

Ontario Wine Appellation Authority
NEWS & TIPS SEPTEMBER 2021

HAPPY HARVEST!

Wishing all Ontario wineries a successful 2021 harvest! Don't forget to check your brix at harvest and register your intent to make Icewine or Skin Fermented White wines before November 15. Use the chart and information below to ensure that your grapes are VQA-eligible!

Please take a moment to complete your outstanding approval applications – upload missing labels and make sure the fee is paid. We know you will be busy come harvest and won't want this hanging over you!

MINIMUM AVERAGE BRIX – BY GRAPE VARIETY*

Make sure all your grapes meet the required minimum average brix for VQA and for the appellation you want to use on the label and are registered with the GGO to be VQA-eligible!

If you have questions, please contact katherina.radcliffe@vqaontario.ca

Vitis Vinifera Varieties	MINIMUM for VQA ONTARIO	MINIMUM for VQA APPELLATION
Cabernet Franc	18.0	20.0
Cabernet Sauvignon	19.0	20.0
Chardonnay	18.0	20.0
Chardonnay Musque	18.0	18.0
Gamay Noir	18.0	19.0
Gewurztraminer	18.0	19.0
Merlot	19.0	20.5
Muscats	17.0	17.0
Pinot Blanc	17.5	18.0
Pinot Gris/Grigio	17.5	18.5
Pinot Noir	18.5	19.5
Riesling	17.0	17.0
Sauvignon Blanc	17.0	18.0
Syrah/Shiraz	18.0	19.5
Viognier	18.0	19.0
All others	17.0	18.0

HYBRID VARIETIES	Eligible for VQA ONTARIO ONLY
Baco Noir	19.5
Chambourcin	18.0
Marechal Foch	19.0
Marquette	19.5
Vidal Blanc	18.0
Others	17.0

***This is a sampling of commonly used grapes. For the full table and all requirements please see Reg. 406 at <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/000406>**

GLERA AND FRENCH TRANSLATION OF REG. 406

An amendment to VQA Regulation 406 adding “Glera” (formerly known as Prosecco) as an authorized vitis-vinifera grape variety has been approved by the Minister. The French translation of Regulation 406 (the winemaking standard) was also approved as part of this amendment. Find it online here: [O. Reg. 406/00: RULES OF VINTNERS QUALITY ALLIANCE ONTARIO RELATING TO TERMS FOR VQA WINE](#)

CALL FOR IMAGES AND VIDEO SHOWCASING ONTARIO APPELLATIONS

Over the last few months the Ontario Wine Appellation Authority has begun the process of a comprehensive refresh of our communications and educational materials, and are exploring possibility of creating digital appellation awareness campaigns over the coming years. Working with agency spark*advocacy, we are sourcing footage (video + photo) to support this initiative.

We are looking for photos, videos, or both, from your winery or vineyards that showcase the beauty of our appellations and winegrowing regions from across the Province. Imagery that communicates that there is nowhere else in the world like our appellations – a place where the soil, the slope, the sunshine, the warmth, the rainfall and the craftsmanship all matter.

If you have any assets that might fit this description and are interested in participating in our refresh, please get in touch! We are fast approaching harvest season and don’t want to miss the opportunity to showcase our beautiful regions. Our focus is on appellation so non-branded images are preferred.

If you have footage that you would like to submit, please add to this dropbox link: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/lylGNY4XfcEInXIH6BMC>

Thank you!

WINE TESTING COORDINATOR – AT YOUR SERVICE!

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 \(vqaontario.ca\)](#)