

## NE 1020 Meeting Minutes

**Welcome:** Paul Read

**Industry welcome:** Jennifer Montgomery (NGGWA) Nebraska Grape Growers and Winery Association. NE industry has a lot happening. She is first Executive director, hired full time last year. Formerly with Wine America. Several Initiatives:

- Rebranding effort
- New state wine festival this year
- legislative effort (2,4-D drift). (More on that later)

Introductions.

Tim Martinson (NY), Paul Read (NE), Bruce Bordelon (IN), Keith Striegler (MO/ARK), Sue Sim (CA), Bill Nail (CT), Frank Ferrandino (CT), Anne Fennell (SD), Jim Luby (MN), ? Loseke (NE Grad Student), Dylan Rolfe (IA), Imed Dami (OH), Paolo Sabbatini (MI), Christina Bogovian (NE grad UNL), Steve Menke (CO), Sarah Kingsley (VT), Vivian (no last name) Grad Student UNL, Harlene Hatterman-valenti (ND), Horst Caspari (CO).

2. Approval of Minutes 2012. Moved by Dami, seconded by Ferrandino. Minutes approved.

3. Administrative Advisor Report. Tom Burr called in from AZ:

- Report needed after meeting.
- Term date is Sept 30, 2017. What are potential funding sources.

Funding sources

- Initiative in OR State for joint multistate project. Need to push for national 'non earmark' program. Need to get Tom Bewick into the conversation. Get meeting next year on Tom's Schedules
- Current funding:
  - o Multistate Hatch/Smith Lever funds. Convince them this is a good investment
  - o Specialty Crop Block Grants (state funding) \$50-70K from NY. Different rules in different states.
  - o Industry Funds?
- Possibility: NRSP – last year, process of writing and submitting NRSP project. Criteria
  - o Development of enabling technologies.
  - o Committee of members committed to writing NRSP. Funds would then be allocated.
  - o No Guarantee for this. Supports broad range of stuff.
  - o Evaluation Process= Look and determine whether it meets NIFA and ESCOF criteria in the Science Roadmap.
  - o Priority: Food security human health, Econ growth and job creation, Sustainable environment and natural resources, strategic investment.

- Tom thinks it 'fits'. Need to hear from group whether there is a leader who could do this.

Bordelon: Would it be helpful to list industry funding? Burr: Yes.

Keith: Funding - adaptation to climate change. This fits with that.

Tom is on advisory about enabling technologies for animal germplasm. Variety performance in different environments, cold tolerance, etc.

Funding: Ball park: 500K per year, some 200-300-400K. Also want a Time Frame. (eg. 5 years, etc.)

Imed: Will it support winemaking/enology portion.

Tom will send information on MRSP.

## 2. Election and meeting venues

- 2014 meeting in NY, Martinson chairs
- 2015 meeting in SDS, Fennell chair
- 2016 Burlington Vt, Kingsley et al.

Motion needed: Sarah Kingsley for incoming secretary: Aye. Sarah Kingsley is secretary for next year.

Martinson replaces Justine as chair, meeting in Geneva, NY next year (Nov 11-13).

## 4. Associate dean David Jackson– UNL Ag Research Division.

**David Jackson.** Associate dean. Values collaboration with multi-state committees, across US and other regions. Appreciate hosting this meeting in NE. Grew up in upstate NY, at NE 25 yr ago.

Food chemist. Now as Assoc. dean has learned about agriculture. Sense of uniqueness to Nebraska:

- US Ag Sec. Vilsack visited here, said 1 in 12 jobs are associated with agriculture nationwide. In NE 1 in 3 jobs associated with Agriculture.
- 93% of land area is in farms and ranches; 7% of NE is urban or infrastructure
- 1 cattle, red meat, 1 in popcorn, 3-4 corn and soybeans. Top 10 for commodity Ag in other commodities
- 36 new Tenure track faculty in Ag & Nat Research 10% increase in faculty positions
- Water use important most land area irrigated (More than CA)!
- NE invented center pivot irrigation, hosts companies that make it.

## 5. Committee Reports

- A. Data Analysis: Dan Ward not present, no report.
- B. Viticulture: Horst Caspari: Nothing to report (Protocols in place, data being collected)

- C. Enology: Steve Menke: No standard protocols, as equipment varies. Settled on Consumer hedonic rating, used, adapted sheet from AK Mansfield. Have been several industry tastings in different states. Need Database of what wines produced from NE-1020, tasting data. **Action Item: Steve compiles database of NE1020 wines.**
- D. Publications and Data sharing (Dan Ward): There was some discussion on data sharing protocol. No one has seen it. Anne Fennell has link and passwords for site Dan set up for putting in data. Ward, Reisch, and Martinson were on committee. Anne Fennell read out the gist of this policy, which sets out criteria and protocol for using NE1020 data in other projects and reports. And acknowledgment. **Action Item: Tim Martinson finds URL of Dan Ward's site, and instructions for access.**
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From Dan Ward:

Dear Fellow NE1020'ers,

Linked herein is the website I put together for us to use securely. This is a place for sharing documents as well as a repository for internal documents for use by the technical committee of the NE1020 project.

the url is:

<http://aesop.rutgers.edu/~dward/NE1020/>

The login is: REDACTED, Sent via separate e-mail.

