



Folle blanche B



Name of the variety in France

Folle blanche

Origin

This variety from the west of France is undoubtedly originally from the Charentes region. Based on published genetic analyses, it is probably a descendant of Gouais blanc.

Synonyms

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

Legal information

In France, Folle Blanche 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: Cyprus and Spain.

Use

Wine and spirits grape variety.

Evolution of cultivated areas in France

	1958	1968	1979	1988	1998	2008	2018
ha	15865	12104	4296	3566	2862	1979	962

Descriptive elements

The identification is based on:

- the tip of the young shoot with a high density of prostate hairs,
- the adult leaves, with five lobes, deep, open U-shaped lateral sinuses, a closed petiole sinus or with slightly overlapping lobes, short teeth compared to their width at the base with convex sides, a slight to moderate anthocyanin coloration of veins, an involute leaf blade, and the lower of the leaf, a high density of erect hairs and a low density of prostate hairs,
- the round-shaped berries.

Genetic profile

Microsatellite	VVS2	VVMD5	VVMD7	VVMD27	VRZAG62	VRZAG79	VVMD25	VVMD28	VVMD32
Allel 1	131	223	239	178	196	244	238	245	239
Allel 2	149	232	239	186	196	252	248	257	271

Phenology

Bud burst: 4 days after Chasselas.

Grape maturity: mid-season, 3 weeks and a half to 4 weeks after Chasselas.

Suitability for cultivation and agronomic production

This variety is fertile, productive and has an erect bearing which allows it to be pruned short with limited training. Folle blanche is quite sensitive to spring frosts due to its early budburst.

Susceptibility to diseases and pests

This variety is very susceptible to grey rot (very compact bunches), black rot and to mites. It is also fairly sensitive to downy mildew and wood diseases.

Technological potentiality

The bunches and berries are medium in size. Folle blanche wines have a low degree of alcohol and are generally nervy and acidic. In southern areas this acidity drops when completely ripe. When not very affected by grey rot, the wines produced can be used to make excellent spirits. Folle blanche also has a good capacity for making base wine.

Clonal selection in France

The eleven certified Folle blanche clones carry the numbers 280, 281, 354, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 1131 and 1132. A conservatory more than 180 clones was planted in 1993 in the wine-growing region of Nantes. An other conservatory of 70 or so clones was planted in the French department of Charente in 2010.

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
280	Loire-Atlantique	ENTAV	high	medium to high	medium	
	1973	Loire-Atlantique	medium			
	0.36 ha					lively wines, representative of the variety
281	Vendée	ENTAV	medium	medium	medium to high	
	1973	Loire-Atlantique	medium			
	0.27 ha					well representative wines of the variety
354	Non précisée	ENTAV				
	1975	Loire-Atlantique				

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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>

Clone not widely distributed.

558	Non précisée 1978	ENTAV Loire-Atlantique				



Clone not widely distributed.

559	Loire-Atlantique 1978	ENTAV Loire-Atlantique	high medium to high	high	medium	
	0.38 ha					well representative wines of the variety



560	Non précisée 1978	ENTAV Loire-Atlantique				



Clone not widely distributed.

561	Non précisée 1978	ENTAV Loire-Atlantique				



Clone not widely distributed.

562	Non précisée 1978	ENTAV Loire-Atlantique				



Clone not widely distributed.

563	Loire-Atlantique 1978	ENTAV Loire-Atlantique	medium to high high	high	low	
	0.30 ha					representative wines of the variety



1131	Maine-et-Loire 2009	IFV Loire-Valley		low to medium medium	medium to high low to medium medium to high	aromatic wines that last long on the mouth



clone appreciated for its moderate level of production, its lower acidity as well as for the organoleptic qualities of the wines it produces

1132	Loire-Atlantique 2009	IFV Loire-Valley		medium medium	medium to high low to medium high	aromatic and balanced wines that last long on the mouth



Clone appreciated for the organoleptic qualities of the wines it produces.



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