

Conclusion

It can be deduced from these data that we cannot rely only on must weights for determination of quality in clonal selection. There is no sure relationship between wine quality and must weight differences between clones. Therefore, sensorial wine assessment should be given preference. For this reason, we recommend urgently that in the single selection phases winemaking in 2 replicates should be undertaken. Research with berry size and gas chromatography should not be excluded in such a program because they can be used to indicate the clone quality (Table 8).

Literature cited

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Results of clonal selection with Blauer Frühburgunder (Early Pinot noir) at Geisenheim

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Abstract: Blauer Frühburgunder (Early Pinot noir) is part of the varietal group of Pinot cultivars. The variety has been well known for a long time as being very early ripening in Germany. Ampelographically Frühburgunder is close related to Pinot noir (Blauer Spätburgunder) and has nearly the same characteristics. Wines of Frühburgunder are full-bodied, of good colour and produce very good quality red wines. The wines of this Pinot type need no chaptalization even in cool climate viticulture. But the variety is degenerated and virus infected. This was the reason for its almost entire disappearance in Germany.

At Geisenheim, we selected for more than 20 years Frühburgunder. Many clones were obtained and evaluated. Most of them proved in comparison to Blauer Spätburgunder to be infected with leafroll virus in connection with low yields. In the process of selection we evaluated new clones and found them to be free of virus. The yields of these new Geisenheim clones of Blauer Frühburgunder are reasonable. The wines are of good colour, high quality and natural. No chaptalization is needed. The average yields of our selected Geisenheim clones of Blauer Frühburgunder are as follows: 1983-1987 8230 kg/ha – 81 °Oechsle, 8.6 ‰ total acidity. We started to propagate the best new Geisenheim clones of Blauer Frühburgunder grafted on virus tested rootstocks. The new Geisenheim clones of Blauer Frühburgunder are of great interest in Germany. First plantations had been already established.