Of course security is only as good as the individuals who have access to the resource, so please keep the credentials to yourself and your technical staff as needed, and follow good security practices (eg quit browser after using this site).

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- E. Meteorology: The committee has been disbanded, its work done.

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Break

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Report: Dow Agro meeting last week with grape group. Met in Indianapolis, to discuss Enlist 2,4-D ready corn, soybeans, cotton. To be released in next few years.

Jennifer Montgomery – NGGWA – Herbicide drift

- Legislation introduced: Between april 15 and Setp 15, reporting and restriction on herbicide application. \$1000 fine for not complying.
- Bill: 40 opposing, 5 in favor.

- Marker: realize that herb drift is a problem. We are real, not a 'hobby' industry, this is costing money, something had to be done.
- Hearing: Tone of that hearing wasn't pleasant on both sides; two senators moved to 'interim study', puts us together in a room to talk about 'goals'.
- Stakeholders meeting: 2 wk ago. Opposition is always the same; Lobbyist we've hired. More conciliatory. Press stories on herbicide drift has helped. Talking about 'educational programs'. Need meaningful education to help reach hard-to-reach audiences.
- Trying pilot program.

Bruce: Was decided to do regional publication on Herbicide drift symptoms.

## 6. National Clean Plants Network (NCPN) Update

Keith Striegler:

- Described mission and structure of NCPN, and NCPN- Grapes.
- 5 crop areas (Grapes, tree fruit, citrus, hops, brambles)
- 5 Centers for grapes (UCD-FPS, Prosser Wa, Cornell, Missouri State, Florida State Tallahassee)
- Keith works with outreach. Accomplishments: Brochures, logos, 'white paper' of accomplishments
- Credibility as rapid response: From Red Blotch response by many institutions.

Sue Sims:

- NCPN-Grapes coordinator, taken on some of Nancy Sweet's jobs
- Described start of FPS 50 yr ago, response to fanleaf
- Until recently a 'state' thing. Handle many crops, is service unit for Davis.
- Grapes major part of the portfolio
- Showed us micro-shoot tip culture video
- New Red blotch info: 10 New accessions, tested with Red blotch virus; but the virus was also picked up by the live Cabernet Franc screen (CF shows symptoms). Take Home: This gives them confidence that they have been picking up red blotch (without knowing it) through the Cab Franc indicator plants (but maybe confusing it with leafroll). Micro shoot-tip culture seems to be effective for elimination. Gives them more confidence that their blocks don't have Red blotch.
- Two plantings: 'Classic' block, 80 acres, and new 'Russell Ranch' block, where everything starts with tissue culture and 2010 protocols.
- Accessions: Many are in progress based on recommendations from NE-1020 group. Listed on National Grape Registry.

State Reports (from memory, some people sent updates.)

Colorado (Caspari, Horst)

- Winter injury, has eliminated  $\frac{3}{4}$  of vines in one of the two NE1020 blocks.
  - Aromella performs well in Colorado. Nice wine, good quality.
- **ND (Hatterman-valenti)**
  - Struggles with 2,4-D drift in their block
  - No yield data last year, this year some crop.
  - Season started out wet, some set problems as a result.
- **VT (Kingsley)**
  - Started out wet, but good crop year.
- **MI (Sabbatini, Paolo)**
  - Challenging season in Michigan characterized by low temperature in the northwest and rain in the SW during harvest.
  - Viticultural data from the SW and NW Michigan locations were collected in 2013.
  - Formal wine testing was not performed in 2013, but wines were shared with the industry during the SW viticulture Day (July) and the NW open House (August) and in Ohio (September) for a local meeting.
  - During the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center Annual Open House (August 23) and SW Viticultural Day (July 30), Dr Sabbatini and Dr Elsner presented an update on the cultivar trial. Results on viticultural and enological performances of the several cultivars grown at the stations were shared with winemakers and grape growers.
  - Several winemakers expressed interest in collaborating with the project, and they will use part of the experimental fruit for their micro-vinification trails.
- **OH (Dami, Imed)**
  - Two trials (Kingsville and Wooster)
  - Eastern Grape Project: Working on comprehensive site selection model/database that will cover 22 states.
- **IA (Dylan Rolfe)**
  - Drought carryover affecting trials
- **CT (Farrantino, Frank, Bill Nail)**
  - Lots of rain and downy mildew. Too wet to spray
- **IN (B. Bordelon)**
  - Great season weather wise. Cool summer lead to excellent early and mid-season whites, late summer heat lead to great maturity on reds. Very little rainfall Aug-Oct so no rot problems.
  - Some downy mildew
  - Spotted Wing Drosophila attached table grapes in Lafayette, causing significant damage despite weekly applications of Mustang Max. Only spotty occurrence in wine grapes, but still a concern.
  - Significant 2,4-D “volatile” drift damage in Lafayette. Lots of pictures of damage to help with a regional publication
- **MN (J. Luby)**
  - Several numbered MN selections are planted in NE1020 blocks in several states. These include MN1189, 1200, 1220, 1235 and 1258 which were the most promising advanced selections made available for inclusion in 2007.

