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## OV Winery, Leaderbrands Win Fruit Wine Of The Year At Indy International Wine Competition

### New Recipes Already Being Prepared Using 2011 Seasonal Crops

by Michael Stanley  
Staff Writer



The Owen Valley Winery family team of Jo Anna, Anthony, Bonnie and [Preston](#)

In just its first season of serving Owen and the surrounding area with quality central Indiana wines, the Owen Valley Winery and the Leaderbrand family of [Preston](#), Bonnie, Anthony and Jo Anna recently received some unexpected recognition during the Indy International Wine Competition, the largest scientifically organized and independent wine competition in the United States.

With approximately 2,500 wines from 35 states and 15 countries competing in the 20th annual event held at [Purdue University](#), the local winery's Timber Ridge Pear was a runaway favorite.

"We were very pleased with that. We were pretty sure we were making some award-winning wines, but we never realized the pear wine would get the double gold," Anthony Leaderbrand said Monday afternoon. "Then during the reception on Saturday, they awarded us the best Indiana-grown fruit wine, that was quite a surprise."

A total of 52 international judges gave their opinion of each wine's appearance, aroma, taste and

Where's the story?



5 Points Mentioned

Leaderbrand recently received honors for  
three of their locally harvested wines at  
the 20th annual Indy International Wine  
Competition. (Courtesy Photo)

aftertaste.  
Not only did the recipe win a double gold medal, but was also named Indiana-Grown Fruit Wine of  
the Year for the 2010 recipe.

“We know we’ve done something right and we’re going to continue to produce in the manner that we did last year,” Leaderbrand explained. “Hopefully we can produce some more award-winning wines that can go even further next year. I had won previously with this pear recipe in 2005 as an amateur and we executed that in a larger batch in full production, and it seemed to have worked. We’ll see if we can pull it off again this year. The pear trees look to be doing very well. They’re almost in their season, so we’re going to re-create that batch; we completely sold out of the pear.”

Entries of Harvest Moon and Persimmon also boasted medals of silver and bronze, respectively.

“As far as the Harvest Moon and the traminette it was produced out of, the vineyard will have a full crop this year so we’ll have a lot more of that,” Leaderbrand said. “We’re relatively close to selling out of that and the persimmon as well. We have wonderful folks coming in on a regular basis, but we’re still trying to get our head around event planning. We think we’ve identified an event coordinator who will take over that side of the business so we can focus on the wines. Hopefully we’ll have more bands and coordinate more events as time goes on.”

Although this season is still in full swing for selling wines at the [Timber Ridge Road](#) location, the Leaderbrands are already back at it with new recipes.

“We’ve got a raspberry, a blackberry going on right now, and we also have a peach wine that we’re making. We just harvested 1,100 pounds of Marechal Foch (an interspecific hybrid red wine grape variety),” Anthony said. “We haven’t decided how long we’re going to be open this season. I have a feeling we’re going to be open through the remainder of this year and then we may take some time off at the beginning of next year. We’ll certainly be open through December.”

The winery is open Thursday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., and on Sundays from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at [491 Timber Ridge Road](#), just south of [Spencer](#).

For additional information, visit the Owen Valley Winery online at: [www.owenvalleywinery.com](http://www.owenvalleywinery.com). Owen Valley Winery can also be found on Facebook.

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