

Yeast Spraying as a Tool for Reducing *Aspergillus carbonarius* Diseases in Grapevines: First results at the field scale

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Abstract

*Within the general frame of the European "ORWINE" STREP Project (SSSPE-CT-2006-22769), we studied the possibility of reducing microbial diseases and, more particularly, development of *Aspergillus carbonarius* (an undesirable fungus responsible for ochratoxin A (OTA) production on grapevines) by spraying *Saccharomyces* yeasts on damaged grape berries before harvest in order to create competition among microorganisms at their surface. The effectiveness of yeast spraying was first evaluated to be very efficient for reducing *Aspergillus carbonarius* development in vitro. A field experiment conducted during the 2007 vintage in an artificially contaminated vineyard reinforces this conclusion.*

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