



**RUTGERS**  
THE STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF NEW JERSEY



# Achieving Pollution Prevention Through Energy Efficiency In Wineries

EPA Pollution Prevention Grant to  
Rutgers University, 2021

Serpil Guran

Director, Rutgers EcoComplex

“Clean Energy Innovation Center”

“Grape Expectations, 2023 Symposium” , March 4, 2023

# The EcoComplex:

- The EcoComplex is a clean energy innovation center at Rutgers University that harnesses research and education resources towards the development and commercialization of innovative clean energy, agricultural, and environmental and technologies.
- The Center also serves as a business incubator and houses 7 start-up companies.





# New Program: WindIgnite Accelerator

Support for:  
Minority- and Women-Owned OSW Supply Chain Start-ups





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**EPA Pollution Prevention Grant to  
Rutgers University, 2021**

**PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO NEW JERSEY WINERIES:  
ACHIEVING POLLUTION PREVENTION THROUGH ENERGY  
EFFICIENCY AND DISCHARGE REDUCTION FROM WINERY  
OPERATIONS**

**Grant Number: 96248320**

**EPA Region II**

## Grant Team:

- PI: Serpil Guran
- Co-PI - Christopher Obropta
- Co-PI – Daniel Ward

## Team Members:

### -Participating Four Wineries – Alpha, Beta, Gamma and Delta

- **David R. Specca**, Assistant Director, the EcoComplex  
Rutgers Agrivoltaics Program Lead
- **Matt Leconey**, P.E. Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program
- **Jeffrey Hammerstedt**, Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center
- **Ky Connor Asral**, Chief, Bureau of Sustainability, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

# Wine Making & Sustainability

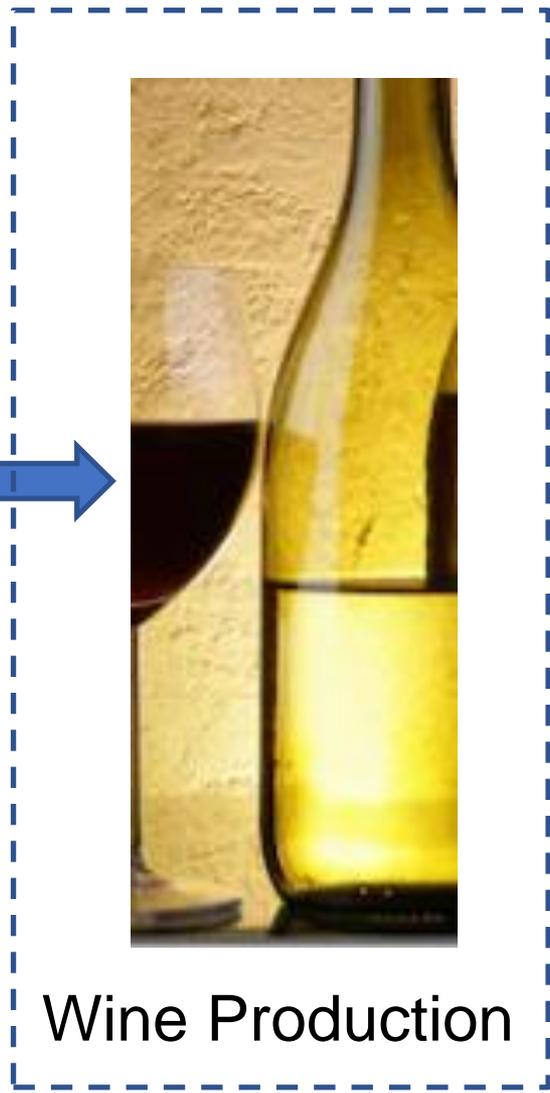
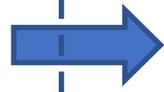


