



GROWING THE FUTURE OF THE NEW ZEALAND WINE INDUSTRY



Young Viticulturist of the Year

Young Vit is a Leadership programme consisting of regional and then a national competition. It has been running since 2006.

What is its aim?

- To discover, nurture and grow future viticultural leaders
- To offer support, training and education to ensure confident, professional and pioneering young viticulturists will lead the industry in years to come
- To help Young Vits progress their careers and have an opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas on the future of the NZ wine industry
- Grow a strong, supportive viti community. It's a wonderful opportunity to make new friends and working relationships with other young vits, senior vits and sponsors.
- Everyone involved has the common goal to support each other and strengthen the wine industry for our continued growth and success.



Competition Format

- Six regional finals: Auckland/Northern, Hawke's Bay, Wairarapa, Marlborough, SI Regional & Central Otago
- The day consists of a mix of practical and theoretical questions, plus an **interview** and a general knowledge quiz round.
- The BioStart Hortisports race
- An evening dinner where contestants deliver a speech and the winner is announced
- Regional finals lead to the National Final



Focus topics

- Budgeting - Excel
- Pests and diseases
- Nutrition
- Pruning & yields
- Trellising
- Irrigation
- Machinery – sprayers, tractors, netting
- Health & Safety
- Wine knowledge
- General Knowledge
- Sustainability
- Biosecurity
- Interview

- Project/Presentation for National Finalists



On the day

- You will rotate around a mix of theoretical and practical questions
- In the Regional Finals these last 25 mins each, with 5 mins to get to the next challenge
- In the National Finals these are 40 mins
- There are 6-8 questions
- This includes an interview and Excel budgeting question
- The Hortisports is at lunchtime (bring your supporters). This is a head to head race testing a range of viti skills with a couple of fun ones thrown in. A viti obstacle course.
- This is followed by a Fruitfed BBQ lunch
- Challenges continue in the afternoon
- Then a break to change for the dinner
- Speeches are given at the dinner – near the start of the evening
- Quiz – various formats (buzzer, whiteboard, Kahoot) and this is held either at lunchtime or at the dinner
- Wine tasting – this differs in various regions and is either a full question or part of wine options or not always included. It is in the National Final.

What to bring and wear

Daytime

- You will be provided with an awesome Young Vit jacket, polo shirt & beanie/cap. These must be worn throughout the day (ie no other branding). OK to take jacket and hat off if hot.
- Sturdy boots – it may be muddy and there are practical elements
- Water bottle
- Waterproofs
- Change of clothes (if v wet)

Remember

- Remove boots when going inside (venues are generously lent to us)
- Use PPE provided
- Use pruning tools provided

Dinner

- Dress for success. This is your opportunity to shine and make a great impression in front of an industry audience. This is a professional environment so wear smart clothes. Dress trousers and shirt/blouse (jacket if you like), dress/skirt, dress shoes. Doesn't need to be completely formal, but certainly not too casual.





There will be an Excel budgeting question- practice!

How to prepare for the competition

- Hands on at work
- Dig out your course books
- Ask, ask, ask - your employer, sponsors, suppliers, previous Young Vits, previous tutors, NZ Winegrowers

Everyone is keen to help.

- Keep up to date with what's going on
- nzwine.com is a huge resource
- **You qualify for members login – email youngvit@nzwine.com**
- Read Vinefacts, Vineyard Register Report,
- Familiarise yourself with the sponsors and their products and services
- Follow industry Facebook & Instagram - especially:
 - YoungViticulturist
 - NZ Wine Kaitiaki Group
 - Bragato Research Centre
 - Regional Winegrowers
 - Sponsors
- Industry conferences and webinars
- Practice Excel – lots of online training
e.g. support.office.com or spreadsheeto.com



Stay up to speed with tech innovations



Professional Reputation Award



Professional qualities and conduct are the sign of a good leader.

What are we looking for?

