

Week of 06-03-08

Red Bag Clues:

Grape?

This young blackbird of the grape world is often found blended.
It stands alone when handled properly. Luckily many producers are grasping this concept in recent years.

Pruning is an important factor in obtaining the “quality” of wine desired.

This grape grows well in rocky, arid ground, but is fairly adaptable to clay-based soils and even cool and damp climates.

The Italians once called this grape *Bordò*

This grape has been mocked.

Region?

This region has been producing a lot of HIGH alcohol wines in recent years.

Two growing areas produced the grapes for this bottle:

The first AVA in this region.

This AVA is made up of two main soil types. The first consists of decomposed volcanic ash, called “tufa”, and the second is red clay that is high in iron.

The second growing area is not defined as an AVA at this time.

But, there is a giant wooden bench with the name of this area etched into the backrest.

Producer?

An award-winning sommelier and former wine industry executive.

Started this negociant winery to bring his passion to life.

Year?

Dubbed a “grower’s year”.

Flooding kicked this year off.

Answer – Joseph Carr Merlot 2006 Napa Valley, Sonoma, California

<http://www.wineevents-calendar.com/node/1180> - Harvest Report 2006 Napa Valley