



By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

With a third harvest under their belts, Deborah and Steve Schilke are ready to market Broken Arrow Cellars wine in Imperial.

The Schilkes have been growing grape vines for longer than that, but their third grape harvest ended Labor Day weekend. Anywhere from 15-18 people helped pick the grapes for 10 days.

The Schilkes grow vines on about 3 acres, near their house in the country and at the corner of Grant Street and West Highway 6.

This year's crop went to a winery in northwest Nebraska.

However, the Schilkes plan to open a tasting room this fall with their own wine.

It will be housed in Smokin' Leroy's BBQ on East 12th St. Deborah Schilke said the nine varieties will range from semi dry to semi sweet in both red and white table wines.

There are no plans at this time for a gift shop or a separate winery, Schilke said.

"Simplicity is best at this time," she noted.