- A **really, positive attitude** which stands out
- Good manners and politeness
- Respect for others – judges, organisers and other contestants
- Giving it 100% effort/putting your all into it/really stretching yourself
- Stepping outside your comfort zone
- Communication – ie responding to emails and messages from organisers promptly

In a nutshell we are looking for a positive attitude; someone who is polite, considerate and giving it one hundred per cent.

Prize: \$250 cash for each region kindly given by Ormond Nurseries

Why enter?

- Increases your knowledge, skills and confidence
- Widens your network. Belong to a supportive viti community.
- Start making a name for yourself - just by entering, it opens doors for your career
- Young Vit apparel & great gifts from sponsors
- Great prizes



Fantastic prizes

NATIONAL WINNER

- Hyundai Kona for 1 year
- \$6000 ECOTRELLIS Travel Grant
- \$2000 cash
- Leadership week
- Expenses covered to compete in Young Hort

Other National Prizes

- Cash prizes for top 3 research projects and presentations
- \$250 Biostart Hortisports
- Ecotrellis best trelliser trophy
- Associate Judge at NZ Wine Blind Tasting

Regional Prizes

- 1st \$1000, 2nd \$750, 3rd \$500
- 2nd place – Educational trip with NZSVO
- BioStart Hortisports prize of \$250
- Section prize from Ecotrellis
- \$250 Professional reputation award
- Other prizes

Plus

- Up to \$1300 for the winner's travel expenses to the national final
- All National Finalists get an overnight educational visit to a NZ wine region hosted by Fruitfed Supplies.



Future Leaders



You – yes you - are one of the New Zealand wine industry's future viticultural leaders. How exciting!

This is your chance to learn, network and share your ideas and passion for viticulture.

Leadership tips

- Be on time
- Respect colleagues, fellow contestants and judges
- Be polite and positive
- Respond quickly to emails and texts from organisers
- Listen and ask questions
- Think on your feet
- Be flexible

We have even taken inspiration from James Bond and adopted the notion that we all have **'A License To Think'** Use it!

Leadership Tips from James Bond

- Be daring
- Ask the experts

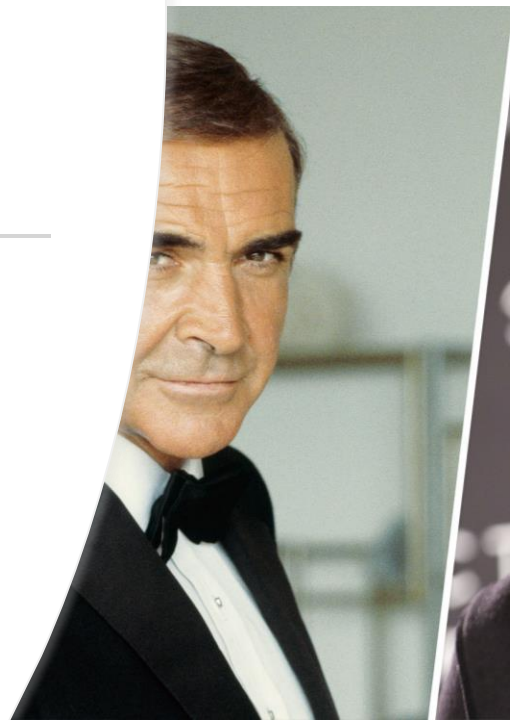


**Think on your feet
and be flexible**





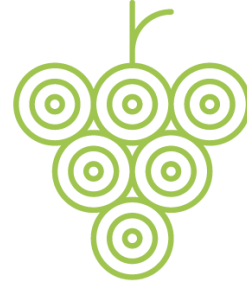
Dress for success



- **Finish what you start and be professional**
- **Think big and act**
- **“What can I do to make a difference?”**



Young
Viticulturist
New Zealand Wine



**Will you be the next
NZ Young Viticulturist of the Year?**

Good luck!

