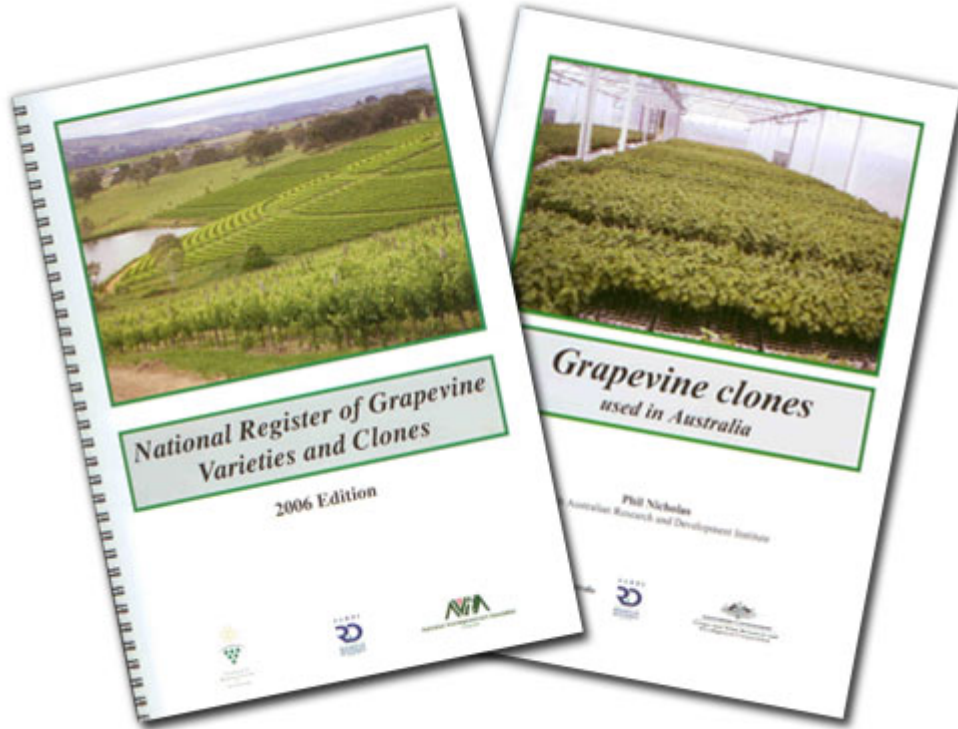




Australian Vine Improvement Association
Incorporated

PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF GRAPEVINE VARIETIES AND CLONES LAUNCHED



On Thursday May 3rd 2007, Australian Vine Improvement Association Inc. Chair Kym Ludvigsen, together with CRC for Viticulture Chair Tony Martin and SARDI Senior Research Scientist Phil Nicholas launched the 2nd Edition of the National Register of Grapevine Varieties and Clones.

The Register contains information on wide range of Wine, Dried and Table Grape varieties and Rootstock varieties currently available on a commercial basis in Australia. The 2006 edition was compiled as a reference for the viticultural industry of the clones currently held in Australian genetic resource collections. Mr Ludvigsen said "the Register was a important reference document for everyone involved in the viticultural industry".

In addition to the Register itself, also contained in the publication is the recently published "Grapevine Clones used in Australia" booklet, that is included in the package as an insert.

This publication lists approximately 200 elite clones located at the Australian National Nuclear Collection" at Dareton NSW. "Mr Nicholas said the clones had been selected, established in Loxton and tested using three different methods of virus testing to ensure no virus symptoms were displayed, before being established in Dareton at the Dareton Research Station".

AVIA Executive Officer Michael Pullen said that " the Register and accompanying Grapevine Clones used in Australia booklet were exceptional resource documents and would be in great demand throughout Australia and overseas. He praised the efforts of Phil Nicholas and others involved in assisting in the development of the publications and acknowledged the input of the CRCV for providing financial support to commercialise the National Register, the GWRDC, who provided significant financial support to SARDI to develop the elite clonal material. In addition he acknowledged the support of the Departments of Agriculture in SA, NSW and Victoria and CSIRO, for the provision of grapevine material for the project and to AVIA member Vine improvement Groups who support the work completed by Mr Nicholas.

Copies of the National Register and Grapevine Clones booklet are now available from AVIA. Cost per Register (including the Grapevine Clones booklet) is \$55.00 including GST, plus postage and handling.

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