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BI Daily

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GLOBAL TRENDS

Wine with meal shown to have health benefits

A new scientific study has shown that drinking wine with a meal can have health benefits and reduce the risk of mortality for older drinkers. Although the scientists focused mainly on the risk of higher mortality with low-level drinking, they admitted that those who drank wine with a meal did appear to see benefits.

Drinking only during meals was also associated with lower cancer mortality in participants with health-related risk factors or socioeconomic risk factors, and in individuals with socioeconomic risk factors, wine preference was associated with lower cancer mortality, and drinking only during meals with lower CVD mortality.

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Organic de-alcoholised wine could soon be authorised in the EU

Due to the fact that the EU's organic Regulation 2018/848 does not list any processes for reducing alcohol content, de-alcoholised wines produced in Europe cannot be certified organic. Germany was the first Member State to grasp the nettle last year, requesting that the European Commission examine vacuum distillation.

"Considering that membrane techniques are already authorised, if the act is passed, organic winegrowers will have virtually every tool at their disposal to de-alcoholise wine, with the exception of osmosis which is only authorised for chaptalising must"

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MAJOR WINE PRODUCING COUNTRIES

France forecasts 18% drop in wine output after adverse weather

Bad weather has walloped wine production in France, with output expected to be 39.3 million hectolitres this year, down 18% from last year, the farm ministry said on Friday. The figure is below an initial range of 40 million-43 million projected last month. The revised forecast was 11% below the five-year average of 44.2 million hectolitres. A hectolitre is the equivalent of 100 litres, or 133 standard wine bottles.

Winemakers in the Bordeaux region agreed on a plan to uproot 8,000 hectares (19,768 acres) of vines this year to meet the drop in output. This, combined with losses due to coulure, mildew and hailstorms are set to lead to a 10% reduction in output after a drop in 2023.

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NZ Winegrowers launches roadmap to 2050, aiming for emissions reduction of 90%

The New Zealand wine industry has set the goal to be net zero by the year 2050. As defined in the newly released roadmap, net zero is achieved when an industry's "total emissions and permanent removals balance out to zero". For the New Zealand wine industry, according to the roadmap, "net zero means reducing the current 2022 (baseline) GHG emissions by 90% by 2050 and neutralising the remaining 10% of emissions through emission removal projects".

"Climate change is the biggest long-term challenge facing our industry," said Yukic. "It will influence our choice of grape varieties, wine styles, viticultural techniques and regions, and importantly, the purchase decisions of our customers. Our response to climate change is critical to the reputation of New Zealand as a producer of high value, sustainable, premium quality wine."

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California Set for Another Classic Vintage

Unless disaster strikes in the next few weeks, California will enjoy another bumper grape harvest.

With the wine grape harvest in California well underway, Mother Nature's forbearance is the biggest outstanding issue. But if the state can avoid rain, punishing heat or wildfires, the marketplace poses its own question: How many grapes will be left on the vine? Let's put it this way: This is a great year to be a home winemaker, because if you are willing to pick the grapes yourself, the available options might be the best ever. Even well-regarded vineyards might have grapes to sell in small quantities.

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