

Match Chilean sparkling wine with chocolate for Mom

Mother's Day comes but once a year, a special day to recognize our mothers.

Although we should all appreciate our mothers every day of the year, having this day set aside allows us to do something extra special for her.

History states that the Greeks were the first to recognize mothers when they held festivals for the mother of gods Rhea to honour her.

Later in Christianity, they celebrated Mary on the fourth Sunday of Lent.

In North America, a lady named Anne Jarvis is likely responsible for the creation of Mother's Day as each year she would pass out flowers in a church service as a remembrance of her mother. In 1914, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday in May as a national day for mothers which is what we will celebrate tomorrow.

There are several options to show Mom how much you care such as a gift, flowers or a card. I have a few suggestions that may help you with the task of finding that special gift for your mother.

If your mother is a chocolate lover, a great suggestion would be chocolate and sparkling wine or port.

My sparkling wine suggestion is the new Fresita sparkling wine from Chile. It is a blend of traditional white wine grape varieties with the addition of strawberries, very enjoyable with chocolate or on its own.

Chocolate and Port also go hand in hand, I would recommend the Warres Otima Tawny 10-year-old. This elegant and velvety port with hints of cooked ripe fruit and a finish of vanilla and nuts makes this a great companion for dark chocolate with nuts.

A relatively new feature at select NB Liquor stores is a Wine Sampling machine. This self pour wine dispenser allows customers the opportunity to try higher end wines that are temperature controlled for consumption.

A re-loadable wine sampling card is all that is required to start sampling. This is a great suggestion if you're not quite sure what wine your Mom prefers. Check out the machine at the NB Liquor store in Dieppe.

With summer on the horizon, the new line up of ready-to-drink beverages is now in store.

There are some great finds with flavours of lemons, blueberries and peach. Stop by before Mother Day to pick out her favorite flavour to take along with you on you Mother's Day visit.

* Fresita 750 ml: Chile Sparkling/Champagne \$15.99

* Warres Otima Tawny10 Port: \$28.99

* Wine Sampling Card Available in Dieppe; York Street, Fredericton; and soon in Edmundston

Written by Trevor Ingraham, a product advisor at NB Liquor's York Street store in Fredericton.