

**Editorial:
'I heard it on the grapevine'**



For immediate release

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Table grape berry collapse – growers' input needed!

Berry collapse has contributed to significantly reducing returns to table grape growers in recent seasons. The CSIRO Plant Industry and Victorian Department of Primary Industries (Vic DPI) table grape research team have called on growers to provide input and assist in the investigation of the development of berry collapse.

Researcher Michael Treeby said the work aims to pinpoint the start of berry collapse, "knowing when the problem begins may shed light on the cause."

The research team is encouraging table grape growers to help solve the berry collapse problem.

"If growers can answer some questions about experiences with berry collapse, the team hopes to find similarities and focus research," Mr Treeby said.

Those table grape growers affected by berry collapse are urged to contact CSIRO or the Vic DPI for a survey sheet.

Common table grape management practices and plant and soil nutrition are also under the microscope. This part of the research relies on the experiences and comments of growers who have dealt with berry collapse in the past. The survey will also be of great help in planning the types of field trials to be conducted.

Growers are urged to complete a survey sheet (mailed out to growers in an issue of *The Vine* earlier this year, it is also available from CSIRO and Vic DPI). Information about the symptoms of berry collapse is also available with the survey sheet.

For further information please contact:

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Kristen Pitt at Vic DPI on (03) 5051 4500.