



2009 National Tasting Project

Zinfandel – America’s Grape

The National Tasting Project gives chapter across the US the opportunity to sample the same group of wines. This year 47 chapters, representing 1,006 tasters in 25 different states participated in the NTP. This represents the second highest participation rate, a very small drop from 2008.

All the wines scored well and once again, the graduate judges tended to score the wines slightly higher than the rest of the tasters. The standard deviation (a measure of spread or dispersion in the scores) was much lower for the wine judges on most of the wines. Other findings:

- Two wines tied for the top position – Rancho Zabaco Heritage Vines and Klinker Brick Old Vine. These were closely followed by Seghesio and 7 Deadly Zins.
- Using the AWS Medal standards, the judges would have awarded silver medals to 8 of the wines, and bronze medals to the other 6.
- The wines from the Paso Robles area scored lower than the wines from the other areas.
- Similar to our findings in previous years, the results show that you don’t need to spend a lot of money to find a good wine. The Rancho Zabaco Dancing Bull and Bogle both represent good values.

The following table shows the average scores and standard deviation (Std. Dev.) for the participants and the graduate wine judges (WJ). Thanks to all the groups who participated and submitted results. We hope even more chapters will participate in the 2010 NTP.

Wine No.	Wine	Region	Avg. Cost	Avg. Score	Std. Dev.	WJ Score	WJ Std. Dev.
S3	2004 Rancho Zabaco Heritage Vines	Sonoma	\$15	15.3	2.8	16.1	1.2
L4	2005 Klinker Brick Old Vine	Lodi	\$18	15.3	2.6	16.0	1.4
S1	2007 Seghesio	Sonoma	\$23	15.2	2.6	15.7	1.0
L1	2006 7 Deadly Zins, Michael & David Phillips	Lodi	\$15	15.1	2.9	15.5	1.9
C2	2006 Cline Ancient Vines	California	\$13	15.0	2.5	15.2	1.9
L5	2006 Bogle Old Vines	Lodi-Amador	\$11	14.9	3.0	14.8	1.4
C3	2006 Rancho Zabaco Dancing Bull	California	\$9	14.8	2.9	14.8	1.0
S2	2006 Ridge Three Valleys	Sonoma	\$21	14.6	2.6	14.8	1.7
L2	2005 Renwood Old Vine	Amador	\$16	14.5	3.1	15.9	1.9
C1	Rosenblum Vintners Cuvee XXX	California	\$12	14.4	2.8	15.6	1.5
S4	2005 Ravenswood Old Vine	Sonoma	\$14	14.1	2.8	14.8	1.7
L3	2006 Gnarly Head Old Vine	Lodi	\$10	13.9	3.1	14.6	1.4
P2	2006 Estancia Keyes Canyon	Paso Robles	\$13	13.8	2.6	15.2	1.8
P1	2006 Peachy Canyon Incredible Red	Paso Robles	\$13	13.1	2.9	14.0	1.6

