

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Honors Local Winemakers

Klingshirn and Ferrante Take Top Honors

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Feb. 18, 2016) – Ohio Agriculture Director David T. Daniels honored two local winemakers for their excellence in viticulture management and winemaking at the 2016 Ohio Grape and Wine Conference in Dublin, Ohio.

Lee Klingshirn of Klingshirn Winery in Avon Lake received Ohio's Grape Grower of the Year award, an honor awarded to an individual, family or vineyard who displays outstanding excellence in viticulture management.

Nick Ferrante of Ferrante Winery & Ristorante in Geneva received Ohio's Winemaker of the Year award, a recognition given to a winemaker who displays outstanding excellence in winemaking.

Ohio's Grape Grower of the Year and Winemaker of the Year are new, annual recognitions presented by the Ohio Grape Industries Committee.

The Ohio Grape Industries Committee is housed at the Ohio Department of Agriculture and provides wineries a means to market their top-quality wines against well-known California and European wines. As the director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Daniels serves as chair of the committee.

Ohio's grape and wine production is an integral component of Ohio's \$105 billion food and agriculture industry. To learn more about Ohio's grape and wine program or for a complete list of Ohio Quality Wines, visit www.tasteohiowines.com.

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Lee Klingshirn of Klingshirn Winery receives Ohio's Grape Grower of the Year award. Pictured left to right: Kelly Braden, Director David Daniels, Allan Klingshirn, Nancy Klingshirn, Lee Klingshirn, Ann Johnson, Jared Braden and Lauren Klingshirn.



Nick Ferrante receives Ohio's Winemaker of the Year award. Pictured left to right: Calin Lechintan, Dan Gonzalez, Anthony Ferrante, Heather Tucker, Jim Arbaczewski, Director David Daniels, Nick Ferrante, Joey Ferrante, Valerie Ferrante, Mary Jo Leaman and Carmel Arbaczewski.