The Colorado Grape Industry – Lessons for Nebraska?

Horst Caspari  
Colorado State University  
Western Colorado Research Center  
Grand Junction, CO 81503  
Ph: (970) 434-3264  
www.colostate.edu/programs/wcrc/Vithome.htm
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land area</td>
<td>103,642 sq. mi. (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population (2011 est.)</td>
<td>5.117 Mio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-yr change</td>
<td>16.9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest point</td>
<td>Mt Elbert, 14,433’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest point</td>
<td>Arikaree River, 3,315’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>Richardson County 840’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>76,824 (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>1.842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>6.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE Panorama Pt.</td>
<td>5,424’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Colorado Agriculture

Employment\(^1\): >100,000

Farms\(^2\): 36,100

Acreage\(^2\): 31.2 million

Average farm size\(^2\): 864

\(^1\)2007 Census of Agriculture
\(^2\) Colorado Agriculture Statistics 2011
Colorado Ag Facts 2007

Colorado Agriculture
Value of Agricultural Products Sold by County
Data from 2007 Census of Agriculture, USDA

Colorado Ag Facts
- Value of all agricultural products sold in 2007 totaled $8 billion.
- Agribusiness contributes $16 billion to the state economy each year and employs more than 100,000 people.
- There are 37,054 farms in the state encompassing nearly 52 million acres.

Legend
County Rank and Name
Total Value of Agricultural Products Sold
Top agricultural products
Shaded areas are top ten agricultural counties in Colorado.

Data for Counties
#67 Broomfield $856,000
#60 Denver $851,900
#62 Clear Creek $127,000
#64 San Juan No Data Available

#2 Broomfield
#7-Adams $334.4 million
#1 Logan $483.3 million
#3 Morgan $450.3 million
#4 Washington $300.2 million
#5 Kit Carson $298.8 million
#6 Prowers $283.3 million
#7-Adams $250.6 million
#8 Baca $111.2 million

Department of Agriculture
700 Kipling Street, Suite 4000
Lakewood, CO 80228
Phone (303) 239-1414
Fax (303) 239-1425
E-mail: markets@ag.state.co.us
www.coloradoagriculture.com
Colorado Agriculture 2005

- Wheat: 2,500,000 acres
- Hay: 1,500,000 acres
- Proso Millet: 250,000 acres
- Sunflowers: 150,000 acres
- Beans: 100,000 acres
- Potatoes: 50,000 acres
- Barley: 25,000 acres
- Onions: 10,000 acres
- Sweet Corn: 5,000 acres
- Peaches: 5,000 acres
- Apples: 5,000 acres
- Grapes: 5,000 acres
Colorado Agriculture 2005

Value ($x1000)

- Wheat
- Hay
- Proso Millet
- Sunflowers
- Beans
- Potatoes
- Barley
- Onions
- Sweet Corn
- Peaches
- Apples
- Grapes
Colorado grape & wine - A short history

1882 - Irrigation canal introduced into Grand Valley

1883 - Arthur Pabor plants grapes and fruit near Fruita

1890 - Governor Crawford plants 60 acres of grapes and other fruit near Palisade

1899 - Colorado grape harvest of 293 tons
Wine production of 1,744 gallons
Colorado grape & wine - A short history

1909 - Colorado grape harvest of 519 tons
       355,000 vines planted on 1,034 farms

1916 - Prohibition statute enacted
Colorado grape & wine - A short history

1933 - 18th Amendment is repealed
Colorado grape & wine - A short history

1968 - Ivancie Winery opens in Denver
   Gerald Ivancie encourages growers in the Grand Valley to plant grapes

1973 - CSU begins vineyard research
   Four Corners study published in 1980

1977 - Colorado General Assembly enacts the Colorado Limited Winery Act (12-47-403)
Colorado grape & wine - A short history

1978 - Colorado Mountain Vineyards (today Colorado Cellars) opens

1982 - RMAVV formed (today CAVE)

1983 - Pikes Peak Vineyard opens

1985 - Plum Creek Cellars opens

1988 - Carlson Vineyards opens
1990 - General Assembly enacts the Colorado Wine Industry Development Act (35-29.5-101) which creates the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board (CWIDB)

- Grand River Vineyards opens

- Grand Valley AVA established
Colorado grape & wine - A short history

1991 - 1999  26 new wineries open

2000 – 2012  ~80 new wineries open

2005 - General Assembly amends the Colorado Limited Winery statute

2012 – more than 100 wineries licensed in CO
Colorado wine industry – an overview
Colorado wine industry – an overview
What drives the sale increase?

[Graph showing the increase in total wine sales and CO sales over financial years from 1992/93 to 2010/11.]
What drives the sale increase?
Colorado wine industry – an overview
Colorado wine industry – an overview

Assumption: 570 L (150 gal) per ton of grapes
Colorado wine industry – an overview

Source: TTB, CO Dept. of Revenue
Where are the vineyards in Colorado?

- Mesa County (Grand Valley AVA)
  - 66 % of acreage
  - 83 % of production

- Delta County (West Elks AVA, other areas)
  - 22 % of acreage
  - 11 % of production
Where are the vineyards in Colorado?

- Western Slope
  - 95 % of acreage
  - 99 % of production
Thank you for your attention

Dr. Horst Caspari
Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture
Colorado State University
Western Colorado Research Center
Grand Junction, CO 81503
Ph: (970) 434-3264
http://www.colostate.edu/programs/wcrc/pubs/viticulture/viticulturehome.htm