BIOCHAR IN VITICULTURE

MARKET AND RESEARCH INSIGHTS FOR GRAPE GROWERS AND BIOCHAR PRODUCERS

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LINK TO WEBINAR

https://youtu.be/g00l8B9sfSw?feature=shared

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPEAKERS...

KATHLEEN DRAPER
FINGER LAKES BIOCHAR (NY), CO-AUTHOR OF BURN-USING FIRE TO COOL THE EARTH, IBI CHAIR, USBI BOARD MEMBER
JOSIAH HUNT
PACIFIC BIOCHAR BENEFIT CORP., USBI BOARD MEMBER
DOUG BECK
MONTEREY PACIFIC INC.

LINK TO DOVETAIL PARTNERS INC. REPORT

https://dovetailinc.org/portfoliodetail.php?id=61688a6830537

SUMMARY OF BIOCHAR BENEFITS

Soil Functions	Water Quality	Biomass Upcycling	Potential Longevity
Increases Infiltration/Retention	Intercept/Absorb/Assimilate	Biomass Waste (Manures)	Short Term Soil Organic Carbon (1-5 years)
Increases CEC/AEC (up to 50%)	Nutrients/Heavy Metals/Hydrocarbon	Cropped Biomass Flexibility	Long Term Soil Organic Carbon (100's of Years)
Increases Microbial Activity	Enormous Surface Area	Cost Effective Adsorbent	
Balances pH			
Decreases Bulk Density			

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project explored the potential for using biochar in three applications:

Viticulture, Livestock and Poultry, and Stormwater Management.

The process used was to:

Interview experienced users
Review relevant published scientific research
Analyze needs of users and other market data
Provide educational outreach (Webinars & Reports)

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Biochar has been successfully used in viticulture to boost productivity through improved plant and soil health
without negative effects to the grape or wine flavor

There is a large body of research supporting the application of biochar in viticulture specifically, as well as in soils and compost generally.

There are many suppliers of biochar in the major grape growing regions of the US.

$7,000 per acre

for the biochar

alone at the rate of

10 tons per acre.

If the lifespan of the product and its benefits are long-term, it can be worth it if one application provides

benefits over 20 years

of a vineyard's life.

$2000/ACRE

The most current and applicable exploration of costs was published by the Sonoma Ecology Center at establishment, where the return on investment was fulfilled after the first growing season

Research has shown this [grape residue] biochar to be particularly beneficial,

increasing water retention by 23%

as it provides the additional benefit to the growers from both phytosanitation and disposal aspects.

INFORMATION PRODUCED WITH INPUT FROM THESE AUTHORS:

Kathleen Draper, Chair, International Biochar Initiative
Harry Groot, Dovetail Partners
Ashley McFarland, Dovetail Partners
Tom Miles, Chair, US Biochar Initiative

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