



MERENZA0 (BASTARDO)

In Spain is known with the name of Maria Ardoña in the Ribeira Sacra, in Valdeorras and in the Island of Tenerife. It is cultivated under the name of Bastardo in Portugal, especially, in the Douro region (1,100 ha in 2000). It is cultivated in France (Trousseau), Australia (Gros Cabernet), South Africa, California (Chauché noir), Argentina and Crimea. Genetic analysis shows that it probably descends from the Savagnin Blanco. It has small, compact clusters, and small-medium, elliptical, bluish-black berries with a high sugar content. This averagely vigorous variety has an almost upright growth habit. The bud-burst period is early. It prefers good exposures in rich soils, to reach a good ripening. Adaptable to different training systems and short or long pruning, depending on climatic conditions. Quite resistant to diseases. In the stage of over-ripening, it is quite susceptible to botrytis. The yield is average-low, with an early ripening period. It produces very alcoholic wines of great aromatic complexity. With aging, the aromas evolve from forest red fruits to dried plums and coffee. Suitable especially for production of dessert wines using dried grapes.

Clones in propagation: polyclonal blend, 48JBP.

Clones undergoing homologation procedure: VCR157.

CULTIVATED AREA IN SPAIN

YEAR	1990	1999	2009
HECTARES	0	0	112

CULTIVATED AREA IN FRANCE

YEAR	1958	1968	1979	1988	1998	2006
HECTARES	166	143	76	85	139	165