

The Concept of Terroir

Alain Deloire Professor SupAgro Montpellier, France alain.deloire@supagro.fr

University of Nova Gorica 24 May 2017

Terroir – a trans-disciplinary concept

The word 'terroir' is derived from the Latin.

It became established as a geographical term during the 17th and 18th centuries, when it was employed to describe the characteristics of a homogeneous physical area.

This lead to the first definition in modern language: "a stretch of land limited by its agricultural capacity".

Thus, in the case of viticulture-oenology, the terroir concept has progressively integrated the **agronomic**, **social and cultural** dimensions of the area under consideration.

See for bibliographie: Deloire et al., CAB Reviews: Perspectives in Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Nutrition and Natural Resources (in press, april 2008).



From the vineyard to the wine and sensory: how to capture the complexity?











Temperature Light Wind Air humidity Rainfall

ALA



Frequency of vintages according to Huglin index classified as very warm (HI>3000) for **Griffith** (NSW)

Classification of viticultural climates (Tonietto and Carbonneau, 2004)



Climatic data used are SILO drilled climatic data (Department of Science, Information Technology and the Arts, Queensland State Government, Australia).

Cold night index for period January-February, Griffith

Classification of viticultural climates (Tonietto and Carbonneau, 2004) Warm nights: >18 Temperate nights: >14≤18 Cool nights: >12≤14 Very cool nights: ≤12



Climatic data used are SILO drilled climatic data (Department of Science, Information Technology and the Arts, Queensland State Government, Australia).

Day and night temperature and link to wine styles?



Is Transcriptomic Regulation of Berry Development More Important at Night than During the Day?

Markus Rienth^{1,2}, Laurent Torregrosa², Mary T. Kelly³, Nathalie Luchaire^{2,4}, Anne Pellegrino⁴, Jérôme Grimplet⁵, Charles Romieu⁶*

1 Fondation Jean Poupelain, Javrezac, France, 2 INRA-SupAgro, UMR AGAP, Montpellier, France, 3 Laboratoire d'Oenologie, UMR1083, Faculté de Pharmacie, Montpellier, France, 4 INRA, UMR LEPSE, Montpellier, France, 5 ICVV (CSIC, Universidad de La Rioja, Gobierno de La Rioja), Logroño, Spain, 6 INRA, UMR AGAP, Montpellier, France

9273 developmentally modulated probsets.

All day-detected transcripts were modulated at night, whereas 1843 genes were night-specific.





Cultivars (clones)

Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Riesling,...

Cabernet Sauvignon, Shiraz, Merlot, Chamboursin...

















While tasting and be a member of a "confrerie bachique"

You need a bit of equipment

The holy grail of wine typicality?



A French example: Chablis



Principal component analysis (Axes F1 & F2: 97.89%) of 52 Sauvignon Blanc Wines in the Western Cape Province of South Africa. The style of wine, in terms of intensity of tropical and/or green characteristics, see mainly related to the thermal condition of the regions at the macrocimatic level (warn versus cool). At the bunch level (microclimate), light and temperature will therefore influence berry composition and the style of wine. Factor 1 (F1) indicated by the horizontal axis explains 90.49% of the variance in the data set.





harvest dates

macroclimate

microclimate

Un Terroir



Sol calcaire, formé au Kimméridgien (il y a environ 150 millions d'années), lorsqu'une mer chaude et peu profonde recouvrait Chablis Contient des fossiles de petites huîtres appelées *Exogyra virgula*.





Les Climats

Les Climats peuvent être décrits comme l'ADN du vignoble de Bourgogne

- parcelles précisément délimitées bénéficiant de conditions géologiques et
 - climatiques spécifiques

identifiées et mises en valeur par le travail des

hom the town day

www.chablesj

Le vignoble de Chablis, situé sur une zone géographique relativement concentrée, s'exprime au travers d'un seul cépage et puise son authenticité dans un sol datant du Kimmeridgien, Il offre une large palette de vins et d'expressions qui séduisent un large public.

Le vignoble de Chablis c'est :

- un seul cépage, le Chardonnay
- un sous sol Kimmeridgien
- un savoir-faire acquis à travers des générations de vignerons
- 4 niveaux d'appellation
- 5400 ha
- 40 millions de bouteilles
- une présence dans près de 100 pays
- une pureté inimitable

Appellation Chablis Premier Cru



CHABLIS Appellation Chablis Grand Cru

Décret de 1938 Sur les pentes abruptes de la rive droite du Serein où Maligny le Kimmeridgien affleure Lignorelles C par endroits Exposition La-Chapelle principalement sud/sud Vaupelteigne ouest Poinchy Orientation qui permet Beines d'être baignée par la Milly lumière du matin au soir Elevage minimum jusqu'au 15 mars de l'année qui suit la récolte Courges **1** Appellation Chablis Préhy Grand Cru, 7 Climats



www.chahlis.fr











The holy grail of wine typicality?



