

Week of 08-05-08

Red Bag Clues:

Grape?

Difficult to grow in cold, humid climates.

Even though it is an ancient grape you can hardly find it in Europe.

The wine has a deep red color and aromas found in red fruits, spices and berries.

Requires more heat to ripen than the other varietals planted.

The name originates from the French word for crimson.

Some believe this is a clone of Cabernet Sauvignon.

Also known as Grand Vidure.

Some believe this grape may actually be Biturica from Roman times; who's name has evolved to that of a well recognized French wine region.

Region?

Imported to this region in the 1850s

Many vines in this region were misidentified until 1994 as Merlot.

How's your geography? This grape grows chiefly in the Rapel Valley and Maipo Province.

This regions natural topography protected this grape from natural disasters that wiped it out in its original home.

This growing region is within the world's longest exposed mountain range.

It is also the highest outside of Asia. It's highest peak is 6,962 m (22,841 ft) above sea level.

A river with the same name as this valley flows eastward through it and empties into the Pacific Ocean.

Producer?

Family with roots in Piedmont, Italy.

Acquired the land in 1931.

First exported their wines in 1986.

Year?

Took four of the top five rankings at the Tokyo Wine Tasting this year.

Answer – Santa Ema Carménère 2006 Chile, Cachepoal Valley