

PRESS RELEASE

*Nebbiolo Grapes,
the great international convention on Nebbiolo grapes
Alba, from 9th to 12th March 2006*

Alba – Less than a two weeks before the beginning of the convention, the organising machine of **Nebbiolo Grapes** is now defining the details. As far as the congressional and scientific aspects are concerned, the programmed speeches are now definitely arranged and confirmed. The producers' list is closed and defined, together with the wines that are present at the tasting sessions.

"The convention will take place in the prestigious setting of the Social Theatre G. Busca of Alba, during the days of 10th and 11th March – says Giovanni Minetti, the President of the Consorzio Tutela Barolo Barbaresco Alba Langhe e Roero (Association for the Safeguard of Barolo Barbaresco Alba Langhe and Roero)- It will consist of three sessions: the first two will deal with scientific aspects, whereas the third one will concern marketing and communication. The Nebbiolo producers coming from all over the world (Italy, the United States, South Africa and Australia) will have the opportunity of presenting their products to the international press and the public by the tasting counters that have been prepared at the new "Ampelio" structure, the future Consorzio office and extension of the degree course in Oenology of the University of Turin.

Nebbiolo Grapes is the event that will inaugurate the new spaces of Corso Enotria. For the occasion, they will be transformed into tasting rooms livened up by wine experts and an auxiliary staff. They will be supplied with the tasting counters for the Nebbiolo producers who will join the convention and present their products. "Considering the wine tasters' needs – adds president Minetti – we have created two separate spaces: one for the press and the other one for the public so that everyone will be able to taste according to one's liking and with the necessary concentration".

The convention will start on Friday 10th March with the speeches concerning **vine growing**. The programme will be characterized by the presence of famous speakers who will deal with the Nebbiolo vine in its various aspects: the genetic and clonal point of view (A. Schneider and F. Mannini - Istituto Virologia Vegetale = Vegetal Virology Institute – US Viticoltura = US Viticulture- CNR Torino = National Research Council of Turin), the agronomy vineyard management (S. Guidoni – University of Turin), the thermal and light microclimate and the accumulation of anthocyanins (G. Cola, M Rossoni, L. Rustioni, L. Mariani, O. Failla – University of Milan, D. Eberle – Terre da Vino S.p.A. – Barolo CN; G. Murada – Fondazione Fojanini = Fojanini Foundation- Sondrio), the rootstock role (G. Gay, A. Morando – Istituto Virologia Vegetale – US Viticoltura – CNR Torino).

In the afternoon of the same day some speeches concerning **wine-making** will highlight the Nebbiolo vinification (V. Gerbi, A. Caudana, L. Rolle – Di.Va.P.R.A. – University of Turin), the chemical structure of tannins (F. Mattivi, U. Vrhovsek, L. Valenti – Istituto Agrario San Michele all'Adige = San Michele all'Adige Agricultural



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Institute), the colour of derived wines (E. Cagnasso, G. Zeppa – University of Turin) and the aromas (D. Borsa, F. Torchio, L. Sotgiu, L. Ponticelli).

“As agreed with the Scientific Committee made up of Prof. Vincenzo Gerbi, the chairman, Franco Mannini, Anna Schneider, Vittorino Novello and Mario Ubigli, the convention aims at offering an updated picture of the present conditions and problems of the Nebbiolo vine with the opportunity of exchanging ideas for a moment of mutual growth – ends Minetti. – For this reason Saturday morning will be dedicated to the speeches and testimonies of the Nebbiolo producers coming from Langa and Roero, High Piedmont, Valtellina and the other Italian and foreign regions. The “Wine, Marketing and Communication” session coordinated by Prof. Bruno Giau, dean of the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Turin, will include the speeches of two representatives of the Italian and foreign press to conclude the survey.”

The tasting rooms will be opened to the public (admission by ticket only) on Saturday 11th March from 03.30 pm. to 07.00 pm and Sunday 12th March from 10.00 a.m. to 06.00 p.m.