Principal component analysis (Axes F1 & F2: 97.89%) of 52 Sauvignon Blanc Wines in the Western Cape Province of South Africa. The style of wine, in terms of intensity of tropical and/or green characteristics, seems mainly related to the thermal condition of the regions at the macroclimatic level (warm versus cool). At the bunch level (microclimate), light and temperature will therefore influence bettyr composition and the style of wine. Factor 1 (F1) indicated by the horizontal axis explains 90.49% of the variance in the data and factor 2 (F2) indicated by the vertical axis explains 7.0% of the variance in the data set.





macroclimate

microclimate

harvest dates



Climate: primary driving factor of berry ripening

Observations (axes F1 and F2: 97.89%)



Principal component analysis (Axes F1 & F2: 97.89%) of 52 Sauvignon Blanc Wines in the Western Cape Province of South Africa. The style of wine, in terms of intensity of tropical and/or green characteristics, seems mainly related to the thermal condition of the regions at the macroclimatic level (warm versus cool). At the bunch level (microclimate), light and temperature will therefore influence berry composition and the style of wine. Factor 1 (F1) indicated by the horizontal axis explains 90.49% of the variance in the data and factor 2 (F2) indicated by the vertical axis explains 7.40% of the variance in the data set.



Deloire, 2007

The holy grail of wine typicality?



Principal component analysis (Axes F1 & F2: 97.89%) of 52 Sauvignon Blanc Wines in the Western Cape Province of South Africa. The style of wine, in terms of intensity of tropical and/or green characteristics, seems mainly related to the thermal condition of the regions at the macroclimatic level (warm versus cool). At the bunch level (microclimate), light and temperature will therefore influence betty composition and the style of wine. Factor 1 (F1) indicated by the horizontal axie explains 09.49% of the variance in the data and factor 2 (F2) indicated by the vertical axis explains 7.40% of the variance in the data set.





macroclimate

microclimate

harvest dates

Training system...Vertical shoot positioning



(L'Ormarins)

Effect of canopy manipulation on abiotic factors and grape and wine composition of *Vitis vinifera* L. cv. Sauvignon Blanc

Deloire A., <u>Šuklje K.</u>, Coetzee Z., Lisjak K., Antalick G., Brandt J.

Institute for Wine Biotechnology, Department of Viticulture and Oenology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Agricultural Institute of Slovenia, Central Laboratories, Slovenia



Methoxypyrazines

- IBMP (3-isobutyl-2-methoxypyrazine)
- IPMP (3-isopropyl-2-methoxypyrazine)
- MPsB (2-methoxy-3-sec-butylpyrazine) (Augustyn *et. al.*, 1982)



- Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet franc, Carmenere
- 0.5-2 ng/L in water, synthetic wine and white wine; 10-16 ng/L in red wines (Sala *et al*, 2004)













4-methyl-4-sulfanylpentan-2-one (4MSP); 0.8 ng/L

3-sulfanyl-hexylacetate (3SHA); 4 ng/L

3-sulfanylhexan-1-ol (3SH); 60 ng/L (Darriet *et al.*, 1995; Tominaga *et al.*, 1998; Dubourdieu *et al.*, 2006)









- Tannins
- Organic acids
- Aromatic precursors

- Pyrazines

- Polyamines
- Amino acids

Berry composition







Both sides leaf removal (**B-LR**)



PCA Bi-Plot of Chemical and Sensory parameters



The holy grail of wine typicality?



Principal component analysis (Axes F1 & F2: 97.89%) of 52 Sauvignon Blanc Wines in the Western Cape Province of South Africa. The style of wine, in terms of intensity of tropical and/or green characteristics, seems mainly related to the thermal condition of the regions at the macroclimatic level (warm versus cool). At the bunch level (microclimate), light and temperature will therefore influence betty composition and the style of wine. Factor 1 (F1) indicated by the horizontal axie explains 09.49% of the variance in the data and factor 2 (F2) indicated by the vertical axis explains 7.40% of the variance in the data set.





macroclimate

microclimate

harvest dates

Napping[®] Results



Sauvignon blanc



Sauvignon blanc







Sauvignon blanc Profile Progression



Chenin blanc







Chenin blanc Profile Progression



The holy grail of wine typicality?



A French example: Chablis



Principal component analysis (Axes F1 & F2: 97.89%) of 52 Sauvignon Blanc Wines in the Western Cape Province of South Africa. The style of wine, in terms of intensity of tropical and/or green characteristics, seem analy related to the thermal condition of the regions at the macrocimatic level (warn versus cool). At the bunch level (microcimate), light and temperature will therefore influence berry composition and the style of wine. Factor 1 (F1) indicated by the horizontal axis explains 90.49% of the variance in the data set.





macroclimate

microclimate

harvest dates

Product typicality

"The **typicality** of an agricultural product is its property of belonging to a **distinct type** and identified by a **reference group** of individuals whose **know-how** is distributed throughout the sector, i.e. knowing how **to**:

- establish,
- produce,
- evaluate
- and appreciate.

This property should not be confused with conformity to a norm; quite the contrary, it accepts variety within the type.

If it is supposed that typicality corresponds to an agreed taste, three different production strategies could be envisaged:

a) the **typicality is revealed**, in which case **oenological processes** are **adapted to the revelation of the dominant harvest potential**, and here, "terroir" effect includes **vintage variability**;

b) the **typicality is "constructed"**, in which case the potentialities of different grape are identified, the grapes are fermented separately or together and then the wine is blended to obtain a style corresponding to a **target category**;

c) the **typicality is adapted to market demand**, in which case oenological techniques are tailored to the harvest potential to obtain a product that immediately **responds to market demand** (the industrial approach to winemaking: *coffee Pinotage, citrus Chardonnay, green Sauvignon blanc*).

See for bibliographie: Deloire et al., CAB Reviews: Perspectives in Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Nutrition and Natural Resources (in press, april 2008).



Thanks you for your attention

alain.deloire@supagro.fr

avane