

1981

## Oregon Winegrape Acreage Survey

Stanley D. Miles

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### Recommended Citation

Miles, Stanley D., "Oregon Winegrape Acreage Survey" (1981). *Oregon Wine Board Documents*. Report. Submission 55.

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Oregon Winegrape Acreage Survey  
by Stanley D. Miles\*

1981 Survey

In the summer of 1981, the Viticulture Survey Committee of the Table Wine Research Advisory Board wrote a letter to the Extension Service asking for help in making a survey to determine the acreages, by variety, of winegrapes in Oregon. A survey form was developed and mailing lists of grape growers were acquired. In November, 1981 the survey form was mailed to those on the mailing lists. In January, 1982, a follow-up request was sent to those that had not responded. In addition, personal contacts were made to gather acreage data from non-respondents.

While we know that not all grape growers responded to the survey, it is thought that data in this report includes 80 percent or more of Oregon's winegrape acres. Anyone reading this who was not included or knows of other vineyards is encouraged to send us names and addresses.

Contents

Table I	Summary table of bearing, nonbearing and total acres by variety
Table II	Summary table of size of vineyard operation
Table III	'Bearing' winegrape acreage -- by variety and by county
Table IV	Nonbearing winegrape acreage -- by variety and by county
Table V	Size distribution of Oregon vineyards by county
Table VI	Summary table on yields and prices for the five primary grape varieties
Pages 7 & 8	List of respondents by county

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\*Extension Economist, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon. Victor Kreimeyer and Rodger Kohnert were very helpful in completing this survey.

Table I  
Acres of Oregon Winegrapes

Variety	acres		Total
	Bearing	Nonbearing	
Pinot Noir	241.1	162.7	403.8
White Riesling	176.7	89.4	266.1
Chardonnay	151.9	120.5	272.4
Cabernet Sauvignon	40.0	23.4	63.4
Gewurztraminer	42.5	51.8	94.3
Gamay Beaujolais	13.8	4.6	18.4
Merlot	7.3	3.0	10.3
Sauvignon Blanc	8.3	3.6	11.9
Muller Thurgau	2.2	14.3	16.5
Zinfandel	1.2	---	1.2
Pinot Gris	1.7	27.0	28.7
Miscellaneous Red	1.1	6.5	7.6
Miscellaneous White	17.7	6.7	24.4
Other 1/	12.6	5.9	18.5
Total acres	718.1	519.4	1,237.5

1/ Varieties not specified.

Table II  
Size of Vineyard Operations  
Oregon

Size of acres	Bearing		Nonbearing		All	
	total vineyards	total acres	total vineyards	total acres	total vineyards	total acres
0 - 5.0	43	93.1	59	154.3	52	122.8
5.1 - 10.0	14	117.4	17	125.9	23	179.0
10.1 - 15.0	8	97.6	11	143.0	14	175.3
15.1 - 20.0	5	84.3	1	19.0	10	177.8
20.1 - 25.0	5	110.6	2	41.7	6	132.1
25.1 - 30.0	2	57.1	---	---	7	197.2
30.1 & over	3	158.0	1	35.5	5	254.8
Total	80	718.1	91	519.4	117	1,239.0*

\*Some totals may not be the same due to rounding.

#### Number of Respondents

There were 80 grape growers reporting bearing vineyards and 91 reporting nonbearing vineyards. Most of those with bearing acres reported some nonbearing acres but many with nonbearing acres appeared to be just getting into the business.

Vineyard operations in Oregon are quite small. Of the 80 reporting bearing acreages only 3 operations had 30 or more acres. Fifty-seven or 71 percent of the 80 operations had 10 acres or less.

Of the 91 operations reporting nonbearing acres, almost all (87) had 15 acres or less. In most cases, however, these grapegrowers also have bearing vineyards.

