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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **National lecture series focuses on premium grape production**

University of California viticulture expert Glenn McGourty will be the presenting speaker this week when the 2015 Triggs International Premium Vinifera Lecture Series opens with its Ontario segment at Brock University.

Organized by Brock's Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute (CCOVI), this year's event is the ninth in the Triggs series and the third time it will be a national affair with events in both Ontario (Aug. 19-20) and British Columbia (Aug. 25-26).

McGourty, a wine-growing and plant services adviser for UC, will share his insights and advise Canadian grape growers on how cover crops can impact vine health and, when chosen properly, can improve fruit quality.

The first day in each province will include vineyard visits and a technical tour. A public lecture will be on day two. The format allows participants to interact with McGourty at the vineyard sites and hear about his practical principles for increasing grape and wine quality.

"This lecture series looks at the entire vineyard ecosystem and the impact on overall vine health," says CCOVI director Debbie Inglis. "A healthy vine not only produces better quality fruit, but it allows the vine to better combat the stressors Mother Nature throws at us."

The 2015 series, which is free to attend, will examine the use of cover crops for premium wine grape production. The vineyard tour will focus on cover crop strategies and how they impact crop development and quality while the public lecture will expand on the topic.

To help ensure that this year's Triggs event could be held in both parts of the country, BASF Canada, a company that provides crop protection products, once again stepped in to sponsor travel-related costs.

"BASF has been introducing innovative, new grape crop protection solutions for 65 years," said BASF's horticulture brand manager Scott Hodgins. "We are pleased to help share international expertise with our Canadian customers through the Triggs International Premium Vinifera Lecture Series."

The Ontario public lecture will be live-streamed for anyone unable to attend in person, and will also be posted to CCOVI's online video archive.

### **Ontario event**

Wednesday, Aug. 19 - vineyard visits and technical workshop

- 9 a.m. - Falk Vineyards, Lakeshore Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake (just west of 1239 Lakeshore Road near Firelane 4)
- 10:30 a.m. - Ravine Vineyards, 1366 York Road, St. David's
- 12 p.m. - BBQ lunch hosted at Hernder Vineyards, 1287 Four Mile Creek Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake
- 12:45 p.m. - Hernder Vineyards
- 2:15 p.m. - Chateau des Charmes, 1025 York Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake

Thursday August 20 - Public Lecture

- 7:30 p.m. South Block room 216, Brock University, 500 Glenridge Avenue, St. Catharines

### **About the Triggs International Premium Vinifera Lecture Series**

Launched in 2004, with a generous donation from Don and Elaine Triggs, the series was created to attract and showcase world leaders in the cultivation of premium vinifera grapes. The lecture provides industry stakeholders, researchers and students access to the most current developments in the field of viticulture.

This series is part of CCOVI's outreach activities that support the national grape and wine industry.

For more details or for McGourty's bio visit:

<http://www.brocku.ca/ccovi/outreach-services/triggs-premium-vinifera-series>

For more information:

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