



## NEWS & TIPS NOVEMBER 2021

### **ICEWINE AND SKIN FERMENTED WHITE – REGISTER YOUR GRAPES**

The deadline to register your grapes for Icewine and Skin Fermented White is Nov. 15, 2021. Please register using the Icewine Juice Monitoring System or Skin Fermented White Tracking System on the VQAO Services site. For help, please call Susan Piovesan, or contact [info@vqaontario.ca](mailto:info@vqaontario.ca).

Need a refresher on the rules and regulations around Icewine and other Late Harvest wines? Please visit our website at [VQA Ontario · Regulations · Processes](#).

### **HELPFUL HINTS FOR ICEWINE**

**Do not blend** tanks of juice originating from more than one lot of registered grapes before getting the Brix test results from EDM Associates.

**All juice intended for Icewine must be pressed within 7 days of harvest.** No exceptions will be permitted without written permission.

**All frozen grapes must be weighed** – do not "guess" at the weight of your grapes – the number needs to be accurate. The Authority checks this data against reasonable yields and recovery and will disqualify juice if it does not make sense or conflicts with other information provided.

### **ICEWINE AND LATE HARVEST BRIX TESTING FEES**

Please note the Icewine testing fees are charged on a cost recovery basis proportional to the overall number of tests conducted. Last year, the cost per test was higher than previous years due to the total testing cost divided by a relatively low number of actual tests performed. If you have questions about how the Icewine testing is conducted or how the fees are calculated, please contact [Laurie.macdonald@vqaontario.ca](mailto:Laurie.macdonald@vqaontario.ca)

## **DECEMBER SCHEDULE**

The last Tasting Panel of 2021 will operate on Wednesday Dec. 8. Please plan accordingly.

The LCBO lab will continue to operate until Dec. 17. The last date to get your samples in for tasting or lab will be Dec. 1, end of day, per LCBO request. Wines received by end of day Wed. Dec. 1 will be tasted the following week on Dec. 8 and will undergo lab testing between Dec. 6-17.

Also please note that during the annual shut down the LCBO is unable to accept shipments. They will reopen for 2022 on Jan. 4. Please do not send samples to the LCBO between Dec. 1-Jan. 4

## **FEE INCREASE**

The application fee for a VQA wine approval increased by \$25 from \$285 to \$310, effective November 1, 2021. The fee covers the cost of chemical analysis, sensory evaluation and label review. This increase is due to a \$25 increase in chemical analysis fees charged by the LCBO. We continue to maintain a cost recovery approach to wine approvals testing.

REMINDER The new fee applies to all submissions received at the LCBO on or after Monday, November 1, 2021. Due to our automated invoicing system, you will notice an administrative adjustment for any samples where the online application was submitted before November 1 but the samples received on or after that date.

## **ONTARIO WINE APPELLATION AUTHORITY – AT YOUR SERVICE!**

Have questions about labelling rules? Need help with the application process? Please book a 15-minute call with our team. Between Dec. 8 and Dec. 17, we will provide a dedicated time slot for you or your winery staff to connect with us and chat all things VQA. We will answer your questions about the Wine Certification Program and get you set up for success. To book your time use this link:

[https://doodle.com/poll/ncb5i8uxuf9ibkus?utm\\_source=poll&utm\\_medium=link](https://doodle.com/poll/ncb5i8uxuf9ibkus?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link)

or email Tricia Ramnath, Wine Testing Coordinator. She can be reached at [tricia.ramnath@vqaontario.ca](mailto:tricia.ramnath@vqaontario.ca) or at 416-367-2002.

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