

Nova Scotia Wine Industry Harvesting Gold and Silver

Crescendo, one of Nova Scotia's newest wines, made a sparkling debut at the 2009 Tasters Guild International Wine Competition in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The vintage, which is the first sparkling wine created at Gaspereau Vineyards, took home a silver medal.

"We are super excited because we were up against many sparkling wines from many regions," says Gaspereau Vineyards' winemaker Gina Haverstock. "Crescendo's victory is very sweet, not only because it's a first sparkling vintage for the winery, but because of the high calibre of other world competitors."

The Tasters Guild Competition, held from April 29 to May 2, 2009, included 2,100 wines from 36 states and provinces representing 13 different countries. Winemakers, retailers, wine writers, restaurateurs and consumers made up the 40 person judging panel.

"We've done well in previous competitions, but I'm particularly delighted to be winning awards on the international level for our 2008 vintages," says Jost Vineyards and Gaspereau Vineyards owner Hans Christian Jost. "It proves what we already knew, that 2008 wound up being a good year. We had a cool, wet summer, but the beautiful autumn brought everything together for us."

Other highlights for Gaspereau Vineyards included: gold for L'Acadie Blanc 2008, gold for Reserve Port and double gold for Ortega/Vidal Ice Wine 2008.

Jost Vineyards also won numerous awards including: gold for its L'Acadie Pinot Grigio 2007, Vidal Cayuga 2008 and Ortega Ice Wine 2008.

"It is always great to see Nova Scotia wines winning international awards with Nova Scotia grapes," says Jim Warner, president of the Grape Growers Association of Nova Scotia. "It is just amazing how this industry has advanced over the last decade...with the province's tenth winery having opened last week and currently 400 acres of vineyard in the ground, the industry is well on its way to meeting its goal of 20 wineries and 1000 acres of vineyards by 2020."

Crescendo, as well as other award-winning wines, is now available for purchase at Gaspereau Vineyards. For more information about the Tasters Guild International and a complete list of medal winners, visit www.tastersguild.com.

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