

Chardonnay B

Wine grape variety.



Origin

This variety is originally from Bourgogne (Burgundy) and based on published genetic analyses, would result from the crossbreeding of Pinot and Gouais blanc.

Use

Wine grape variety.

Name of the variety in France

Chardonnay

Synonymy

There is no officially recognized synonym in France nor in the other countries of the European Union, for this variety.

Regulatory data

In France, Chardonnay 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, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

Description elements

The identification is based on:

- the tip of the young shoot with a low to medium density of prostrate hairs,
- the green young leaves with bronze spots,
- the shoots with red internodes,
- the circular adult leaves, entire or with five lobes, with a slightly open petiole sinus, often naked petiole veins, short teeth compared to their width with straight sides, a slightly blistered leaf blade, and on the lower side of the leaves, a low density of erect hairs,
- the round-shaped berries.

Evolution of cultivated areas in France

Year	1958	1968	1979	1988	1998	2008	2018
ha	7325	9805	13042	19869	33070	42017	54993

Genetic profile

Microsatellite	VVS2	VVMD5	VVMD7	VVMD27	VRZAG62	VRZAG79	VVMD25	VVMD28	VVMD32
Allele 1	135	232	239	178	188	244	238	216	239
Allele 2	141	236	243	186	196	246	254	227	271

Cultivation and agronomic skills

Chardonnay is generally pruned long. However, in areas with favorable climatic conditions for floral initiation, vines may also be pruned short. This variety is suited to moderately fertile soils with dominant limestone or marly. In Mediterranean areas, intense drought situations are to be avoided.

Susceptibility to Diseases and Pests

Chardonnay is susceptible to powdery mildew and strongly express grapevine yellows. At the end of its maturation and under strong vigor conditions, grey rot may cause significant damage.

Clonal selection in France

The thirty-one certified Chardonnay clones carry the numbers 75, 76, 77, 78, 95, 96, 116, 117, 118, 119, 121, 122, 124, 125, 128, 130, 131, 132, 277, 352, 414, 415, 548, 549, 809, 1066, 1067, 1068, 1145, 1146 and 1147. A conservatory of more than 340 clones was planted in 1994 in the French department of Saône-et-Loire. An other conservatory of 53 clones was planted in the French department of Champagne in 2015.

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: 1 day before Chasselas.
Grape maturity: early-season, 1 week and a half after Chasselas.

Technological potential

The bunches and berries are small. This variety has an extremely high quality potential and is used to produce dry white wines, sparkling wines and even liqueur wines. The sugar content of the berries can reach high levels while maintaining high acidity. This is what enables the production of particularly well balanced, powerful and ample wines (full-bodied and with volume). The typical aromas are complex and intense (dried fruit, hazel nut, grilled flavor, exotic fruit, butter, etc). Chardonnay is also suited to barrel fermentation and barrel ageing.



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