COLLECTING GRAPE SAMPLES FOR SMOKE TAINT ANALYSIS

It is important to take a representative sample so that reliable results are obtained. It is recommended that sampling of bunches is undertaken.

Using clean hands collect bunches and store in a clean container. Ensure the container is not rinsed with smoke affected water. Collect from throughout the vineyard and sample from vines in a zigzag pattern to obtain a representative sample, see diagram below:

- Take only one bunch per vine, up to 30 bunches may be required.
- Miss the first three vines in each row if there is an access road adjacent.
- Avoid sampling vines growing within areas with unusual features, such as rocky areas, poor drainage, near fences or trees, to minimise the risk of contaminated or skewed results.
- Avoid soiled, diseased or damaged plants.
- Preferably sample in the cool of the morning, before any moisture stress occurs.
- Once the bunches have been collected, strip some berries off each bunch and place into a clean container.
- Make up an approximately 500 g sample from these berries, ensuring no leaves etc are included, and place into a zip lock bag.
- Fill in all sample details on to a Vintessential Smoke Taint Sample Label and place label on bag.
- Arrange transport to your nearest Vintessential laboratory.

Check your permit!

When sending samples, please ensure that transfer of the samples complies with quarantine regulations. If you are unsure contact your local State Agriculture Department.”

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