrilink project team looks forward to continuing the work into the new millennium.

Noel Vock

# About the authors

## **Alex Banks**

Alex is a Senior Extension Horticulturist with the Department of Primary Industries based at the Granite Belt Horticultural Research Station, Stanthorpe. One of his roles is to assist the development of the Queensland wine grape industry. Alex has 18 years experience with the DPI in horticulture. His special interests during that time have been irrigation scheduling and spray application.

## **Di Davidson**

Di is an experienced wine grape grower and viticultural consultant from Adelaide. She has been working in the Australian wine industry since 1975 when she was appointed National Vineyards Manager for Penfolds Wines. In 1983 Di set up her own consultancy, Davidson Viticultural Consulting Services, and now works regularly in all grape growing regions of Australia. As a wine grape grower, she owns vineyards in Langhorne Creek and the Adelaide Hills. She is a member of the Grape and Wine Research and Development Board.

## **David Oag**

David is a Research Horticulturist with the DPI based at the Granite Belt Horticultural Research Station, Stanthorpe. After growing up on a wine grape vineyard in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, he worked with CSIRO at Darwin researching floral initiation in a range of crops including table grapes. Since joining DPI 10 years ago, David has worked as a viticulturist with table and wine grape growers throughout Queensland.

## **Shane Dullahide**

Shane is a Senior Experimentalist with the DPI based at the Granite Belt Horticultural Research Station, Stanthorpe. He has 25 years experience in horticultural production of deciduous crops with particular interest in plant protection. Shane is presently working on projects that reduce reliance on pesticides by developing integrated pest and disease management systems with orchardists.

## **Tom Dunn**

Tom runs an eight-hectare vineyard at Stanthorpe. After growing up in the Stanthorpe area, he became Area Manager for Schering (Ag Berlin) based at Orange in New South Wales, and covering Cowra and Mudgee. In 1976 Tom moved to his Stanthorpe farm where he now grows grapes, apples, stonefruit and vegetables. He has been a member of the Deciduous Sectional Group Committee of the Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers since 1984.

## **Angelo Puglisi**

Angelo is an experienced winemaker and vineyard operator from Ballandean in Queensland's Granite Belt. He has lived on his 20-ha vineyard, Ballandean Estate, for 52 years. For the past 28 years he has been winemaker at the family winery. His long experience in the industry has given him a detailed understanding of the interaction between climate, soils and vine management in the production of high quality fruit. The premium wines resulting from his fruit have won many awards at Australian wine shows, and are now being exported to the UK. Angelo is a foundation member and past president of the Queensland Wine Makers Association and is chairman of the Wine Australia Function.

## **John James**

John is a Senior Information Extension Officer with the Agrilink project based at DPI's Maroochy Horticultural Research Station, Nambour. He has had 12 years horticultural experience with the DPI, initially as the development officer for ornamental crops at Redlands Research Station. In this role he produced a wide range of information packages, including books, videos and a newsletter, conducted several workshops, and set up an information centre. He joined the Agrilink project in 1996.



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