Grape Growing



Wine Production

# Wine Making & Sustainability

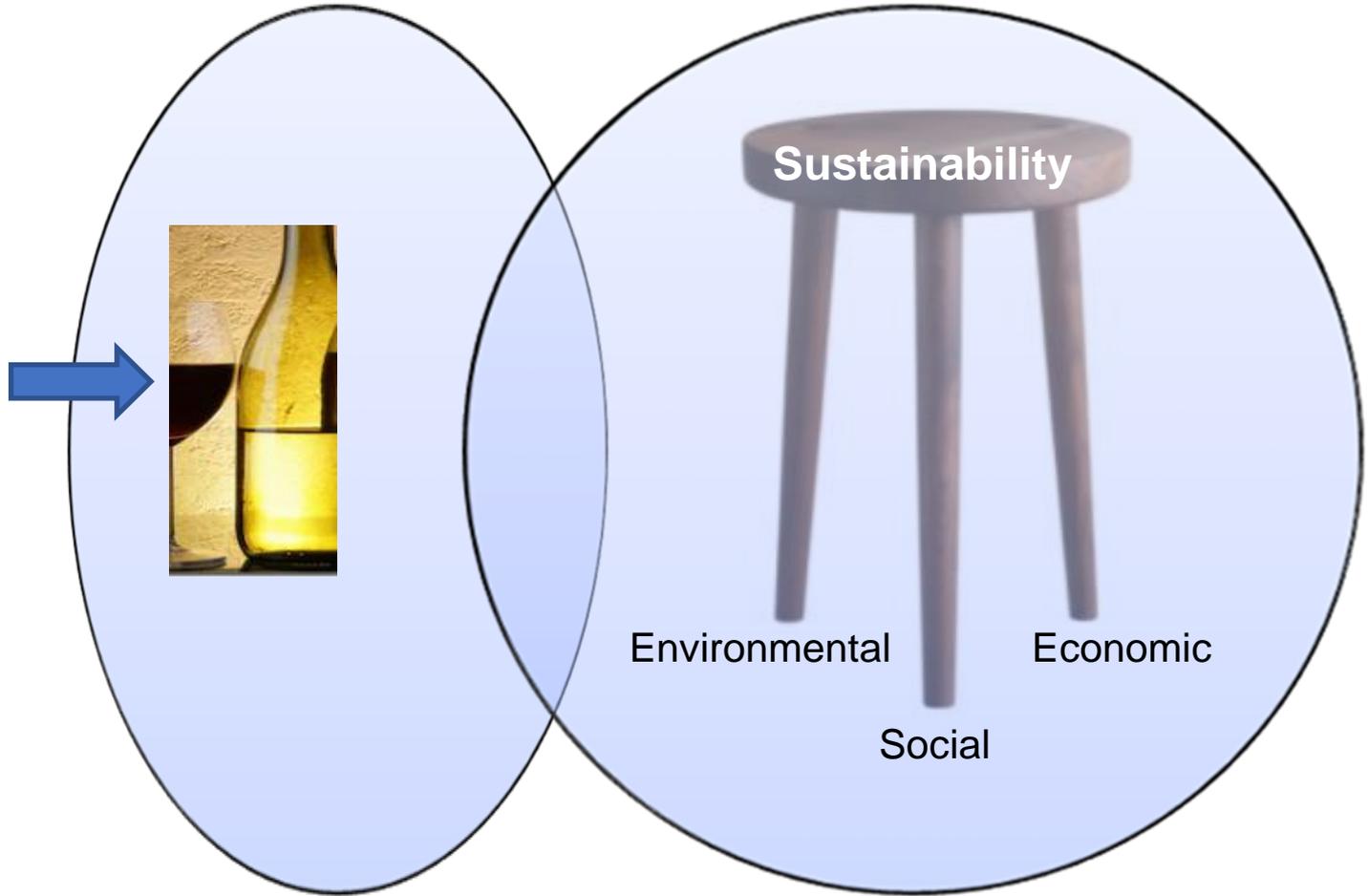


Wine Production

# Sustainability & Successful Enterprises

- Search and identify “sweet spots” in their businesses where harmful environmental impacts are minimized and economic and social benefits of return are realized.
- Range of Sustainability approaches
  - **Reducing Pollutants and Waste,**
  - **More Efficient Processes and Products**by consuming less **energy and water** without impacting their product quality and quantity.
- New Jersey Wine Making Industry may also benefit by reviewing and considering further improvements in their operations.

