



New Zealand's Most Awarded Wines



VILLA MARIA
ESTATE

Flooding July 2008



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Helicopter for frost protection



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FROST

- Helicopters on site 9 times
- Flown 7 times
- Several close calls-not forecasted with no helicopters on site
- Have been down to 2 degrees twice this week
- No damage except in a few low lying areas of the vineyard , so no crop loss.
- Damage can affect vines for 2 years
- Late season frosts can cause severe damage and destroy the efforts of early season protection

Helicopter for frost protection



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**The benefit of being up
at dawn to fight the frost**



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**The benefit of being up
at dawn to fight the frost**



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**Helicopter leaving after
several hours of frost
fighting**



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Unwelcome snow on the Ruahines

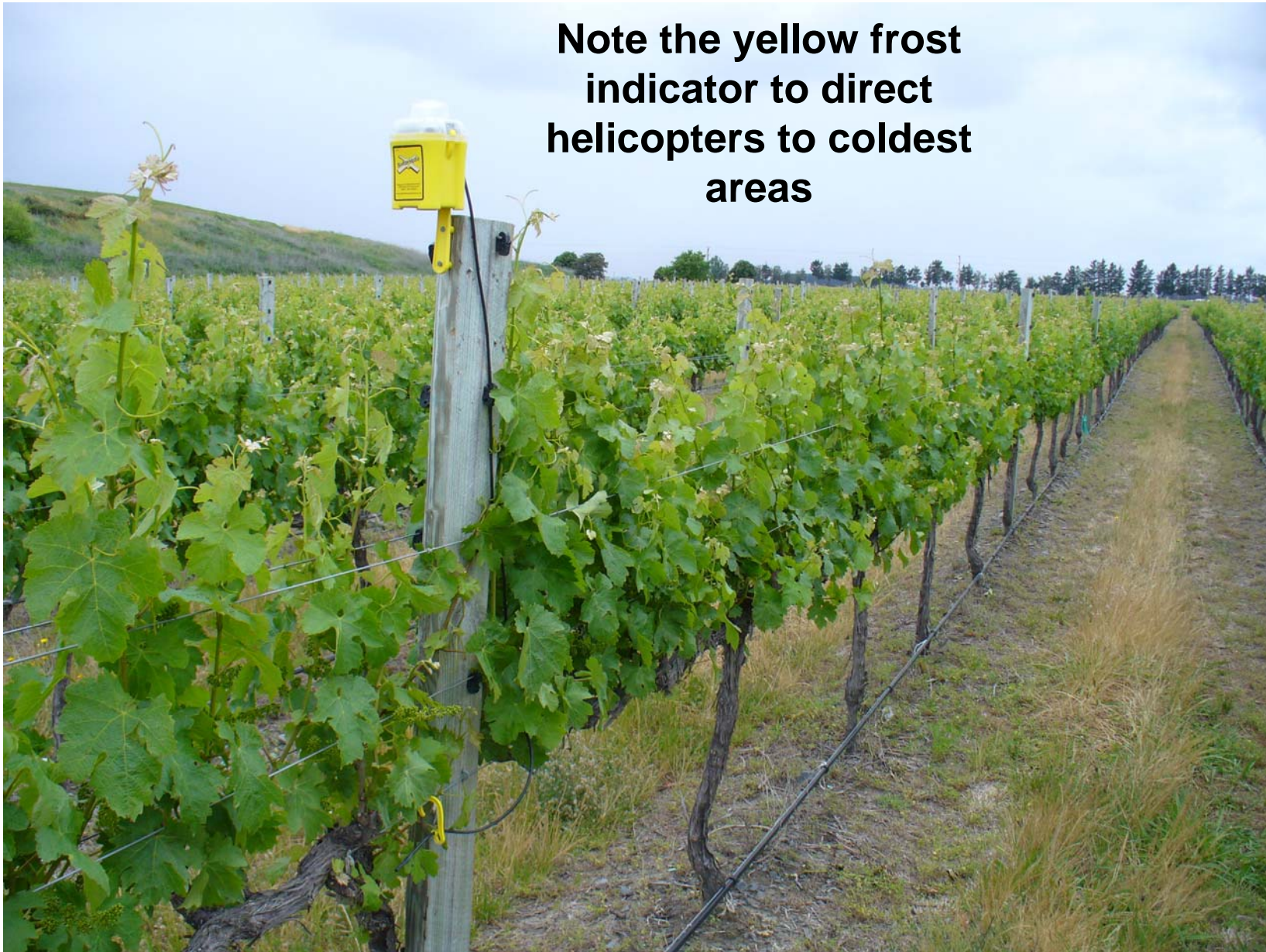


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**Note the yellow frost
indicator to direct
helicopters to coldest
areas**



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Syrah

- Originated from the Rhone in France
- Called Shiraz in Australia/ South Africa
- Naturally vigorous
- Large tall bunches (size contained on low vigour sites)
- Sensitive to nutritional changes
- Can be cropped at a wide range of levels
- Range of wine styles are produced
- Harvest late in season to achieve full flavours
- Common as single varietal wine