Table III  
Oregon Winegrape Acreage  
Bearing  
1981

Variety	County												Total
	Benton	Clackamas	Douglas	Jackson	Josephine	Lane	Linn	Marion	Polk	Washington	Yamhill	Other counties	
Pinot Noir	2.1	.5	15.4	2.8	7.5	1.0	17.5	13.5	6.8	51.2	121.8	1.0	241.1
White Riesling	4.2	.5	32.3	.8	2.0	4.0	4.3	6.5	2.2	54.2	64.9	.8	176.7
Chardonnay	1.4	.3	8.9	14.2	.2	5.0	.3	6.0	2.8	28.3	84.5	-	151.9
Cabernet Sauv	1.4	-	11.3	20.1	1.2	3.5	.3	-	-	-	2.2	-	40.0
Gewurztraminer	.5	-	9.7	2.0	3.0	3.5	.7	-	-	14.5	8.6	-	42.5
Gamay Beaujolais	-	-	2.5	3.2	1.0	-	-	3.0	.8	-	3.3	-	13.8
Merlot	-	-	-	3.5	.5	-	-	-	-	-	3.3	-	7.3
Sauvignon Blanc	-	-	5.0	.6	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.7	-	8.3
Muller Thurgau	-	-	-	-	-	-	.2	-	-	.7	1.3	-	2.2
Zinfandel	-	-	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2
Pinot Gris	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	.7	-	1.7
Miscellaneous Red	-	-	-	-	-	.1	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	1.1
Miscellaneous White	.1	.2	5.0	.7	-	1.2	.5	-	2.0	5.6	2.4	-	17.7
Other <sup>1/</sup>	1.3	5.0	-	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.3	1.0	12.6
Total	11.0	6.5	91.3	50.9	15.4	18.3	23.8	29.0	14.6	157.5	297.0	2.8	718.1

<sup>1/</sup> No specific description given.

Table IV  
Oregon Winegrape Acreage  
Nonbearing  
1981

Variety	County													Total
	Benton	Clackamas	Douglas	Jackson	Josephine	Lane	Linn	Marion	Morrow	Polk	Washington	Yamhill	Other Counties	
Pinot Noir	5.1	3.1	12.0	2.0	15.4	13.5	4.0	5.5	-	19.1	41.3	41.7	-	162.7
White Riesling	7.6	1.3	10.5	-	3.0	19.9	.5	5.0	1.5	.7	9.4	30.0	-	89.4
Chardonnay	1.0	2.0	13.0	2.9	7.3	4.5	3.0	4.7	-	16.8	26.6	38.7	-	120.5
Cabernet Sauv	3.8	-	.1	.7	1.8	4.0	6.0	.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	.7	.5	23.4
Gewurztraminer	1.0	-	5.6	1.2	6.6	12.4	7.5	1.5	1.4	7.0	7.5	.1	-	51.8
Gamay Beaujolais	-	2.0	-	-	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	.5	.3	-	4.6
Merlot	.5	-	-	.4	.3	-	-	-	1.3	-	-	.5	-	3.0
Sauvignon Blanc	-	-	-	1.2	-	-	-	.3	1.5	-	-	.6	-	3.6
Muller Thurgau	-	-	-	-	2.0	-	-	.5	-	-	1.0	10.8	-	14.3
Zinfandel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pinot Gris	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.0	-	27.0
Miscellaneous Red	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.5	-	6.5
Miscellaneous White	.1	.2	-	-	2.0	.2	-	.1	1.3	.5	.5	1.8	-	6.7
Other <sup>1/</sup>	.5	1.3	.3	.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	.3	2.5	1.0	5.9
Total	19.6	9.9	41.5	9.2	40.2	54.5	21.0	18.1	8.5	45.6	88.6	161.2	1.5	519.4

<sup>1/</sup> No specific description given.