# WINERY SUSTAINABILITY



# We Created Educational Videos

- <https://vimeo.com/783386760/4576da7803>
- <https://vimeo.com/783592994/ca0b688dec>
- <https://vimeo.com/783801654/919c3cd716>
- <https://vimeo.com/794374089/e454e9e40e>

# Sustainable Wine Making

- Environmental Sustainability

- Less energy consumption
- Less water consumption
- Less pollutants
- Less waste
- Waste valorization
- Efficient packaging

- Economic Feasibility

- Less energy cost
- Less water cost
- Reduced waste disposal costs
- Additional revenues
- Recognition and increased sales
- In-house RE generation
- Less costly practices

- Social Equity

- Protection of health and safety
- Ethical reputation
- Exploitation and highlighting of local resources, workers and growers
- Corporate welfare

# Why Energy Efficiency?

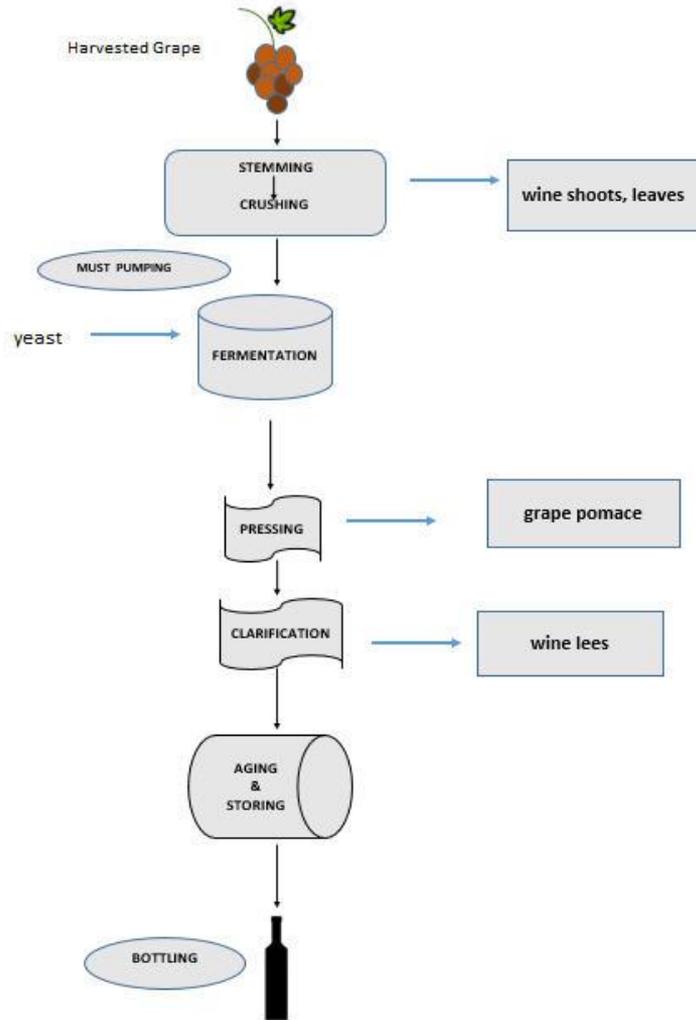
- Where does energy efficiency fit in within the broader goal of business success and image of a winemaking business?
- How visible is the Energy Efficiency when it is compared to other concepts?
  - We know there is a concept of “**organically grown grapes**”
  - We know that “**Renewable Energy**” is important and supports the image of a winery if the solar panels are visible
- **How visible is the “Energy Efficiency” within sustainability concept?**

