



NEWS & TIPS *JANUARY 2022*

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We hope you enjoyed a safe and happy holiday and wish you a prosperous 2022.

MONTHLY REPORTING

VQA sales are reported monthly using the standard form embedded in the LCBO Winery Reporting Template (“J10 form”). Changes are coming to LCBO reporting but the VQA Sales Report portion of the form will remain the same and the monthly submission requirement will remain unchanged. Please ensure you advise your accounting/administrative staff to elect MONTHLY reporting if asked by the LCBO and continue to upload monthly reports to the VQA Services website. Reports are now due on the 20th of the month following.

LCBO SAMPLE DELIVERIES — Please continue to deliver your wine samples to “VQA Samples” 43 Freeland Street, 3rd Floor, Toronto ON, until further notice. Please contact tricia.ramnath@vqaontario.ca with any questions.

APPROVALS FOR PURCHASED BULK WINE

All wines must have a valid approval to use VQA-regulated terms. Wine approvals are granted to an individual winery for a specific wine and label and are not transferable. If you purchase bulk wine from another VQA winery, make sure the seller completes the online transfer form. Wines that have received a VQA approval in the seller’s name, and are bottled unchanged within 12 months of the initial approval, may qualify for a “Supplementary Approval” at a reduced fee (\$40). Please contact our office about eligibility for Supplementary approvals or any questions about wine transfers or the wine approval process.

APPASSIMENTO REGULATION CHANGE POSTED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Proposed amendments to VQA rules for wines made from dried grapes and regulating the use of the term “appassimento” on wine labels have been approved by the Board of Directors and have been posted by the Government on the Regulatory Registry. If you wish to comment before the Minister considers the change for approval, you must comment through the regulatory registry no later than January 15, 2022. Access the registry at [Proposed changes to the Vintners Quality Alliance Act, 1999 - O. Reg. 406/00](#)

MARK YOUR 2022 CALENDAR

APPROVALS TESTING SCHEDULE

Approval tasting is normally conducted every Wednesday and included all samples received at the LCBO up to 3 pm on the Monday before. Extra tasting panels may be added during peak volumes in the spring but anticipate some delays as the schedule catches up with volume. LCBO is closed on the following days, affecting sample receipt. Plan to submit samples early to account for holiday closures.

- Monday February 21, 2022 (Family Day)
- Friday April 15, 2022 (Good Friday)
- Monday April 18, 2022 (Easter Monday)
- Monday May 23, 2022 (Victoria Day)
- Friday July 1, 2022 (Canada Day)
- Monday August 1, 2022 (Civic Holiday)
- Monday September 5, 2022 (Labour Day)
- Monday October 10, 2022 (Thanksgiving Day)
- Friday November 11, 2022 (Remembrance Day)
- Last tasting December 19, 2022

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, July 21, 2022

BRIX MINIMUMS

It was a challenging harvest. Please make sure your components and blend meet the brix minimum for the appellation before finalizing your labels. For reference, please see the brix tables at [VQA Ontario · Regulations · Standards](#) under the “Brix” tab.

LABEL REVIEW

Use our handy checklist to make sure your labels are compliant.

[VQAQuickReferenceLabellingGuide.pdf \(vqaontario.ca\)](#)

It is important every label accurately reflects what’s in the bottle to support consumer confidence and maintain the integrity of your wines and wine appellations. For more information please visit [VQA Ontario · Regulations · Packaging](#)

Have questions about labelling rules? Need help with the application process? Please email Tricia Ramnath, Wine Testing Coordinator, with your label and approval inquiries. She can be reached at tricia.ramnath@vqaontario.ca or at 416-367-2002.

Everything explained: See your Members Manual at [Ontario Wine Appellation Authority WINERY SERVICES GUIDE \(vqaontario.ca\)](#)