

Chenin B

Wine grape variety.



Origin

This variety is originally from the Loire Valley and seemingly from Anjou.

Use

Wine grape variety.

Name of the variety in France

Chenin

Synonymy

In Bulgaria, Chenin is officially designated as "Shanin". This synonym is officially recognized in France regarding plant propagation material.

Regulatory data

In France, Chenin 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: Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Italy, Malta, Portugal 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 with bronze spots,
- the adult leaves, with three or five lobes, a slightly open petiole sinus or with slightly overlapping lobes, medium teeth with convex sides, a strong anthocyanin coloration of veins, a blistered leaf blade, and on the lower side of the leaves, a medium density of prostrate hairs,
- the ellipsoid berries.

Evolution of cultivated areas in France

Year	1958	1968	1979	1988	1998	2008	2018
ha	16594	14199	9552	9054	10042	9777	10085

Genetic profile

Microsatellite	VVS2	VMD5	VMD7	VMD27	VRZAG62	VRZAG79	VMD25	VMD28	VMD32
Allele 1	131	225	239	172	188	248	240	233	255
Allele 2	149	229	257	186	194	252	248	247	271

Cultivation and agronomic skills

Chenin is a vigorous and fertile variety whose production potential depends a lot on agronomic soil fertility where it is grown. It is susceptible to heat. Budburst is early. After a spring frost, the secondary buds demonstrate very low fertility.

Susceptibility to Diseases and Pests

Chenin is particularly susceptible to grey rot, powdery mildew and wood diseases. It resists better to downy mildew, black rot and to anthracnose.

Clonal selection in France

The fourteen certified Chenin clones carry the numbers 220, 278, 416, 417, 624, 880, 982, 1018, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1286 and 1348.

More than 300 clones are planted in a conservatory in the wine-growing region of Anjou since 1996. An other conservatory-collection of fifteen or so clones was planted in the French department of Aveyron in 1995.

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: mid-season, 3 weeks to 3 weeks and a half after Chasselas.

Technological potential

The bunches are medium to large and the berries are small to medium in size. Depending on the growing conditions and the terroirs (limestone, schists) this variety can be used to produce sparkling wines, white wines, or liqueur wines. Acidity potential is high and the wines produced are elegant, generally quite lively, with aromas of honey.



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