

## New Method for Monitoring Pesticides in Wine



By Dr. Jon Wong and Cathy Halverson  
 (301) 762-9800

As dictated by a memorandum of understanding with the Food and Drug Administration, the Alcohol and Tobacco Laboratory (ATL) has been monitoring pesticide residues in wines for several years. Until recently, the laboratory was able to monitor only a limited number of pesticides. ATL chemists Dr. Jon Wong and Cathy Halverson have developed a new method based on a novel solid-phase extraction protocol combined with GAS Chromatography/Mass Spectroscopy and derivatization-High Performance Liquid Chromatography to analyze for the presence of 110 different pesticides and their residues in wine. The laboratory has already started utilizing the new method to analyze wine samples from the Beverage Alcohol Sampling Program. □

## ALFD Tours VA Winery

By Jeff Reed (202) 927-8140

On August 29 and 30, 2000, members of the Alcohol Labeling and Formulation Division (ALFD) toured Oasis Winery, Hume, Virginia. The tour was planned as a training tool to help further the knowledge of ALFD employees on all aspects of wine production. Items discussed during the tour included grapevine maintenance, harvesting, crushing, storing and aging, barrel cooperage, bottling and labeling. Also, an in-depth discussion and explanation was given of Oasis' sparkling wine production (methode Champenoise, or secondary fermentation inside the bottle) and the growth of wineries in Virginia and the nation. ALFD intends to continue this type of training in the future to increase understanding and encourage industry acquaintance. □



## ATF Resolves Labeling Investigation With California Winery



By Debbie Lewis (202) 927-8130

ATF has accepted a \$300,000 "Offer-in-Compromise" to settle issues disclosed during an investigation into labeling and advertising practices by C. Mondavi & Sons, a St. Helena California winery. The wine involved was the CK Mondavi brand. The winery included references to an American Viticultural Area on the label and on case shipping cartons; and referenced "family estate vineyards" on the label. These references on labels and case shipping cartons created a misleading impression about the origin of the grapes grown to produce the wine. C. Mondavi & Sons has corrected the labeling and advertising practices and has implemented procedures to avoid recurrence of such practices. □

## Reminder for Tobacco Importers to File Monthly Reports



By Joyce Thompson (513) 684-3337

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 required importers of tobacco products to qualify for permits issued by ATF beginning January 1, 2000. In addition, ATF regulations for importers of tobacco products (27 CFR Part 275) were revised to require these importers to file a monthly report of their operations on ATF F 5220.6.

In most instances, if an importer of tobacco products filed an application before January 1, 2000, and was engaged in the business of importing tobacco products before January 1, 2000, the importer must file a report for **each** month, beginning with January 2000. An importer is not required to submit monthly reports for periods prior to receiving the ATF permit for importing tobacco products. This report must be submitted even if no transactions occurred during the reporting period.

Tobacco importers must file a separate report for each location where they hold a tobacco importers permit. However, if the permittee operates multiple locations but holds only one permit, a single consolidated report should be submitted to reflect operations at all locations. These reports are due **no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month following the month for which the report covers** and should be sent to the following address:

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*(Photo of "ALFD Tours VA Winery" article)*



### CALENDAR

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|----------------------|--|
| <b>October 3-5</b>   | New World Wine Producers<br>Sonoma, CA       |
| <b>October 16-18</b> | OIV Review Committee<br>Paris, France        |
| <b>November 9</b>    | OIV Coordinating Committee<br>Washington, DC |

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Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms  
8002 Federal Office Building  
550 Main Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202-3263

To order a supply of ATF F 5220.6, please write to the ATF Distribution Center, P.O. Box 5950, Springfield, VA 22150-5950 or call them at (703) 455-7801. The report is also available from ATF's web page at <http://www.atf.treas.gov/forms>. If you have questions regarding this report or other issues concerning your tobacco importers permit, please contact the Wholesale/Import Unit at (513) 684-3337. □

## New Disaster Information Sheet

By Norbet Hymel (202) 927-8200

The President declares several disasters each month somewhere in the United States. When alcohol or tobacco products are lost as a result of such disasters the tax can be refunded to the businesses in many instances, thus helping in the economic recovery. Even in areas where the President has not declared a disaster, businesses suffering individual disasters may be eligible to file a claim.

