



Texas wines won over crowds at Wine & Food Summit

By Vianei Robinson
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Texans are proud of their state, and justifiably so. We have a long list of reasons to love the Lone Star state.

Texas wine should be near the top of that list.

If you're feeling some doubt, you must have missed the "Texas vs. The World" tasting at the Perini Ranch's recent Buffalo Gap Wine & Food Summit.

This extensive wine tasting was expertly conducted by Wes Marshall, award-winning author of "The Wine Roads of Texas." It was a blind tasting, meaning that tasters did not know the identity of the wines.

So, we all sniffed, sipped and swirled a series of mystery wines, and waved our hands to vote for favorites.

When the wines' identities were finally disclosed, the natives got puffy with Texas pride.

The viognier tasting was the most dramatic. Tasters were not impressed with the French entry, a rare Condrieu that sells for more than \$50 per bottle.

Instead, tasters were evenly split between two Texas favorites.

One was the luscious Becker Vineyards 2006 Viognier, layered with apricot and melon flavors, and wrapped in elegant oak.

The other was the no-oak Brennan Vineyards 2006 Viognier, refreshing and full of sweet peachy fruit.

Other Texas wines showed well in their respective flights, including McPherson Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon, Becker Vineyards Malbec, and Llano Estacado Viviano.

So don't hesitate to spread the word about Texas wine. As they say at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, "it ain't bragging if it's true."



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