Winery Wastewater Management & Recycling

Information products
The management of winery wastewater is important to the business and environmental performance of a winery, and it can have ramifications for vineyards and grape production. A sound approach to wastewater management will involve:

- cleaner production, less waste and more profit within the winery
- easier and cheaper ‘fit for purpose’ treatment of winery wastewaters
- more options for secure water supplies to the vineyard
- more options to reduce any environmental risks from wastewater discharges.

Improved wastewater management does not have to cost a lot. It may be as simple as beginning with better operations to reduce the wastage of grapes, juice and wine within the winery.

The Winery Wastewater Management and Recycling (Communications) project of the Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation (GWRDC) has drawn together the results of several years of research and industry knowledge so practitioners may have easy access to the latest information on this important topic.

A number of information products are available from the communications project.

**Brochures**

- Winery Wastewater Management & Recycling: Information products (this brochure) – a summary of the project and the information products that are available.
- Key principles for wineries fact sheet – overview information for application in the winery.
- Key principles for vineyards fact sheet – overview information for application in the vineyard.

**Reports**

- Business Fundamentals – a booklet highlighting the business issues associated with winery wastewater management and the key principles to govern its management in the winery, treatment plant and vineyard.
- Operational Guidelines – a technical reference explaining key principles and providing directions to other sources of information and expertise.

**Resources**

- Resources Kit – an easy-to-navigate electronic library of reports, fact sheets, case studies and spreadsheet calculators. The kit may be accessed live on the web or downloaded for use when internet access is not available.
- Overview Presentation – a PowerPoint summary of the key principles of winery wastewater management and recycling (as presented in Business Fundamentals).
- Technical Presentation – a PowerPoint summary of the important themes presented in the Operational Guidelines, including some graphics and tables.

All these products are available from the GWRDC website, www.gwrdc.com.au/ww. Hard copies of the products and the PowerPoint files of the presentations are available from GWRDC. See the back page for more information.
The links between winery operations, wastewater treatment and recycling treated water are the focus of these products. However, they are also relevant to the recycling of water from other sources, and to the irrigation of crops other than grapes. The guidelines also cover the treatment of winery wastewater so it is fit for disposal into sewers, or evaporation ponds.

**Figure 1: Scope of these guidelines**

**Winery operations**

**Reuse**

**Waste (reduce)**

**Waste management (collect, store, treat)**

**Alternative sources (effluent, stormwater)**

**Recycle**

**Disposal**

**Other uses**

**Irrigation**

**Industry & Company Goals**
- Optimal profit (lower costs)
- Reduce environmental impact
- More ‘fit-for-purpose’ water
More information

For hard copies of any of the communications products or any queries about related seminars and training workshops, contact GWRDC (gwrdc@gwrdc.com.au).

The Australian Wine Research Institute (AWRI) has developed a training package based on the Operational Guidelines. For more detail and information about training options, contact AWRI (rtp@awri.com.au).

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