



COUNTY OF YOLO

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June is Yolo Wine Month

(Woodland, CA) – The month of June launches a promotional campaign for Yolo County wines, conducted by the Yolo Agricultural Marketing Initiative. In recognition of this effort, today the Yolo County Board of Supervisors presented a resolution to representatives from the county’s wine appellations declaring June as Yolo Wine Month.

“The Yolo County Board of Supervisors envisions the county as a world-renowned destination for food and wine tourism, in which the wine industry will play a major economic role,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Mike McGowan. “We are extremely proud of our agricultural heritage, and what’s yet to come, especially in the wine industry.”

The Yolo Wine Month campaign will feature Yolo County’s wines at various restaurants in the greater Sacramento area including Grange Restaurant and Bar, Aioli Bodega Restaurant and Mulvaney’s Building and Loan, as well as restaurants throughout Yolo County. Beyond Yolo County wines in local restaurants, special events are also being held throughout the region. A Yolo County wine and food celebration dinner is being held at Alice Waters’ famed Chez Panisse in Berkeley, Osteria Fasulo in Davis is having a winemaker dinner with Carvalho Family Wines and Putah Creek Café in Winters is featuring a dinner of Yolo County wines and wood-fired artisan pizzas. For more information on these events visit: www.atasteofyolo.com.

Yolo County has diverse and distinct viticultural regions, including five American Viticultural Areas (AVAs), with each region possessing unique climate, soil and watershed characteristics which produce wines to serve with anything from oysters to rib eye steak to chocolate cake, and everything in between. These AVA’s include Merritt Island, Clarksburg, Capay Valley, Dunnigan Hills and Yolo County and provide for 20 different wineries with nine of them having tasting rooms such as Bogle Winery and the Sugar Mill in Clarksburg, Rominger West in Davis and Berryessa Gap in Winters. Yolo County is also home to the world renowned UC Davis Department of Viticulture and Enology.

On June 18, Yolo County wine industry representatives will meet at the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science at UC Davis to explore the formation of an industry association. This gathering is sponsored by the Yolo County Agricultural Marketing Initiative and co-hosted by the Yolo County Farm Bureau, University of California Cooperative Extension Yolo County and Yolo County’s economic development program.

The history of Yolo County as a viticultural region dates back to the 1880s when the industry was centered around the city of Woodland. Today, wine grapes are Yolo County’s number three crop with a

farm gate receipt in 2007 of \$46, 513,316. White wine grapes account for \$33,028,461. Wine grape growers collectively produced 84,853 tons of wine grapes in 2007, up nearly 20% from 2006. Since 1990 the tonnage of wine grapes produced in Yolo County has increased from 7,905 to 84,853 tons – an increase of over 1,000 percent. Yolo County is also home to a large wine grape root stock industry which supplies nearby Napa County among other wine producing counties.

The Yolo County Agricultural Marketing Initiative has been a three-year program to promote Yolo County's food, wine and farms. For more information visit: www.atasteofyolo.com or contact Yolo County Agricultural Marketing Initiative representatives Ann M. Evans e-mail: annmevans@aol.com, phone: (530) 756-4892 or Georgeanne Brennan e-mail: gbrennan@yolo.com, phone: (530) 795-4995.

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