Economics of the Michigan Grape and Wine Industry

Economics of Vineyard Establishment

Presented by Dave and Jessie Youngblood

YOUNGBLOOD Vineyard
RAY, MICHIGAN

Promoting Stewardship
Protecting the Environment
Precise Vineyard Cost Estimate Formula

1. Add up all prospective costs taking into account EVERYTHING you can possible imagine.

2. Now multiply by a factor of 2.


► CONGRADULATIONS!!!! You are approximately half way to what you will actually spend!!!!
1. Purchasing Land?
2. Do you own Basic Farm Equipment (Tractor, Barn)
3. Do you live on the property?
4. What land preparation is involved?
5. Is this a do-it-yourself endeavor?
Basic Knowledge

1. Do you know anything about farming?
2. Do you know how to grow grapes?
3. Do you know what grapes to grow?
4. Do you have the time?
5. Do you have the patience?
Economics of a Vineyard

- Vine Spacing: “Acres” doesn’t mean much.…
  - 6 x 8 Spacing = 908 vines per acre
  - 8 x 10 Spacing = 545 vines per acre

- “Average” yield is 2-5 tons per acre.
- Average price per ton of grapes is $800-$1200.
- One ton of grapes will make approximately 160 gallons of wine or 800 bottles (800 x $15= $12,000).
Questions and Contact Information

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