

Complementary recommendations

THE Complementary Medicines Evaluation Committee has issued a summary of recommendations following its 14 Dec meeting.

The document recommends that high purity 'arabinogalactan' derived from *Larix occidentalis* or *Larix Laricina* is suitable for use in listed therapeutic products.

The CMEC also recommended a maximum daily dose limit of 10mg be adopted for piperine, and said that *Convolvulus arvensis* and *Perioploca sepium* aren't suitable as ingredients.

The raw tuber of *Pinellia ternata* is also not suitable, but traditional preparations of the tuber remain suitable for use in listed medicines.

Wine time with Pharmacy Daily

WELCOME to our regular *Pharmacy Daily* wine feature. We know that many pharmacists enjoy a nice bottle of wine, so have decided to provide a regular column on some of the new wines available.

SOUTH Australia is Australia's biggest wine-producing state...

But it wasn't always that way - Australia's dominant wine region of the first century was Victoria's Yarra Valley.

Vines were first planted 1840, but the region only took off in the 1850's and 60's - around the time gold was discovered just outside of Melbourne in Ballarat and Bendigo, which helped to create a huge population of wealthy individuals looking for luxuries to spend their money on.

As Melbourne's prosperity rose, so did wine consumption so that by 1890, Victoria produced almost 60% of Australia's wine.

But the Victorian stronghold on the Australian Wine industry quickly slipped away, with a slump in interest in table wine.

Recently the Yarra has started to make a comeback, and with its success, new wine regions have popped-up, such as Orange NSW and Frankland River WA.

Varietals from these new areas are now considered by some, to be next big things in wine.

Orange has a continental climate with hot summer days tempered by cool nights - quite similar to Burgundy in France.

Part of the exciting future of Orange is the 2006 Rolling Chardonnay, designed and

Phenyleprine use grows

JOHNSON and Johnson says sales in the Cold and Flu category are stabilising, with the introduction of phenyleprine (PE) products playing a key factor in maintaining the sector's value.

Data released recently showed a 63% drop in volume of pseudoephedrine-containing products stocked by pharmacy over the last two years.

The change is due to heightened awareness of pseudoephedrine diversion for use in illicit drugs.

However the introduction of alternative products containing phenyleprine has seen the combined total of phenyleprine and pseudoephedrine products fall a more modest 11% in volume and 8% in value.

crafted by award winning winemaker Philip Shaw.

Rolling Wines are sourced from continual cool temperatures, coupled with high-land sunshine, which gives the fruit incredible color and vibrant flavors.

Grapes were harvested at night to maximise flavor and the wine received minimal handling and stabilization prior to bottling.

It's especially good with Thai salads, grilled barramundi or pork rilletes, but goes with just about anything! RRP \$20.

The potential of the Frankland River region was first identified by renowned US viticulturalist Dr Harold Olmo, who noted that the climate was similar to Bordeaux in France, with cool summers offering optimum ripening conditions for wine grapes.

An excellent example of the Frankland River region's unique flavor is the 2004 Ferngrove's Sterling King Malbec.

The fourth vintage establishes the winemaker Kim Horton's credentials with the variety.

Dark crimson colour, with fresh back plum, anise, Christmas cake and spice evokes a bouquet of ripeness and complexity.

Great for drinking now, or save it for future meals as it will develop and mature for up to the next 10 years - RRP \$24.

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DISPENSARY CORNER

AUTHORITIES in Uganda have launched mass arrests of 100 people for failing to have toilets in their homes.

It's illegal in Uganda to build a house without proper sanitary facilities - with good reason, because a current cholera epidemic has killed 8 people.

FANCY a festive pregnancy test?

That's exactly what's been developed by the keepers at Dublin Zoo in Ireland, where they're checking the hormone levels of two of their rare female white rhinos.

They've been feeding different coloured glitter to the two animals, so they can tell their faeces apart for analysis.

"The glitter is a safe, non-toxic method of testing the hormone levels in the rhinos," said vet John Bainbridge.

HERE'S a novel way to get around a smoking ban.

A restaurant in the town of Goslar in Germany has installed a "smoking point" which allows patrons to stick their head and hands outside the walls in order to have a puff.

The move follows the introduction of a ban by the local officials which prohibits smoking in public places.



Smoking outside without going outside!

Merry Xmas from Pharmacy Daily

THIS is the last issue of *Pharmacy Daily* for 2007, with our hard working writers taking a break until 07 Jan 08.

Thanks to our thousands of avid readers for your strong support in our first nine months of operation.

We wish you all a fantastic Christmas and New Year, and look forward to continuing to bring you the latest in pharmacy news throughout 2008.



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