



Chenin B



Name of vine variety in France

Chenin

Origin

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

Synonymy

There is no officially recognized synonym for this variety in France. In the European Union, Chenin B can officially be designated by other names: Chenin blanc (Cyprus, Czech Republic, Malta, Spain, Bulgaria) and Shanin (Bulgaria).

Regulations

In France, Chenin B is officially listed in the "Catalogue of vine varieties". This variety is likewise listed in the Catalogues of other European Union member states: Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Spain, Italy, Malta, Portugal and the Czech Republic.

Use

Wine grape variety

Evolution of area under vines in France

	1958	1968	1979	1988	1998	2008	2016
ha	16594	14199	9552	9054	10042	9777	10090

Description

Identification signs include:

- tips of young shoots are densely covered with flat-lying hairs,
- young leaves have bronze patches,
- the 3 or 5-lobed adult leaves have a slightly open petiolar sinus, slightly overlapping, medium teeth with convex sides, with heavy anthocyanic pigmentation of veins, bubbled leaf blade and the underside moderately covered with flat-lying hairs,
- Elliptical-shaped berries.

Genetic profile

Microsatellite	VVS2	VVMD5	VVMD7	VVMD27	VRZAG62	VRZAG79	VVMD25	VVMD28	VVMD32
Allel 1	131	225	239	172	188	248	240	233	255
Allel 2	149	229	257	186	194	252	248	247	271

Phenology

Bud burst: 1 day before Chasselas. Grape maturity: period II, 3 to 3 and 1/2 weeks after Chasselas.

Suitability for cultivation and agronomic production

Chenin B is a vigorous and fertile vine variety. production potential depends a lot on agronomic fertility of the soil and where it is grown. It is sensitive to the millerandage. Bud burst is early and after spring frost, the secondary buds demonstrate low fertility.

Sensitivity to diseases and pests

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

Technological potential

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

Clonal selection in France

The 8 approved Chenin B clones carry the numbers 220, 278, 416, 417, 624, 880, 982 and 1018. Over 200 clones are set up in a vineyard in Anjou since 1996.

Bibliographic references

- Catalogue des variétés et clones de vigne cultivés en France. Collectif, 2007, Ed. IFV, Le Grau-du-Roi.
- Documentation interne du Domaine de Vassal. 1949-2011, INRA, Marseillan-plateau.
- Cépages et vignobles de France, tome 2. P. Galet, 1990, Ed. Dehan, Montpellier.
- Ampélographie. P. Viala et V. Vermorel, 1902-1910, Ed. Masson, Paris


Description of clones approved in France

Clone number	Identity and availability		Agronomic data		Technical data	
	Origin	Selection	Fertility	Production level	Sugar content	Potential color
	Year approved	Agronomic references	Weight of grape bunches	Vigor	Total acidity	Tannic structure
	Growing surface area		Size of berries	Sensitivity to Botrytis	Aromatic intensity	Oenological aptitudes
220	Maine-et-Loire	ENTAV	medium	medium	high	
	1973	Val-de-Loire	medium		medium	
	6.01 ha			low to medium		refined, aromatic and powerful wines
ENTAV INRA® Less compact grape clusters. Clone appreciated for its agronomic characteristics and quality of wines produced.						
278	Maine-et-Loire	ENTAV	medium	medium	medium	
	1973	Val-de-Loire	medium			
	0.26 ha					balanced and highly distinctive wines
ENTAV INRA®						
416	Maine-et-Loire	ENTAV	medium	high	low	
	1976	Val-de-Loire	high			
	0.53 ha		medium to high			distinctive wines of the vine variety
ENTAV INRA®						
417	Maine-et-Loire	ENTAV	medium	high	low	
	1976	Val-de-Loire	high			


Clone number	Identity and availability		Agronomic data		Technical data	
	<i>Origin</i>	<i>Selection</i>	<i>Fertility</i>	<i>Production level</i>	<i>Sugar content</i>	<i>Potential color</i>
	<i>Year approved</i>	<i>Agronomic references</i>	<i>Weight of grape bunches</i>	<i>Vigor</i>	<i>Total acidity</i>	<i>Tannic structure</i>
	<i>Growing surface area</i>		<i>Size of berries</i>	<i>Sensitivity to Botrytis</i>	<i>Aromatic intensity</i>	<i>Oenological aptitudes</i>
		medium to high			distinctive wines of the vine variety	

ENTAV  INRA[®]


624	Maine-et-Loire	ENTAV	medium to high	medium to high	medium	
	1979	Val-de-Loire	medium		low to medium	
	0.69 ha			medium to high		distinctive wines of the vine variety

ENTAV  INRA[®] Somewhat irregular production


880	Maine-et-Loire	ENTAV	low to medium	medium	high	
	1986	Val-de-Loire	medium to high			
	4.41 ha			low to medium		powerful, fatty and full-bodied wines

ENTAV  INRA[®] Clone appreciated for its agronomic characteristics and quality of wines produced.


982	Maine-et-Loire	ENTAV	medium	medium	high	
	1992	Val-de-Loire	medium			
	2.00 ha					fatty and powerful dry wines

ENTAV  INRA[®] Early maturity clone, appreciated for its agronomic characteristics and quality of wines produced.


1018	Maine-et-Loire	ENTAV	medium	medium	high	
	1994	Val-de-Loire	medium			
	1.72 ha			medium to high		well suited for the production of sweet wines

ENTAV  INRA[®] Early maturity clone, appreciated for its agronomic characteristics and quality of wines produced


1206	Maine-et-Loire	INRA - IFV	high	medium	high	
	2014	Val-de-Loire	low		medium	
				low to medium	medium to high	good aptitude for the production of quality sweet wine

ENTAV  INRA[®] Clone appreciated for its agronomic characteristics and quality of the wines obtained. Less compact grape clusters and less susceptible to gray rot


1207	Maine-et-Loire	INRA - IFV	medium	low	high	
	2014	Val-de-Loire	low		medium	
				medium	high	good aptitude for the production of quality sweet wine

ENTAV  INRA[®] Somewhat earlier clone, appreciated for its agronomic characteristics and quality of the wines obtained.

1208	Maine-et-Loire	INRA - IFV	medium to high	medium	high	
	2014	Val-de-Loire	medium to low		medium	
				medium	high	good aptitude for the production of quality sweet wine

ENTAV  INRA[®] Somewhat earlier clone, appreciated for its agronomic characteristics and quality of the wines obtained.

1209	Maine-et-Loire	INRA - IFV	low	medium	medium	
	2014	Val-de-Loire	medium to high		medium to high	
				medium	medium	Well suited for production of quality dry white wines

ENTAV  INRA[®] Later maturity clone with an average production level. Good results during the early years.



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