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American Society for Enology and Viticulture Tackles Asian Lady Beetles in Rochester, July 9-11

By Tim P. Krakowiak

GENEVA, NY: The 31st annual American Society for Enology and Viticulture/Eastern Section (ASEV-ES) conference and symposium will be held July 9-11 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Rochester, N.Y. A number of Cornell researchers, extension educators and students are participating as speakers.

The meeting will feature a preliminary winery and vineyard tour throughout the Finger Lakes region, two days of technical sessions, student awards, and this year's main focus - "The Wine Industry vs. Multicolored Asian Lady Beetles."

Asian lady beetles are a concern of the wine industry because, due to their noxious odor, even small numbers of beetles inadvertently processed along with grapes can taint the flavor of wine.

"The multicolored Asian Lady beetle is still a significant problem for the industry and we have some top researchers speaking on the topic," said Eastern Section chair Bruce Bordelon from Purdue University.

Also during the meeting, Cornell University grape breeder Bruce Reisch will announce the release of three new wine-grape cultivars developed for the eastern wine industry. The session will include a tasting and roundtable discussion by growers and researchers.

Of the event's 26 presentations and abstracts, 12 topics will be covered by students who participated in a research paper competition, giving them a chance to win one of two \$500 awards for either the best viticulture paper or the best enology paper.

"This year our program is full and we had an excellent response from students," said Eastern Section chair-elect Murlidhar Dharmadhikari from Iowa State University. "We like to encourage students since they are the future leaders of our industry."

Graduate students from Cornell involved in the competition are I-Yuan Chiang and Paul Brock II, both of whom are studying under Thomas Henick-Kling, professor of enology at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, N.Y., and leader of Cornell's enology program.

The ASEV is a society of wine and grape professionals that promotes industry vitality through the exchange of information and the support of research and education.

For more details on the upcoming event, registration and travel information, visit www.nysaes.cornell.edu/fst/asev/.

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