The ATF disaster information sheet, ATF I 1200.68 (8-2000), WHEN DISASTER STRIKES is being distributed to industry. This information sheet notifies the industry about procedures for getting a refund of taxes if a disaster occurs. If a business (whether a retail store, wholesaler or manufacturer) suffers a loss of product in a disaster such as a fire, flood, earthquake, or tornado, they may be eligible to file a claim. The information sheet will be posted on the ATF web site and be distributed to district offices. The sheet and a claim form (ATF F 5620.8, Claim - ATF Taxes) can be sent to businesses that have suffered a disaster. The sheet will also be provided to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help businesses in disaster areas. □

## VFFC Plant

By Bob Ruhf (202) 927-8210

The Regulations Division is preparing a final rule that authorizes the transfer of volatile fruit-flavor concentrate (VFFC) unfit for beverage use from one VFFC plant to another for further processing and provides for the alternation of a VFFC plant to a distilled spirits plant or bonded wine cellar. This rule allows greater flexibility in the production processes and in the equipment and facilities of VFFC plants. This rule will impact the operations of about 80 fruit-flavor concentrate plants and a number of bonded wine cellars throughout the United States. □

## Appearance of Appellation of Origin on Wine Labels

By Susan Stewart (202) 927-8140

The Federal Alcohol Administration Act requires some wines to be labeled with an appellation of origin on the brand label (for example vintage dated wines, estate bottled wines, varietal or semi-generic wines). The Alcohol Labeling & Formulation Division has received wine label applications where the appellation is "hidden" in puffery, additional information or the bottler's or importer's name and address.

We would like to inform industry members that we will reject any wine label where an appellation of origin is required and where that appellation is "hidden" in other information. A required appellation of origin statement should appear readily apparent as such, on the brand label and should not appear buried in text or as part of the bottler's or importer's name and address.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please call the Alcohol Labeling & Formulation Division's Customer Service Team at (202) 927-8140. □

## Announcement of Program Managers

By Jeannette Compton (202) 927-8130

The Office of Alcohol and Tobacco announces the promotion of Mike Desrochers, Boston, Massachusetts, Ed O'Toole, San Francisco, California, and Des Wosser, Sacramento, California, to the position of Program Manager, Alcohol and Tobacco Programs Division, Market Compliance Branch.

These Program Managers will serve as an expert authority on broad alcohol issues falling within ATF's jurisdiction. To support ATF's strategic goals, the Program Managers will be responsible for ATF programs enforcing the Federal Alcohol Administration (FAA) Act in trade practices, labeling and advertising of beverage alcohol. The announcement of these Program Managers marks a commitment by ATF to strengthen partnerships with industry members and to focus on enforcing the FAA Act. □

## New Toll Free Number for ALFD

By Susan Stewart (202) 927-8140

The Alcohol Labeling & Formulation Division (ALFD) is very pleased to announce that we now have a toll free number that you may use to contact our Customer Service Team. Our new toll free number is 866-927-ALFD (2533).

Our Customer Service Desk is staffed between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Eastern time. You may also continue to use our commercial number, which is (202) 927-8140. You may also contact us by e-mail at [alfb@atfhq.atf.treas.gov](mailto:alfb@atfhq.atf.treas.gov).

Please feel free to contact us by one of these means if you have any questions about the status of your labels or formulas, questions about a correction sheet, questions about our procedures, or any other questions, comments or concerns.

We remain committed to meeting our customers' needs and continue to find ways to improve our level of service. If you have any questions about our new toll free number, or anything else regarding Federal labeling and formula requirements, please contact our Customer Service Team. □

## Bier and Cerveza on Malt Beverage Labels

By Susan Stewart (202) 927-8140

All beverage alcohol labels must display the class and/or type of the product on the front or brand label. The Alcohol Labeling & Formulation Division often receives label applications with foreign spellings of the class or type on the label. Examples include Bier and Cerveza. We would like to clarify the conditions under which we accept these terms.

The Federal Alcohol Administration Act requires that the class/type be stated in English on malt beverage labels (except the class/type of malt beverages produced for consumption in Puerto Rico may be stated in Spanish). We do allow a foreign spelling as additional information on labels as long as it does not conflict with the English version. You must first ensure that the class/type appears in English in the minimum size print on the brand label. If buried in other text on a malt beverage label, remember class/type must appear in a size substantially more conspicuous than the other information.

If you have any questions about this, please call the Alcohol Labeling & Formulation Division's Customer Service Team at (202) 927-8140. □