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Color intensity and tonality of wines from selected Prokupac grapevine variety genotypes in the Župa wine-growing district (Serbia)

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Abstract

Due to the genetic characteristics of autochthonous Serbian red wine variety Prokupac, which yields light red wines, improvement of color intensity through addition of small quantities of colored wine produced from grapes of other grapevine varieties is a common oenological practice. Precisely with the aim of selecting prospective genotypes of this variety with more favorable wine color intensity, wines from which could be marketed in the future as monovarietal wines, research was carried out on 16 previously selected genotypes of the Prokupac wine variety from the Župa wine-growing district (PDO Tri Morave, Serbia), in particular, eight genotypes from the Latkovac locality (mark: L) and eight genotypes from the Drenča locality (mark: D). This paper presents the results of the analysis of color intensity (A420, A520, A620 and total color intensity) and tonality of wines produced from selected genotypes of the Prokupac wine variety from the 2019 and 2021 vintages. The analyzed wines were produced by microvinification in the Centre for Viticulture and Oenology in Niš. Color intensity and wine tonality of all samples from both vintages were analyzed in 2024, through application of the WineScan™ SO2 interferometer. Taking into consideration that values of individual and total color intensity, as well as wine tonality from grapes of the 16 selected genotypes of the Prokupac variety covered a wide range, certain genotypes were selected as particularly positive, especially the genotypes with marks 10 D, 12 D, and others from the Drenča locality, as well as genotype 2 L, and others from the Latkovac locality. These genotypes could be characterized as prospective and could be used for further research with the intention of future production of monovarietal wines with better coloration, without the need for coupage with more intensely colored wines produced from grapes of other grapevine varieties.

Key words: Prokupac, wine, color intensity, wine tonality