# Energy Efficiency (EE) is Very Visible

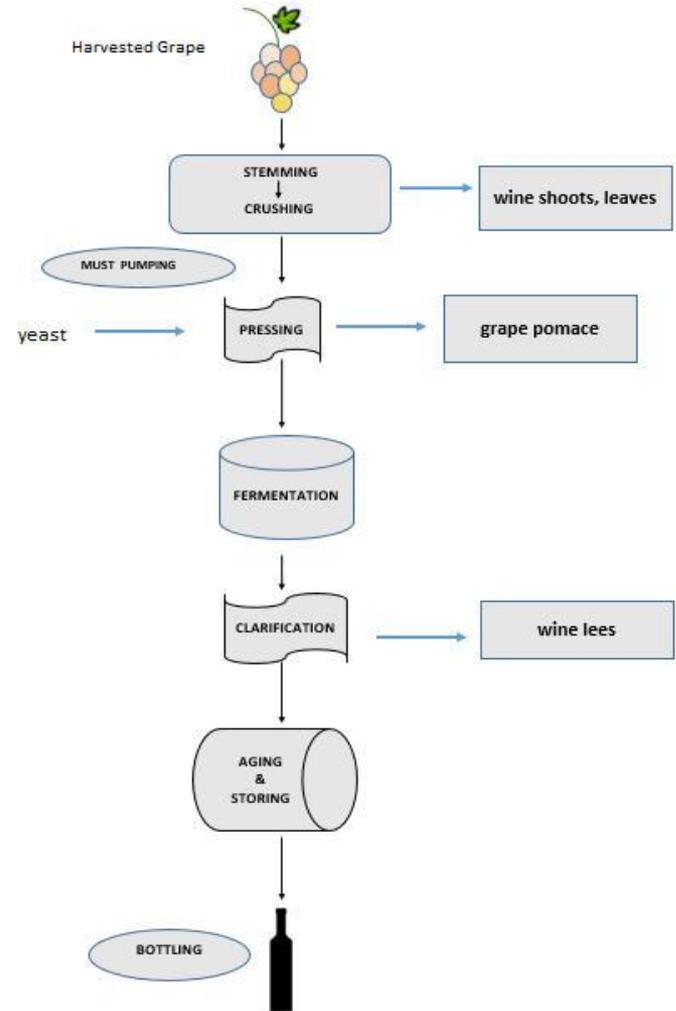
- <https://vimeo.com/783386760/4576da7803>

