



Sauvignon B



Name of the variety in France

Sauvignon

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.

Synonyms

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.

Legal information

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.

Use

Wine grape variety.

Evolution of cultivated areas in France

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

Descriptive elements

The identification is based on:

- the tip of the young shoot with a very high density of prostate 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 prostate hairs,

- the ellipsoid berries.

Genetic profile

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

Phenology

Bud burst: 7 days after Chasselas.

Grape maturity: mid-season, 2 weeks and a half after Chasselas.

Suitability for cultivation and agronomic production

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.

Technological potentiality

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.

Clonal selection in France

The twenty certified Sauvignon clones carry the numbers 107, 108, 159, 160, 161, 240, 241, 242, 297, 316, 317, 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 - Montpellier SupAgro, 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.

Description of clones certified in France

Clone no.	Identity and availability		Agronomic data		Technological data	
	Origin	Selection	Fertility	Production level	Sugar level	Color potential
	Year of certification	Agronomic references	Bunch weight	Vigor	Titration acidity	Tannic structure
	Surface area used for propagation (year)		Berry size	Susceptibility to grey rot	Aromatic intensity	Oenological suitability
107	Cher	INRA	high	high	medium	
	1971	Centre Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	high	high	medium	
	0.84 ha		medium	medium	medium	representative wines of the variety
108	Gironde	INRA	medium to high	medium	medium	

Clone no.	Identity and availability		Agronomic data		Technological data	
	<i>Origin</i>	<i>Selection</i>	<i>Fertility</i>	<i>Production level</i>	<i>Sugar level</i>	<i>Color potential</i>
	<i>Year of certification</i>	<i>Agronomic references</i>	<i>Bunch weight</i>	<i>Vigor</i>	<i>Titrable acidity</i>	<i>Tannic structure</i>
	<i>Surface area used for propagation (year)</i>		<i>Berry size</i>	<i>Susceptibility to grey rot</i>	<i>Aromatic intensity</i>	<i>Oenological suitability</i>
1971	Bordelais Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	low to medium	medium to high	medium		
10.25 ha		low to medium	medium	high	aromatic wines, representative of the vine variety	

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159	Cher	INRA	medium	medium	medium to high	
	1972	Bordelais Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	medium	medium	high	
	4.47 ha		medium	high		aromatic wines, sometimes a bit heavy

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160	Cher	INRA	high	high	low to medium	
	1972	Bordelais Centre Loire-Valley	medium to high	medium	medium	
	0.38 ha		high	medium	medium	representative wines of the variety

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161	Gironde	INRA	high	high	low to medium	
	1972	Centre Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	high	high	medium	
	0.30 ha		high	high	medium	representative wines of the variety

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240	Loir-et-Cher	ENTAV	medium	medium	medium	
	1973	Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	medium	high	medium	
	1.22 ha		high	medium to high	medium	representative wines of the variety

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241	Loir-et-Cher	ENTAV	medium to high	medium to high	medium	
	1973	Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley	medium	high	medium	
	3.35 ha		medium	high	medium and irregular	sometimes slightly light wines

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242	Loir-et-Cher	ENTAV	medium to high	medium to high	medium to high	
	1973	Bordelais Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	medium	high	low to medium	
	5.47 ha		medium	medium	high	balanced wines, representative of the variety

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297	Loir-et-Cher	ENTAV	medium to high	medium to high	medium	
	1973	Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	medium	medium to high	medium to high	
	5.62 ha		medium	medium	medium	representative wines of the variety

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316	Gironde	INRA	low to medium	medium	medium	
	1973	Bordelais Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	medium	medium to high	medium	

Clone no.	Identity and availability		Agronomic data		Technological data	
	<i>Origin</i>	<i>Selection</i>	<i>Fertility</i>	<i>Production level</i>	<i>Sugar level</i>	<i>Color potential</i>
	<i>Year of certification</i>	<i>Agronomic references</i>	<i>Bunch weight</i>	<i>Vigor</i>	<i>Titration acidity</i>	<i>Tannic structure</i>
	<i>Surface area used for propagation (year)</i>		<i>Berry size</i>	<i>Susceptibility to grey rot</i>	<i>Aromatic intensity</i>	<i>Oenological suitability</i>
10.76 ha		medium to high	medium	medium to high	aromatic wines (sometimes with muscaté notes)	
ENTAV  INRA®						
317	Gironde	INRA	medium	medium	medium	
	1973	Bordelais Centre Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	medium	medium	medium	
	4.60 ha		medium to high	medium	medium	good typicity in dry and semi-sweet wines
ENTAV  INRA®						
376	Loir-et-Cher	ENTAV	medium	medium	medium	
	1975	Centre Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	medium	medium	medium to high	
	3.75 ha		medium	medium	medium	representative wines of the variety
ENTAV  INRA®						
377	Loir-et-Cher	ENTAV	medium	medium	medium	
	1975	Loire-Valley				
	0.76 ha					representative wines of the variety
ENTAV  INRA®						
378	Loir-et-Cher	ENTAV	medium to high	medium to high	low to medium	
	1975	Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	medium	medium	medium to high	
	1.58 ha			medium	medium to high	representative wines of the variety
ENTAV  INRA®						
379	Loir-et-Cher	ENTAV	medium	medium	medium	
	1975	Loire-Valley				
	0.22ha					representative wines of the variety
ENTAV  INRA®						
530	Cher	INRA	low to medium	low to medium	high	
	1976	Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley Rhône-Valley	low to medium	low	medium	
	1.96 ha		medium	high	high	aromatic and ample wines
ENTAV  INRA®						
531	Cher	INRA	medium	medium	low to medium	
	1976	Bordelais			medium	
					irregular	representative wines of the variety
ENTAV  INRA®						
619	Cher	INRA	medium	medium	low to medium	
	1978	Centre Languedoc Loire-Valley	medium	low	low to medium	
	0.29 ha		medium	high	medium to high	representative wines of the variety
ENTAV  INRA®						
905	Gironde	INRA	medium	medium	medium to high	
	1987	Bordelais Languedoc	medium	medium	medium	
	2.18 ha		low to medium	low to medium	medium	aromatic, round wines, representative of the variety
ENTAV  INRA®						
906	Gironde	INRA	medium	low to medium	medium to high	
	1987	Bordelais Languedoc	low to medium	medium to high	medium	

Clone no.	Identity and availability		Agronomic data		Technological data	
	<i>Origin</i>	<i>Selection</i>	<i>Fertility</i>	<i>Production level</i>	<i>Sugar level</i>	<i>Color potential</i>
	<i>Year of certification</i>	<i>Agronomic references</i>	<i>Bunch weight</i>	<i>Vigor</i>	<i>Titration acidity</i>	<i>Tannic structure</i>
	<i>Surface area used for propagation (year)</i>		<i>Berry size</i>	<i>Susceptibility to grey rot</i>	<i>Aromatic intensity</i>	<i>Oenological suitability</i>
0.71 ha		low to medium	low to medium	medium to high	very aromatic, round, wines, representative of the variety	

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