

In reviewing the petitioner's statement, I noticed reference to a statement about eastern Wisconsin not known as a grape growing region. I take exception to that as there are many established wineries in this part of Wisconsin that have grape vineyards. It is a well known fact that the Niagra Escarpment run through this part of Wisconsin, all the way to Lake Winnabago. It would seem a bit strange to me to give the whole Viticulture title to only one county in New York when many wineries throughout this escarpment could benefit from this distinction of viticulture region. It is my suggestion that you could possibly consider naming "Niagra Escarpment New York" as I would make petition for naming a viticulture region in Wisconsin as "Niagra Escarpment Wisconsin" At the present time I am putting together a list of documentation to support this claim and show historical documentation to support this information. The climate here not only supports growing grapes in cool temperate conditions, but is on the same latitude as Bordeaux, France.

Please consider my comments.

Respectfully,

Steve J. DeBaker
Trout Springs Winery

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As the petitioner I am responding to comment 1 from Mr. Steve J. DeBaker.

During the TTB review of the petition, it was noted that the Niagara Escarpment existed in Wisconsin. As a result, a search of the literature was conducted keying on the Niagara Escarpment, Wisconsin and grape growing. The results indicated a significant body of information describing the Niagara Escarpment in Wisconsin along with its' flora, fauna and recreational attributes but no mention of growing wine grapes within the geological boundaries of the Escarpment.

According to the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service, grape production in the state is too small to have production figures included in the published agricultural statistics report.

Not one of the 24 licensed wineries within Wisconsin mentions the Niagara Escarpment on their web page.

The petition as submitted provides the necessary supportive information for the creation and recognition of the Niagara Escarpment AVA. The petition stands on its' own and should be approved as submitted. Addition of the words New York to the AVA title is redundant and it will make print size on wine labels too small and illegible in order to accommodate the additional words.

Should Mr. DeBaker or someone else choose to submit an AVA petition for eastern Wisconsin in the near or distant future, the petition could recommend expanding the previously approved Niagara Escarpment AVA in New York to include that section of the Niagara Escarpment in Wisconsin.

With sufficient technical supportive data why shouldn't both regions be able to use the Niagara Escarpment AVA.