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The Press Democrat: Archive Search

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GRAPEVINES HIT HARD BY BIG SPRING CHILL: UNUSUALLY COLD TEMPERATURES WREAK HAVOC WITH NORTH COAST VINEYARDS SUSCEPTIBLE TO FROST

Article **1** of **149** found.
Article ID: 0804230391

Published on April 23, 2008

BYLINE: BOB NORBERG and MIKE GENIELLA
THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

Dave Faloni's grapevines are dark, gnarly and colored by 40 years of weather, but the shoots now breaking out for the 2008 vintage are green, tender and susceptible to what is being described as the coldest spring in three decades.

"For the last 15 years, we have not had much frost up here," said Faloni, whose family has been farming the West Dry Creek Road ranch since 1925. "This is like going back to the 1970s." The deep

[Click here for complete text of article 1](#)

GRAPE GROWERS FIGHT AGAINST FROST

Article **2** of **149** found.
Article ID: 0804220359

Published on April 22, 2008

BYLINE: Randi Rossmann

Grape growers were hoping for warmer weather today after frost warnings and low temperatures set turbines and sprinklers in motion to warm and protect budding grapevines.

Monday's low was 35 degrees at the Charles M. Schulz-Sonoma County Airport, according to the National Weather Service, and hovered near freezing at other North Bay locations. It will remain chilly early this morning, but the National Weather Service did not issue a frost advisory for the Santa Rosa area

[Click here for complete text of article 2](#)

MARCH DRY FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW

Article **3** of **149** found.
Article ID: 0803280328

Published on March 28, 2008

BYLINE: ROBERT DIGITALE

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

March's rainfall is shaping up as among the poorest in 77 years.

Santa Rosa has recorded only 0.17 of an inch of rain for the first 27 days of the month. Since 1931, only two other years witnessed less rainfall for the same period. A modest rain is expected today and more may fall next week. The precipitation would be welcomed by both ranchers and water suppliers.

"We could really use some more right now," said Doug Beretta, a Llano Road dairy

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BUDS BREAK FORTH ON GRAPEVINES: RIGHT ON SCHEDULE, CHARDONNAY LEADS PARADE OF VARIETIES SIGNALING RESUMPTION OF WINE YEAR

Article 4 of 149 found.

Article ID: 0803220222

Published on March 22, 2008

BYLINE: BOB NORBERG

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

Sonoma County vineyards are showing signs of life, with buds breaking and leaves starting to grow on chardonnay and pinot noir vines.

"It is a very exciting time of year," Ned Hill of Parmelee-Hill Vineyards in Sonoma said Friday. "What I love is getting into the fields, the fact you are starting to work again. Most of us are crazy, we like to work." Mike Benziger of Benziger Family Winery in Glen Ellen offered a similar view. "We

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VITICULTURE

Article 5 of 149 found.

Article ID: 0803150307

Published on March 15, 2008

BYLINE: Robert Digitale

\$13,000 to plant acre of cab

Planting a cabernet sauvignon vineyard on the North Coast costs nearly \$13,000 an acre, according to a new study released by UC Davis and the UC Cooperative Extension. The study was based on planting 25 acres on fairly level land in Lake County.

Cost of the land, estimated at \$20,000 per acre, was not included in the study.

The cost of \$12,958 an acre represents the expenses, including overhead, until the first harvest.

The study is one of 14

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VITICULTURE

Article 6 of 149 found.

Article ID: 0803010293

Published on March 1, 2008

Employee workshop in Spanish

The Sonoma County Winegrape Commission is sponsoring an employee development workshop March 8 on frost protection and data collection in the vineyard. The class, taught in Spanish, takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at La Luz Center, 17560 Greger St., Boyes Hot Springs.

Rafael Jimenez of Hafner Vineyards will provide information on frost protection, while Tony Viramontes of Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates will discuss data-collection techniques.

The

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HARVEST TAKES COOL TURN: BLAST OF ALASKA AIR SENDS CHILL DOWN WINE COUNTRY'S SPINE, BUT FORECASTERS EXPECT WARM WEEKEND

Article 7 of 149 found.

Article ID: 0710050312

Published on October 5, 2007

BYLINE: KEVIN McCALLUM

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

A blast of cooler, unsettled weather from the Northwest swept down across the North Coast on Thursday, surprising Healdsburg with a rain shower and warning grape growers that the second half of the 2007 harvest might not be as smooth as the first.

The weather system from the Gulf of Alaska that pushed into the area Thursday morning is expected to keep

temperatures unseasonably cool today and tonight before making room for a glorious fall weekend. `` It's cooled off considerably,

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CLIMATE WARNING: GLOBAL WARMING LOOMS LARGE FOR WINERIES SEEKING TO MAKE CHANGES, DEAL WITH ITS EFFECTS

Article 8 of 149 found.

Article ID: 0708050397

Published on August 5, 2007

BYLINE: KEVIN McCALLUM

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

The wine industry must quickly and dramatically change the way it does business if it hopes to survive the impacts of global warming.

That was the stark message delivered last week by a Spanish wine expert who has studied the challenges climate change is already posing to winemakers in his country. `` If business continues as usual, in 50 years who is going to give a damn about wine? That's not going to be our biggest problem," Pancho Campo, founder of

[Click here for complete text of article 8](#)

TOO MUCH WATER? LAKE SONOMA WAS BUILT TO PROVIDE WATER TO NORTH BAY, BUT FEDERAL OFFICIALS SAY INCREASED FLOW COULD THREATEN COHO SALMON

Article 9 of 149 found.

Article ID: 0707020133

Published on July 2, 2007

BYLINE: GUY KOVNER

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

Sonoma County is drawing too much water out of Lake Sonoma, jeopardizing the recovery of two threatened fish species in a rural creek, federal wildlife officials say.

The finding pits the survival of tiny coho salmon and steelhead in Dry Creek against the needs of 600,000 North Bay customers who depend on the lake's water. In the looming showdown, the people likely will spend millions of dollars to continue drinking and irrigating from the lake and using the creek, a critical

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TASTES THAT REFLECT FRAGILITY OF SPRING

Article 10 of 149 found.

Article ID: 0704110349

Published on April 11, 2007

BYLINE: Michele Anna Jordan

Spring: It is the tender season, a time when the earth is both fragile and brave.

Little shoots and blooms pop out from dormant branches and bare vines and from the barren earth itself, coaxed by warmth and an inviting but potentially mercurial sun. At the lowest elevations, frost still can damage the buds that will, if a farmer is lucky, become the apples, peaches, plums and grapes harvested in summer and fall.

At higher elevations, a bigger concern is the possibility of rain, yet the

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