

# Sauvignon B

Wine grape variety.



## Origin

The center of France or the South west of France are the 2 possible origins of this variety. Based on published genetic analyses, Sauvignon would be closely related to Savagnin.

## Use

Wine grape variety.

## Name of the variety in France

Sauvignon

## Synonymy

In the European Union, Sauvignon is officially called by other names: Sauvignon blanc (Austria, Germany, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Spain) and Zeleni sauvignon (Slovenia). These synonyms are officially recognized in France regarding plant propagation material.

## Regulatory data

In France, Sauvignon is officially listed in the "Catalogue of vine varieties" on the A list and classified. This variety is also listed in the catalogues of other Member States of the European Union: Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Greece, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

## Description elements

The identification is based on:

- the tip of the young shoot with a very high density of prostrate hairs,
- the young leaves that are yellow or yellow with bronze spots,
- the shoots with green internodes,
- the small to medium circular adult leaves, with five lobes, a slightly open to open petiole sinus, medium teeth with convex sides, no anthocyanin coloration of veins, a twisted, blistered leaf blade, curly on the edges, and on the lower side of the leaves, a low density of erect hairs and a low to medium density of prostrate hairs,
- the ellipsoid berries.

# Evolution of cultivated areas in France

Year	1958	1968	1979	1988	1998	2008	2018
ha	5508	8867	7028	12026	19974	24473	30955

## Genetic profile

Microsatellite	VVS2	VVMD5	VVMD7	VVMD27	VRZAG62	VRZAG79	VVMD25	VVMD28	VVMD32
Allele 1	131	225	239	172	188	246	240	233	239
Allele 2	149	229	257	186	194	248	248	235	255

### Cultivation and agronomic skills

Sauvignon is a very vigorous variety and has a tendency to produce a lot of vegetation. This vigor, which can be very intense the first years, needs to be managed by planting in moderately fertile terroirs, by using weak rootstock and also by using adapted pruning techniques. Along with careful trellising and adapted training systems, finding a favorable micro-climate for the grape clusters is necessary.

### Susceptibility to Diseases and Pests

Sauvignon is very susceptible to grey rot (compact bunches) and wood diseases and sensitive to powdery mildew. It is however not very sensitive to downy mildew.

### Clonal selection in France

The eighteen certified Sauvignon clones carry the numbers 107, 108, 159, 160, 161, 240, 241, 242, 297, 376, 377, 378, 379, 530, 531, 619, 905 and 906. Three conservatories with a total of approximately 400 clones were planted in the Bordeaux region and in the Loire valley in 1993, 1994 and 2001.

### Bibliographic references

- Catalogue des variétés et clones de vigne cultivés en France. Collectif, 2007, Ed. IFV, Le Grau-du-Roi, France.
- Documentary collections of the Centre de Ressources Biologiques de la Vigne de Vassal-Montpellier, INRAE - Institut Agro Montpellier, Marseillan, France.
- Dictionnaire encyclopédique des cépages et de leurs synonymes. P. Galet, 2015, Ed. Libre&Solidaire, France.
- Traité général de viticulture, Ampélographie. P. Viala and V. Vermorel, 1901-1909, Ed. Masson, Paris, France.

### Phenology

Bud burst: 7 days after Chasselas.  
Grape maturity: mid-season, 2 weeks and a half after Chasselas.

### Technological potential

The grape clusters and berries are small in size. Sauvignon can produce very elegant dry white wines: very fine, balanced and typical. The bunches and berries are small. Sauvignon produces elegant, fine, balances and typical dry white wines. Its varietal aromas, especially present in the wine during the first years, are quite specific and can present nuances (broom flowers, blackcurrant, boxwood...) depending on the terroir, the vintage and growing conditions. After late harvests or with noble rot, this variety can be used to produce great liqueur wines.



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