- The UMN breeding program are not continuing to evaluate MN1189 which is too weak without grafting, MN 1200 which has too small clusters and too low yield, and MN1235 which is too similar to Frontenac and also has a wild growth habit.
  - The UMN breeding program continues to have interest in MN1220 and MN1258. MN 1220 is not sufficiently hardy for MN but has worked well in NE and IA and has excellent growth habit for VSP and has excellent wine quality as a neutral white. MN1258 is considered a candidate for introduction. It is a red wine selection that has performed well in MN and may be a successor to Frontenac as it has lower acidity and better fruit set. UMN is extremely interested in continuing to receive reports from NE1020 tester on both 1220 and 1258.
  - UMN has two additional selections that they can make available to testers. They are MN1251, aromatic white selection and MN1285, a more neutral white selection.
  - **SD (A. Fennell)**
    - Rainfall during bloom was a challenge
    - Black rot on Brianna, had to drop half the crop
    - Most work on: Northern Grape Project, sampling Frontenac and Marquette and working with MN and IA collaborators for analysis of fruit attributes and genetics/genomics of same.
    - Several presentations on NGProject and NE1020
  - **NE (Read)**
    - 2,4-D or other phenoxy herbicide injury in NE1020 documented.
    - Sabrevois highly susceptible; Some cultivars had leaf injury, but fruit OK, others fruit was affected.
  - **NY (Martinson)**
    - **NE1020 block at station:** recovering vine size after two years of drought. Ample moisture, good maturity, some breakdown (St Croix).
    - **Joint Tasting NE1020:** PA, CT, NY wines from NE1020 blocks tasted with industry at event in August. Written up in Wines and Vines daily news digest (by Linda Jones McKeey).
    - **Use of NE1020 data in NGP:** last year worked up data from 6 NE1020 sites for Northern Grape Project symposium. Dominant factor: Spring bud injury. shoots per retained node was under 1 in many of the blocks (0.5-1), leading to low yields/crop weight. This year want same data for similar talk. Thanks to Sarah Kingsley and crew for the MOST COMPLETE DATASET. Phenology dates, cluster counts, harvest, maturity all there in the right places.
    - **KDL:** Wanted to gauge interest in joint grower 'side by side' trials of 'KDL' and/or other post budburst frost protectants.
    - **Northern Grape Project:** Call for experiment summaries went out today. Please read and review.
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**Next Year's Meeting:**

Dates are 11-13 November at NYSAES, Geneva. Would like to incorporate more formal tasting evaluation of wines into meeting, rather than the more informal social tastings. Suggested that 2 late AM sessions could be incorporated, with cutback on the 'State reports'. Submit them beforehand and either use a 5 min timer or reduce time devoted to this to make time for the tastings and discussions. Steve Menke will work with other Enologists (eg. Katie and AKM) on a plan.

Earlier discussion: About wine evaluations. Paolo Sabbatini suggested that three important rationales and evaluations are: 1) The cultivar is a standard one but new to the region; 2) Novel cultivar that performs well, but untested; 3) regional differences in wine attributes with same cultivar.

So discussions on what wines to evaluate: 1) Bring the 'best' from your trial; 2) horizontal tasting of several with same cultivar, produced in different blocks.

### **7. Alternative funding sources:**

Shall group go for what Tom Burr suggested: NRSP (National Research Support Projects)?

Pros: multiyear funding for project activities.

Cons: Spread over large group, may not amount to much resources per program.

Bordelon: Is anyone planning on doing different plantings that will go beyond 2017? Jim Luby has just removed 3 of original selections; is there to be new plantings, new cultivars? If not, maybe not worth effort.

It seems that with Tom Burr's help, could fashion a compelling proposal, pre-vetted by Burr. Problem is who will do it.

Paul Read asked for volunteers: (silence). Many cite time commitment and risk of uncertain payoff for doing this. Needs some leadership.

No vote taken on whether to proceed.

After some prodding, Here are people willing (tentatively) to investigate further.

### **Committee for funding.**

- Anne Fennell (volunteer)
  - Tim Martinson (no leadership)
  - Sarah Kingsley (If others can't do it)
  - Harlene Hatterman-Valenti (might help)
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Note from Tom Burr, RE: MRSP

Dear NE1020 Colleagues: Attached are the two information pieces I discussed with you briefly on the phone this morning. If a group considers writing an NRSP proposal please let me know. I will first follow

up on Imed's question about funding of an enology-related grant proposal before any significant work is done.

In addition to the NRSP guidelines included is the Science Roadmap brochure. This is good information for all of us to have in hand as we consider opportunities for funding.

As additional questions arise during the meeting or after please let me know and I will investigate and get back to you.

I hope you all have an excellent meeting and safe trips home.

Best regards,  
Tom  
(attachments)

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**Many recognized need for a stable , multiyear funding source.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.**