Table V

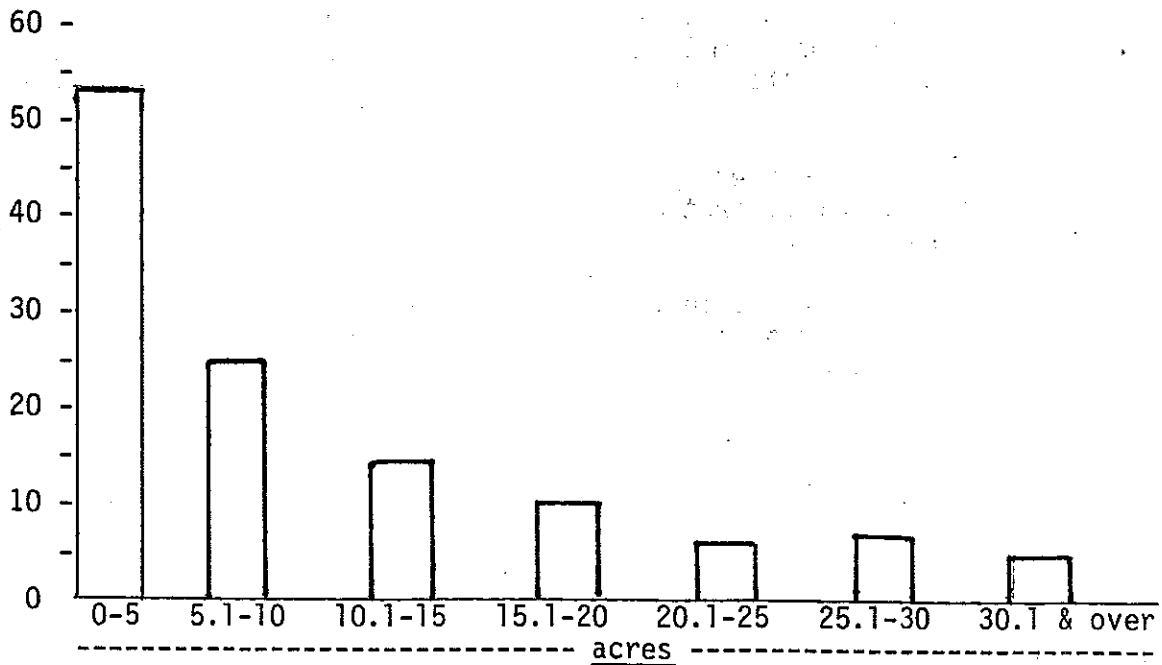
Oregon  
Total Grape Acreage

Size of Acreage County	Number of Vineyards												Total farms	Total acres
	1981													
	Benton	Clackamas	Douglas	Jackson	Josephine	Lane	Linn	Marion	Polk	Washington	Yamhill	Other Counties		
--- acres ---														
0 - 5.0	4	9	6	3	7	2	-	1	4	9	4	3	52	122.8
5.1 - 10.0	-	-	2	1	2	5	-	2	1	2	8	-	23	179.0
10.1 - 15.0	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	4	5	-	14	175.3
15.1 - 20.0	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	3	2	-	10	177.8
20.1 - 25.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	6	132.1
25.1 - 30.0	-	-	2	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	7	197.2
30.1 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	5	254.8
Total	5	9	13	6	11	8	2	5	6	21	28	3	117	1,239.0

Size Distribution

1981

Number of Vineyards



## Acres Reported

Survey respondents reported 718 acres of bearing vineyards. Pinot Noir was the primary variety grown with 241 acres. The three main varieties were Pinot Noir, White Riesling, and Chardonnay with a combined acreage of 570 acres or almost 80 percent of the total.

There were 519 nonbearing vineyard acres reported. The same three varieties (as reported above) were dominant. Over 70 percent of the nonbearing acres were in these three varieties: Pinot Noir, White Riesling, and Chardonnay. Yamhill County growers reported more grape acres, both bearing and nonbearing, than any other county. Washington County was second; in fact, between the two counties, they had 455 acres or 63 percent of the bearing acreage and about half of the nonbearing acres.

Table VI  
Winegrape Yields & Prices  
1981

Variety	Average Yield	Prices Reported in \$/ton		
		Weighted Average	High	Low
Pinot Noir	1.41	573	800	361
White Riesling	2.33	592	900	280
Chardonnay	1.65	726	930	600
Gewurtztraminer	1.87	668	800	540
Cabernet Sauvignon	2.31	612	700	500

## Prices & Yields

While the acreages by variety were quite complete on the survey forms, the yield and price data was not complete. We did, however, tabulate yield and price information from the forms that provided this data. The above table summarizes this information.

In reviewing this, remember the data was not complete and no standards were used as to quality. Sugar content of course affects price, and bunch rot and/or materials other than grapes (M.O.G.) affect both price and yield.