**Syrah showing upright
growth habits**



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**Syrah showing it's
natural light green
colour**



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**Syrah showing it's
natural light green
colour**



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**Syrah under nets and
close to harvest**



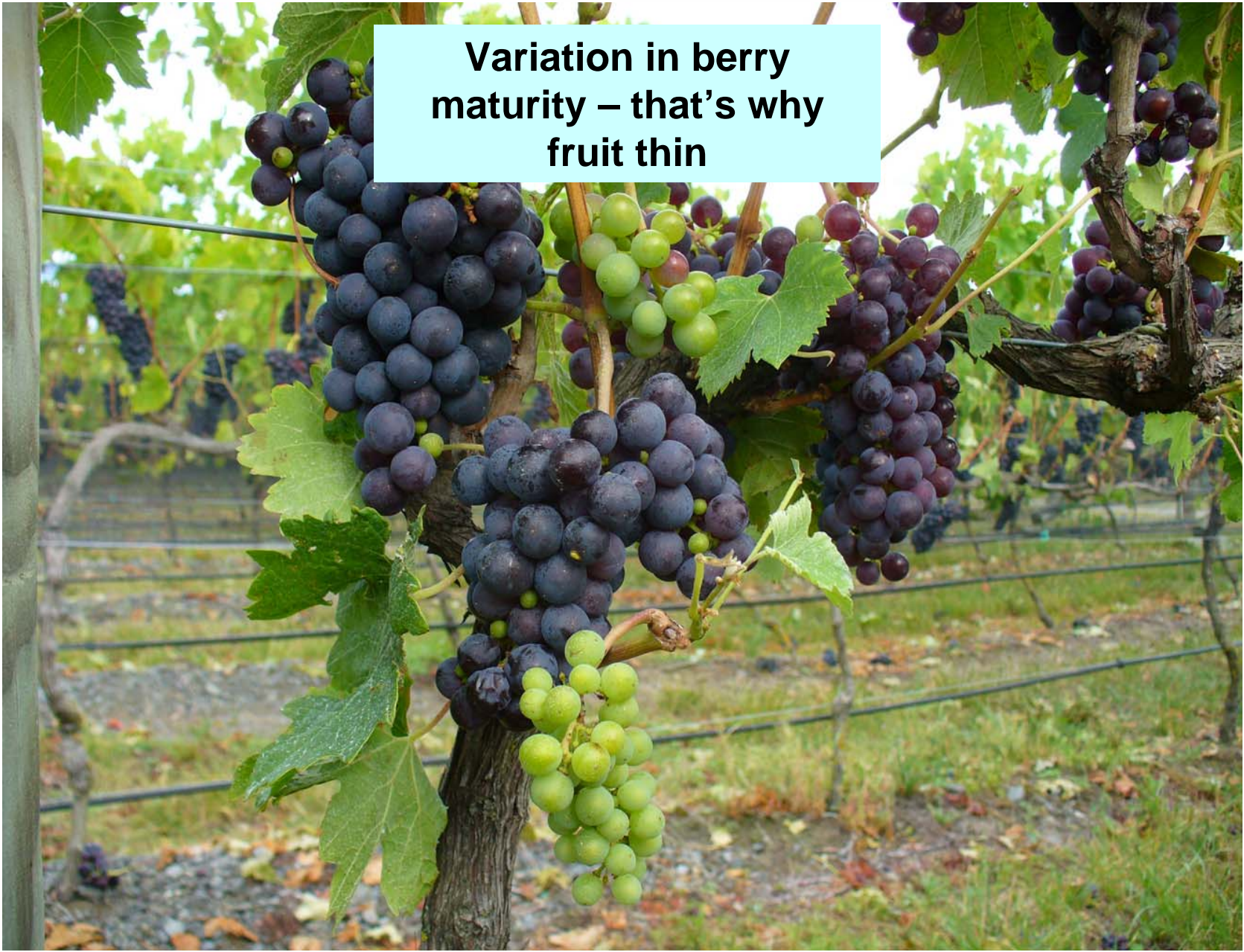
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RECENT WINE AWARDS

- Hawkes Bay Wine Awards 2008
 - VM Cellar Selection Syrah 2006
 - Gold Medal
 - Champion Syrah Trophy
 - Champion Wine of the Show Trophy
- Air New Zealand Wine Awards 2008
 - VM Cellar Selection Syrah 2006-Gold
 - VM Reserve Syrah 2006 - Gold



**Variation in berry
maturity – that's why
fruit thin**

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**The vineyard in
November 2008 – drying
out nicely**



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**Diesel pots all ready for
action**



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**Netting stack ready to go
on the vines**

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Harvesters in action 2008



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**Tipping of berries on to
truck heading for Villa
Maria's Hawkes Bay
winery**



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