

Lead content of wine too low to be harmful

Since early August, there has been significant misinformation in the press about lead levels in wine. Together with totally misleading statements, there have been insinuations that leave the reader questioning.

"Even the lead capsules on bottles are under scrutiny," one writer remarked. This is poor journalism because the issue was not explained in the story.

As a health-conscious consuming public, you should be aware of the facts that put the lead issue into perspective.

NEARLY ALL foods contain trace amounts of naturally-occurring lead introduced predominantly from ground water, soil, and the atmosphere.

The Food and Drug Administration is concerned about levels of lead in food products, but has yet to establish specific standards for regulating lead content.

The FDA Total Diet Study finds fresh and processed foods that con-

tain lead. These include green leafy vegetables, legumes and root vegetables, fresh fruit, grain and cereal products.

Studies currently in progress suggest that California wines have less lead than many commonly-consumed foods and much of the nation's drinking water. The Environmental Protection Agency standard for drinking water has been 50 parts per billion of lead, based on the consumption of one-half gallon of water per day over a 70-year period.

California wine contains about 21 parts ppb of lead, about the same as an average-size chocolate chip cookie. By comparison, a navel orange contains 35 ppb and fresh or frozen spinach has 39 ppb.

THE BUREAU of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the national regulatory agency for wine, beer and spirits, has performed tests on over 500 foreign and American wine samples over the past two years.

The agency released its study find-



focus on wine

Eleanor and Ray Heald

ings in August with a disclaimer (that we rarely saw in press commentary) stating that the survey was incomplete and no inference should be made about a product because it was selected to be analyzed.

Consumers do not risk ingesting harmful amounts of lead from wine. A wine drinker is exposed to less lead from wine than from many other foods and drinking water. Wine is not consumed by infants and children — the groups thought to be at greatest risk from excessive lead exposure.

The last element of the lead and wine issue is the tin-lead foil capsules. As part of the traditional wine package, tin-lead foil (lead sandwiched between thin layers of tin foil) has been used on fine wine bottles throughout the world for decades.

WINE BULLETIN BOARD

Taste the 1987 and 1988 vintages of one of the premier Burgundy estates Domaine Dujac during a five-course dinner prepared by Jimmy Schmidt at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8, at Detroit's Rattlesnake Club. The cost is \$95/person inclusive of tax, gratuity and valet parking. Reservations at 567-4845.

Governmental and public concern over the disposal of heavy metals, such as lead, in solid waste sites has led to legislation and proposals in several states to eliminate these elements from the waste disposal chain beginning in 1992.

Currently, tin-lead capsules are being phased out. This is not because

WINE SELECTIONS OF THE WEEK

1990 Bessinger Fume Blanc (\$11) is one of the most appealing renditions of sauvignon blanc we've tasted. It has attractive, tropical fruit aromas and flavors with vanilla oak accents. The solid palate is designed for food, yet makes a delicious pre-meal sipper.

1990 Riverside Farm Chardonnay (\$7.50) Each vintage, it gets to be the exception rather than the rule, that a lower-priced California chardonnay has good flavor. This gem, produced by Popplano Vineyards, has toasty notes over tropical fruit with gentle touches of vanilla. The flavorful marriage of fruit and oak is exceptionally attractive at its price.

1989 Kenwood Vineyards Jack London Vineyard Zinfandel (\$17) is always in the winner's circle. Ripe, balanced black raspberry aromas and flavors abound in this approachable red wine. Place it with grilled chicken or beef — it's most versatile.

1989 Robert Pepl Coline di Sassi, Sangiovese Grosso (\$30) represents one of the best wines in California's new Italian varietal craze. Expensive, due to its rarity, it will be released on Columbus Day, Oct. 12. If you are a collector or just inquisitive, get your request in with your favorite retailer now. Bright fruit is the dominant feature of the wine that receives solid structure from 12 percent cabernet sauvignon in the blend.

removed. The bottle top should be wiped with a damp cloth before removing the cork.

With perspectives in proper order, let's celebrate California Wine Appreciation Week (Sept. 30-Oct. 6) with some superior wine selections.

We're Sweet On Michigan

PIONEER SUGAR

Granulated
Brown
Powdered

HURRY! Sweet Savings Offer Expires 11/30/91

Save 25¢ on any size Pioneer Sugar Granulated • Brown • Powdered

TO REDEEM: Bring this coupon to any participating retailer. Limit one coupon per customer. Good only on purchases of 10 lbs. or more. Excludes bulk quantities. Void where prohibited. © 1991 Pioneer Sugar. P.O. Box 1344, Saginaw, MI 48605.