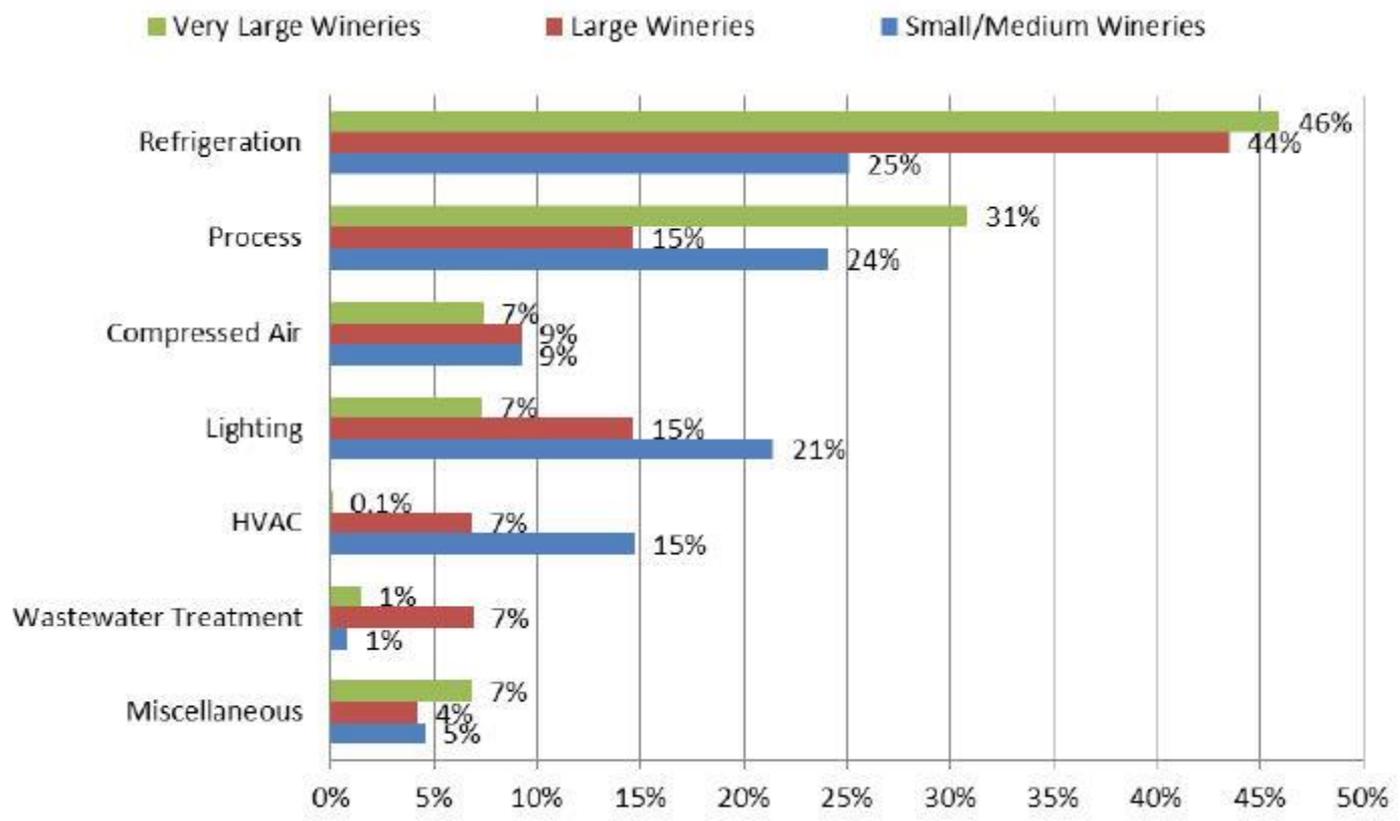


# RED WINE MAKING STEPS



# WHITE WINE MAKING STEPS





\*Wu, Y.Y., Chow, S., and Ganji, A.R., 2013, "Energy Efficiency in Wineries for Retrofit and New Construction Projects" Industrial Energy Technology Conference, 2013

# Energy Efficiency Recommendations

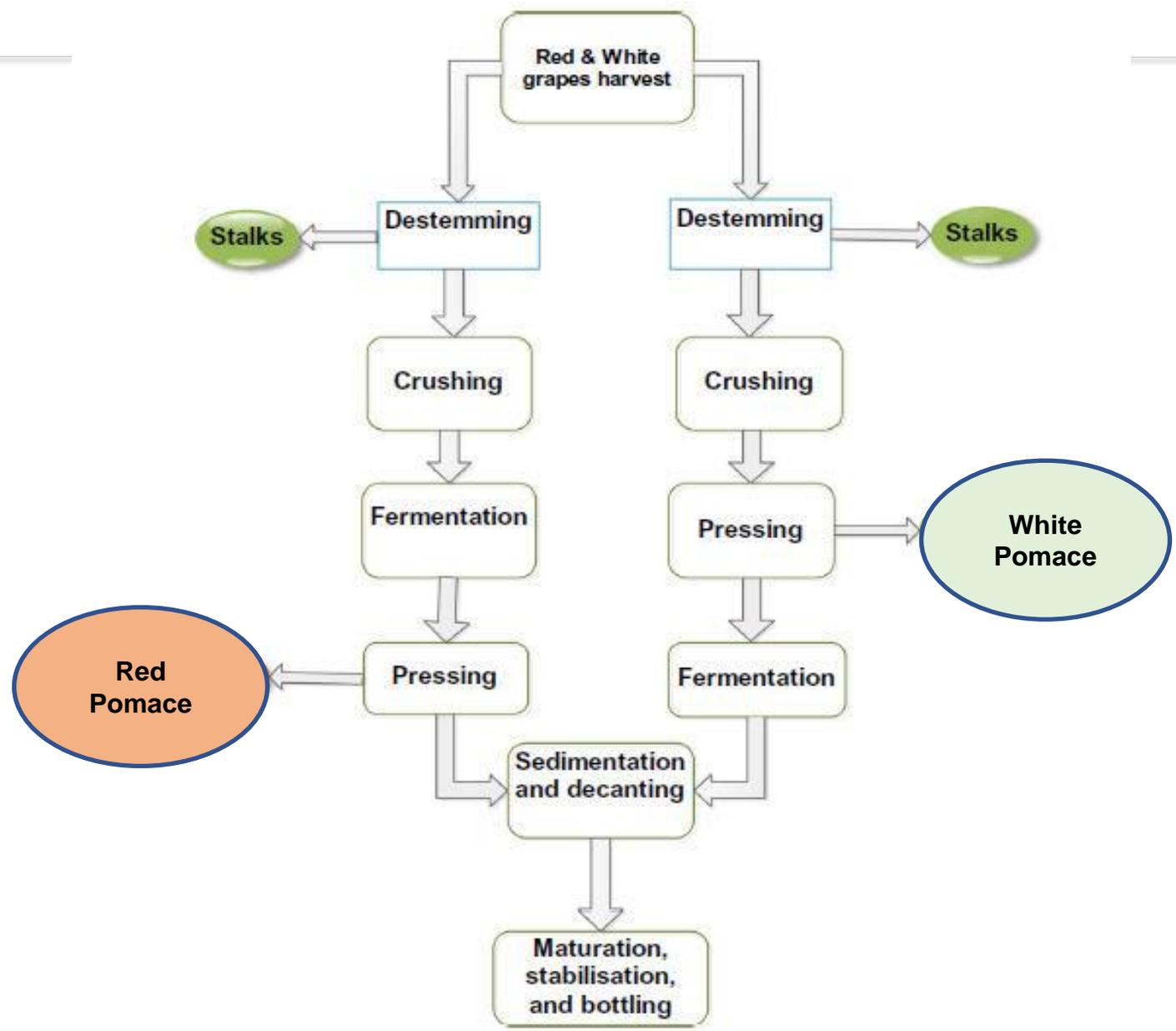
- **No Cost:**
  - Program thermostats
  - Conduct routine maintenance checks
- **Low Cost :**
  - Replace Halogen and incandescent lightbulbs with LEDS
  - Seal air leaks
  - Install occupancy sensors
  - Utilize window shades and blinds
- **Medium Cost:**
  - Replace dishwasher
  - Replace water-heater