Respectfully submitted,
 Dennis Cassady
 Pam Davey



2009 National Tasting Project - Zinfandel Final Results - November 18, 2009

Chapter	P1 Peachy Canyon	P2 Estancia	S1 Seghesio	S2 Ridge	S3 Rancho Zabaco	S4 Ravens- wood	L1 7 Deadly	L2 Ren-wood	L3 Gnarly Head	L4 Klinker Brick	L5 Bogle	C1 Rosen- blum	C2 Cline	Dancing Bull
Atascadero	10.2				12.5	12.0	12.4		14.0			13.9		
Bill Tuller		13.2	14.5		14.8			13.0		15.4			13.9	
Bucks County	15.0				16.2	16.1		14.8			17.5	16.7		
Carroll County	11.9			14.7	16.4		16.2		13.8			14.6		
Cleveland		13.0			14.0	12.7	14.0		13.4				14.2	
Clos Friends		13.8	16.1		15.9			14.6		14.6			14.1	
Dayton		12.2	13.1		12.6		13.6		8.8					14.4
East TN	15.2			16.5	16.8		14.6		15.8			14.7		
Eastern CT	13.1			14.8		14.3	16.2		12.8					16.2
Frederick	12.9			13.6	16.6				14.0		14.4			14.8
Glimmerglass	12.5		15.2	12.6			13.2		11.8			12.6		
Heritage Hunt		14.8			13.5	14.1			14.8		14.8	16.1		
Houston	10.8				14.6	14.0			14.8		13.6		13.6	
John Marshall	13.9		16.3	15.1			16.0				14.5	15.1		
Kansas City		13.8			14.7	12.3	13.4		13.1			14.5		
Keuka		14.6		14.5		14.5	13.3		15.2			14.8		
King George	13.7				15.3	14.3	16.3		15.4			15.1		
Las Vegas	14.7		16.1			15.0	16.5		14.7					13.6
Laurel Highlands	13.6			15.3	17.6		16.3		16.5				16.2	
Lehigh Valley	15.9		15.8	15.4			16.5	15.5						15.5
Lewisville	10.0		17.8			17.2		10.8	13.3			12.6		
Maitland		15.9		14.3	16.5		15.4				14.3	16.2		
Mesilla Valley	12.5		15.4	12.8					12.6		13.3	13.7		
Metro Detroit	12.2		14.8			12.7	13.8		13.4					12.9
Mohaw Valley	12.5		14.4	14.7					14.3		15.5	13.8		
Mohawk Valley	13.6		14.3	14.0					14.7		15.1	15.4		
Mt. Nittany	17.4			16.9	16.7		16.5	16.7					18.0	
North Alabama		12.1	14.9	14.5					13.4		14.8	14.5		
Omaha	12.8		15.8		16.3			13.9	13.6			14.5		
Perkiomen Valley		12.2		13.9		15.0		15.3	14.9			15.4		
Philadelphia	12.5			15.3	17.3			14.2	15.1					16.4
Phoenix	13.1		16.8			15.0				14.9	15.7			15.6
Piedmont		15.0			15.0		15.0	15.8			14.3		15.3	
Pioneer Valley	12.2		15.9					13.0	13.3			13.4		13.5
Pittsbrugh East	14.2				15.4		16.2		14.2		15.3		14.9	
Pittsburgh	13.9			14.3		14.8	15.5				15.6		16.0	
Portland	11.2		10.8	14.2			14.5	13.0					14.3	
Rhode Island		13.8		15.2		14.4	14.8	14.1			16.5			
Saratoga						11.8	14.3		13.1			12.6		
Suffolk	13.4		15.6			15.0	14.9		14.3			14.5		
Tippy Tasters		14.9			16.0	14.2	13.7		13.4			13.3		
Triangle	12.9			15.7		14.5			15.5	15.8		15.1		
Tuscon	10.6		12.6				15.8		13.7			13.7		
Uncored North Neck	11.9			12.1	11.6		13.8		12.9					13.7
Walt Whitman		14.4		14.7		14.1		15.3	12.2				14.3	
Williamport	13.4				16.4	13.3		15.8	14.9			15.7		
Wine App. Soc., York	11.3			15.1		12.7			14.1		13.5	12.0		
Average Score	13.1	13.8	15.2	14.6	15.3	14.1	15.1	14.5	13.9	15.3	14.9	14.4	15.0	14.8
Standard Deviation	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.6	3.0	2.8	2.5	2.9
No. Scores	639	286	328	493	493	466	558	263	712	109	319	446	262	233
Wine Judge Avg.	14.0	15.2	15.7	14.8	16.1	14.8	15.5	15.9	14.6	16.0	14.8	15.6	15.2	14.8
WJ Std Dev	1.6	1.8	1.0	1.7	1.2	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.9	1.0
No. Judges	23	13	10	25	19	13	31	10	18	2	19	13	16	4