COUNTRY RIDGE QUALITY MARKET

Convenient Shopping and Personal Service
31102 Haggerty Rd.
Just South of 14 Mile Rd.

USDA CHOICE

MEATS
FRESH PORK, VEAL
LAMB & POULTRY

FRONTS, SIDES
HINDS OF
BEEF • STOCK
THE FREEZER

FRESH CUT
MIXED BOUQUETS

20% OFF CASE WINES

See store for details!

OPEN FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE
Mon-Thurs. Fri. & Sat. Sun.
9-10 9-11 9-9

PHONE 661-9900

FULL LINE OF LIQUOR

NEWLY EXPANDED WINE & PRODUCE DEPARTMENT

LOTTO IS HERE

SALE PRICES EFFECTIVE SEPT. 30 thru OCT. 13

WE ACCEPT

HAVING A PARTY? FAX US FOR PRICES, 661-2828

U.S.D.A. Choice Ground Chuck 5 Lbs. or More \$1.59 LB. Center Cut Pork Chops Thin, Thick, Regular Cuts \$2.29 LB.	U.S.D.A. Choice Whole Rib Eye Delmonico Cut & Wrapped Free \$3.79 LB.	U.S.D.A. Choice Delmonico Steaks \$4.59 LB.	Grade A Fresh Leg of Lamb \$1.99 LB.
U.S.D.A. Choice Bottom Round Roast \$1.99 LB.	U.S.D.A. Choice Eye of Round Roast \$2.99 LB.	Perdue Skinless Turkey Breast \$2.99 LB. <i>Sliced to Order</i>	Fresh Black Tip Shark \$2.79 LB.
U.S.D.A. Choice Boneless Beef Shank \$1.79 LB.	Grain Fed Whole Amish Fryers 79¢ LB.	Imported Greek Feta Cheese \$2.99 LB.	Fresh Ocean Perch \$2.79 LB.

BAKERY

Fresh Baked Italian Bread **79¢** EA.

Fresh Baked Blueberry & Cheese Tart or Apple Walnut & Cheese Tart Pies **\$4.99** EA.

COKE 2 Liters **99¢** + Dep.

PRODUCE

Bananas Del Monte **29¢** LB.

Apples • Red Delicious • Gold Delicious • Granny Smith **69¢** LB.

Cooking Onions **69¢** EA. 3 LB.

Vine Ripened Tomatoes **49¢** LB.

DAIRY

Melody Farms 2% Milk **\$1.79** Gallon Plastic

Citrus King Orange Juice **99¢** 1/2 Gal. Plastic

FROZEN

Melody Farms Premium Ice Cream **\$1.99** 1/2 Gal.

GROCERY

Northern Tissue **99¢** 4 roll pack

Chi Chi Picante & Salsa Sauce **\$1.49** 16 oz.

Control Cat Litter **\$1.79** Reg. \$3.29 14 lbs.

Del Monte Vegetables Cut Green Beans, Whole Kernel Corn, Peas, French Green Beans, Cream Corn **39¢** 15 oz.

BEER

Bud **\$1.19** 24 Pk. 12 Oz. Cans

WINE

Callaway America's Cup • Chardonnay • Cabernet Sauvignon **\$9.99** 750 ml.

Carlo Rossi 4 Liter assorted flavor wines **\$6.99**

Robert Mondavi Woodbridge • Chardonnay • Cabernet Sauvignon **\$4.99** 750 ml.

Ackroyd's

SCOTTISH BAKEHOUSE
REDFORD BIRMINGHAM
25506 Five Mile Road
532-1181 540-3575

for all your bakery needs... EVERYDAY:

- Gift Baskets/Special Orders
- Imported Specialty Foods
- Shepherds Pies
- Shortbread & Cookies
- Scotch Meat Pies
- Scottish Pastries
- Cinnamon Rolls
- Brownies
- Crumpets
- Scones
- Bread
- Steak Pies

CHICKEN POT PIES

4/3.99

Scottish SHORTBREAD

4.49 doz. pkgs. only

CRUMPETS

95¢ pack of 6

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY SPECIAL

Pasties

4 for \$3.99