# Energy Efficiency Recommendations

- **Capital Intensive**
  - Replace lighting
  - Install ceiling fans
  - Improve insulation
  - Replace garage door for reduced air leaks
  - Upgrade old and inefficient equipment
- **Utilize State Incentives**
  - Direct Install Program for small business  
<https://www.njcleanenergy.com/di>
- **Renewable Energy to support your EE**

# Winery Organic Waste Management & Potential Valorization





\* Muhlack, R.A. et al. 2018, "Sustainable wineries through waste valorization: A review of grape marc utilization for value-added products", Waste Management, 72, 99-118

# Grape Pomace

- Grape Pomace : Grape skins, seeds, stalks , moisture, fibers (cellulose, hemicellulose and lignin) polyphenols, lipids, proteins, oligosaccharides and minerals.
- Grape Pomace represents at least 10-30wt% of grape fresh weight.
- White pomace contains residual sugars (glucose and fructose) as high as 38% (based on dry weight).
- Red wine making pomace is produced by pressing after fermentation and it contains sugars and valuable alcoholic fraction.
- Concentration of sugars and alcohol in pomace vary based on grapes, processes during the crushing and winemaking.
- If a winery, applies a distillation process to recover remaining from pomace, the remainder is called “exhausted or spent” pomace or marc.

# Pomace Reutilization

## **Composting:**

- Efficient way to recover nutrients and carbon within the organic solid waste for efficient soil health and carbon capture and storage.

If the operations are large enough and/or wine industry may consider

## **Other Valorization Options:**

Pomace consists of:

- phytochemicals including array of phenolics, pigments, and antioxidants
- Fatty acids, sugars, and lignocellulosics

These compounds can serve as feedstock for chemical industry intermediaries within the “biorefinery concept” and bring economic benefit.

## Other Valorization Options

- Alcoholic Fermentation for Beverage Spirit or Bioethanol Recovery
- Anaerobic Digestion for Biogas and Digestate Composting
- Hydrolysis (high moisture and sugar content) for Lactic Acid Production
- Feedstock for Antioxidant and Probiotics Production
- Potential Biosorbents for Removal and/or Recovery of Heavy Metal Pollutants from Industrial Effluent
- Animal Feed.

**Thank You!**

For more information contact:

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