

II.2.3 Alcoholic fermentation

Definition:

Transformation of grape sugars into ethanol, carbon dioxide and secondary products.

Objective :

Production of wine.

Prescriptions :

- a) Fermentation can take place:
 - Spontaneously by means of yeasts naturally present on the skins of the grapes, in the musts and in cellars ;
 - By inoculation of must or of crushed grapes with selected yeasts, before or during the fermentation (*see II.2.3.1 'Inoculation with yeasts'*).
- b) The progress of the alcoholic fermentation can be influenced:
 - By addition of activator substances (*see Activation of alcoholic fermentation II.2.3.2 and II.2.3.4 'Treatment with yeast ghosts'*);
 - By aeration of the crushed grapes or of the fermenting must (*see Aeration II.2.3.5*);
 - By control of the fermentation temperature as a function of the type of wine desired (*see II.2.3.6 'Interruption of alcoholic fermentation by physical processes'*);
 - By all other acceptable interventions aiming to favour alcoholic fermentation, to restrain it or to stop it.

Recommendation of OIV:

Admitted