

VQA ONTARIO
Ontario's Wine Appellation Authority
NEWS & TIPS OCTOBER 2019

BENCHMARKING STUDY – Friday Oct. 25!

Mark your calendar! The 5th Annual Ontario Wine and Grape Industry Benchmarking Study survey will be launched online on Friday Oct. 25th. Watch your inbox for an email from Ontariowinestudy@deloitte.ca for your invitation to participate and a unique Username and Password. Don't forget, the survey must be completed online before Friday Dec. 8, 2019, for your winery to participate in the study. Participation is mandatory if your business intends to apply for the VQA Wine Support Program. If you have any questions about the survey please don't hesitate to contact katherina.radcliffe@vqaontario.ca The reports from previous years can be accessed online at <http://www.vqaontario.ca/Resources/Library>

NEW FEDERAL LABELLING RULES

New federal labelling rules take effect next year. Effective July 1, 2020, a legible lot code will be required on every container of wine.

Requirements for the allergen declaration have also changed. It must be displayed in a single colour of type that is 100% solid black type on a white or neutral background. Please see Health Canada's website for more information <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/food/requirements-and-guidance/labelling/industry/list-of-ingredients-and-allergens/eng/1383612857522/1383612932341?chap=3>

Please note that VQA Ontario reviews label submissions as part of the wine approval process. We typically assess label compliance related to VQA regulations only but will report federal violations if noted by flagging them in the Reviewer Comments section of your label review.

IMPORTANT! UPLOAD YOUR MONTHLY SALES REPORTS!

Please remember that your Monthly Sales Reports must now be uploaded online through the VQA Services site. Going forward, we will cease to accept the sales reports submitted in any other format. If you have questions about how to access or use the upload feature, please contact [Susan Piovesan](mailto:Susan.Piovesan@vqaontario.ca).

SAVE THE DATE FOR LUNCH AND LEARN SESSIONS

Join Laurie Macdonald from VQA Ontario and Peter Harris from LCBO Winery Audit for tips on managing the day-to-day regulatory and reporting requirements of running a winery. Sessions are tentatively scheduled for:

November 18, 2019 – Collingwood region
November 26, 2019 – Niagara region
December 2, 2019 – Prince Edward County

More details will be available in the November newsletter.

REMINDER

ICEWINE, LATE HARVEST AND SKIN FERMENTED WHITE WINE REGISTRATIONS – DUE NOV 15

You must pre-register your intention to make Icewine, Late Harvest and Skin-Fermented white wines for this vintage not later than November 15. Proof of registration will be required when you submit finished wines for approval in these categories. Only registered grapes are selectable as validated components when creating a new approval request.