

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Honors Top Wines

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (May 26, 2017) – Ohio Agriculture Director David T. Daniels honored the Director’s Choice recipients at an event held at the Statehouse for retailers, distributors, restaurateurs and winery owners.

More than 20 wines were evaluated by a panel of judges, on behalf of Director Daniels, for the highly coveted award. The 2017 award recipients are:

Best White Wine: 2016 Ferrante Grand River Valley Vidal Blanc
 Ferrante Winery, Ashtabula County

 2015 Doughty Glen Misty Meiner
 Doughty Glen Winery, Holmes County

Best Red Wine: Valley Vineyards Red Reflections
 Valley Vineyards, Warren County

Best Rose´: Terra Cotta Chambourcin Rosé
 Terra Cotta Vineyards, Muskingum County

In addition, Daniels presented **Pamela Ledyard** of Stoney Ridge Winery (Williams County) with the **Grape Grower of the Year** award, and **Andrew Codispoti** of Gervasi Vineyard (Stark County) with the **Winemaker of the Year** award.

All of the Director’s Choice award recipients are eligible for the Ohio Quality Wine designation. It was created in 2007 by the Ohio Grape Industries Committee and is assigned to wines made from at least 90 percent Ohio-grown grapes. These wines must also achieve at least 15 of 20 points on a sensory evaluation and pass a chemical analysis before receiving the quality seal.

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. To learn more about the program or for a complete list of Ohio Quality Wines, visit www.tasteohiowines.com.