The yields appear to be quite low. Things affecting this might be the particular year, many of the vineyards may be young and not in full production, yield may in fact be low and this is a problem, or a combination of the things mentioned.

Vineyard Respondents

Benton County

Alpine Vineyards  
Mary's Peak Vineyard  
McClain's Vineyard  
Natural High Farms  
Spielhof Vineyards

Clackamas County

Big Fir Winery  
Joplin, Carl & Olga  
Kellar's Cellar  
Ladd Hill Vineyard  
Milliren, Steve  
Needy Vineyards  
North Willamette  
Experiment Station  
Pinot Submarine  
Walman, Don  
Wasson, Jim

Douglas County

Anderson Vineyard  
Ber-Mar Vineyards  
Doerner, Douglas  
Elkton Vineyards  
Gates' Elgarose Vinery  
Henry Vineyard  
Hillcrest Vineyard  
Red Hill Vineyard, Feren  
Red Hill Vineyard, Howell  
Sims Vineyard  
South Umpqua Vineyard  
Vinedo Vineyard  
Vinorch Vineyard

Jackson County

Dunbar Orchards  
Evans Valley Vineyard  
Gebhard Orchards  
Hummingbird Hill Vineyard  
Layne Vineyard  
Ousterhout, John  
Valley View Vineyard

Josephine County

Dively, Edna Milar  
Feehely's Foothill Farm, Inc.  
Ferrell, Don  
Gerber, Ted  
Great Oak Vineyard  
Helen's Vineyard  
Lakeshore Vineyard  
Oregon Caves Winery  
Pair-A-Dice Vineyard  
Rockydale Vineyards  
Siskiyou Vineyards Company

Lane County

Forgeron Vineyards  
Hinman Farms  
McIntire, Pauline  
McKenzie River Vineyard  
Peaceful Valley Vineyard  
Schalvichris Vineyards  
Smith, David  
Wipper, Florian  
Wright, W. A.

Linn County

Markheim Vineyards  
Meadow's Vineyard

Marion County

Porter's Vineyard  
Silver Falls Vineyard  
Skyline Vineyard  
Sunnyside Vineyards  
Wahl Vineyard

Polk County

Ashford, Jason  
Bethel Heights Vineyard  
Cooper Hollow Vineyard  
Feltz, James H.  
Glenn Creek Vineyard  
Spring Valley Vineyard



Vineyard Respondents -- Page 2

Washington County

Choban, Paul  
Christensen, Mel  
Cotes des Coulombe Vineyard  
Dion Vineyard  
Five Mountains Vineyard  
Heesacker Vineyards  
Ladd Hill Vineyard  
Laurel Hill Vineyard  
Leyden Vineyards  
Mt. Cooper Vineyard  
Mulhausen Vineyards  
Old Pumpkin Ridge  
Perrault Vineyard  
Reuter Hill Vineyard  
Ritter, Milton  
Shafer Vineyards  
Sunset Vineyards  
Tualatin Vineyard  
Van Shepen Vineyards  
Windhill Vineyards  
Wirtz Vineyards

Other Counties

Crippen Family Orchard - Hood River  
Bangsund Vineyards - Wasco  
La Casa de vin Vineyard - Morrow  
McNesney Vineyard - Morrow

Yamhill County

Adams Vineyard  
Adelsheim Vineyards  
Amity Vineyards  
Cambus Bellus Vineyard  
Cattrall, Bill  
Chardonnay Oaks Vineyard  
Chateau Benoit  
Chehalem Vineyards  
Dundee Hills' Vineyard  
Durant Vineyards  
Elk Cove Vinery  
Eola Hills Vineyard  
Erath Vineyards  
Eyrie Vineyards  
Hyland Vineyards, Inc.  
Jensen, Fred  
Kirschwold Vineyard  
Knudsen Vineyards  
Marval Vineyards  
McDaniel Vineyards  
Red Hills Vineyard  
Rich, John  
Saucy Vineyards  
Sokol Blosser Vineyard  
Stewart, John  
Stonehedge Vineyard  
Teppola, Mark W.  
Wynate Vineyards