

UCDAVIS VITICULTURE AND ENOLOGY

teaching vineyard

Planted in April of 2009, the Teaching Vineyard is 12.5 acres of land situated to the west of the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science. The vineyard was established to train students in the Viticulture and Enology Program at UC Davis, to provide fruit for the new winery, and to showcase the world's major grape varieties as well as heritage grapes from California's past.

1 HARRY E. JACOB

TRELLIS & VARIETY DEMONSTRATION BLOCK

Established in honor of Harry E. Jacob, UC Davis viticulturist

The Harry E. Jacob block contains both a trellis and variety demonstration block areas.

The Trellis Block contains different trellis types planted with Cabernet Sauvignon grapes. By having different trellis types of the same grape variety, students can study crop weight to pruning weight ratios and can then make separate wines from the different trellis types to determine if there is a sensory impact based on different trellis and training techniques.

The Variety Demonstration Block is a reference collection featuring over 300 of the world's major grape varieties, and is arranged by country, region and variety. This block also contains grape varieties bred by Harold P. Olmo, world-famous viticulturist.

2 JOHN C. GIST JR.

STUDENT ROTATION BLOCK

Established in honor of John C. Gist Jr., a prominent grape rootstock nurseryman

The John C. Gist Jr. Student Rotation Block provides Viticulture and Enology Students the opportunity to learn about vines of different ages on five training systems. Every year one new block of vines is planted and one eight-year-old block is removed, which allows classes to rotate through the blocks and receive planting, pruning and vine training instruction. Choosing the correct trellis type and training the vine onto the trellis properly are all critical aspects of viticulture.

Each block contains five different training systems with matched grape varieties:

The Modified GDC (Geneva Double Curtain) training system contains Grenache grapes in this vineyard and involves training cordons (the "arms" of the vine) over guide wires so that the fruit-bearing shoots grow downward to manage the foliage more easily.

The **Head** training system, used with Zinfandel grapes here, involves no wires or support (the vines grow like a bush) and is common in the foothills of California.

The **Lyre** training system, used for Grenache grapes in this block, divides the vine into two horizontal trunks from which shoots grow vertically. It allows for good air circulation and sunlight exposure.

The **VSP** (**Vertical Shoot Positioned**) training system here is used for Chardonnay grapes. This system is designed so that shoots grow upward and allow for easy mechanization.

The **T-Top** training system is used here with Barbera grapes and is good for California and other warm climates. This system creates the right amount of shade for developing fruit.

3 ROSSI

HERITAGE BLOCK

Established in honor of Ray and his sister Louise Rossi, prominent Napa grape growers

The Rossi Heritage Block consists of heritage California head-trained (also known as the old "bush vine" style of training) varieties including Zinfandel, Mataro, Carignane, Alicante Bouschet and Petite Sirah. The vines in this block are grown organically and are dry-farmed, which means they are not irrigated and instead grow based only on yearly rainfall. This technique results in grapes that better reflect the true nature of the region in which they are grown.

WINERY PRODUCTION BLOCK

The main purpose for the Winery Production Block is to provide grapes to support the teaching winery. The production varieties in this block include varieties well-adapted for hot climates, such as Petite Sirah and Albarino.

5 PETITE SIRAH BLOCK

Contained within the Winery Production Block is the Petite Sirah Block for the specific study of Petite Sirah grapes. Within this block is an evaluation of various Durif, Petite Sirah and Peloursin clones, which are naturally-occurring genetic mutations within the same variety of grape.

This block was supported by Bogle Vineyards.

6 ROOTSTOCK & VITIS SPECIES BLOCK

This block consists of American hybrids, *Vitis* (grape) species and rootstocks. Examples of American hybrid varieties include Concord, Lenoir and Catawba. Examples of American species are *V. berlandieri*, *V. riparia*, and *V. rupestris*. Some examples of rootstocks include 110R, 1103P, and 101-14Mgt.

AMPELOGRAPHY BLOCK

Meaning "grape vine identification" in Greek, ampelography is the area of botany that identifies and classifies grapevines. Students are trained and tested in the Ampelography Block which features examples of the most widely-planted wine grapes in California.

8 TABLE GRAPE BLOCK

The Table Grape Block consists of both current and historic grape varieties used for table and raisin grape production. Some of the current varieties include Crimson Seedless, Autumn Royale, and Thompson Seedless. Some historic varieties include Ribier, Malaga, and Muscat of Alexandria.

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TABLE GRAPE BLOCK

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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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ROBERT MONDAVI INSTITUTE
FOR WINE AND FOOD SCIENCE

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