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**Quality Assurance and Control Processed Foods and Beverages** 

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Instituto de Agroquímica y Tecnología de Alimentos Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas Jaime Roig 11, 46010 Valencia, Spain IMPORTANCE OF THE QUALITY CONTROL OF VINEGAR FOR VALORIZATION OF TYPICAL PRODUCTS

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#### Abstract

Study of the fixed fraction of 101 vinegars has been performed. Cluster analysis is able to separate the different vinegar from the different vegetal sources. The main important parameters seem to be glycerol, tartaric acid and proline for wine products; sorbitol for apple vinegar and a general lack of all the fixed compounds in alcohol vinegars always well distinguished from the others.

#### Introduction

By law vinegar is the yield of the acetic fermentation of agricultural alcoholics like wine, cider, beer and so on. These products belong to fermented vinegar, to be distinguished from that deriving from the fermentation of diluted distilled ethanol (distilled vinegar). All these products may be commercialised in EEC under the denomination of vinegar (1) and at least in four countries also diluted acetic acid solutions are present on the market, not always clearly distinguished from the others.

Each country uses the typical alcoholic product to elaborate its own vinegar: Italy and Spain wine, France wine and cider, etc. Nevertheless vinegar was for long considered a spoilage product without particular interest. Only recently has this tendency weakened showing a new trend to differentiate the product, particularly regarding origin and alcoholic matrix.

From this there arises the necessity to specify objective parameters of quality able to discriminate the different products, particularly for wine vinegar, a typically Mediterranean product. It must be emphasized that not only the genuiness of the product is our main purpose, for which specific analyses have already been developed (2), but determination of vinegar quality and the related parameter for its identification. This task is even more difficult for vinegar compared to other fermented products, because it undergoes double fermentation.

This paper is a preliminary attempt to face this problem particularly with analysis of the fixed compounds. It will be completed with volatile compounds and sensory evaluation.

#### Materials and methods

The vinegars analysed, were purchased on the market. They are divided into different classes according to the different alcoholic source. Another classification was made taking into account the different total acidity content (<7% and >7 %) according to Italian law (3) that distinguishes between normal (6%) and quality vinegar (7%).

The analyses performed are reported in tables 1 and 2 where the means and their standard errors of wine and other source vinegars are shown. The statistical elaboration of the outcomes was performed with SPSS/PC package.

Some of the samples were not statistically elaborated for two reasons. In some cases the small amount of the sample did not allow us to perform the whole set of analyses, in others the presence of only one sample made any statistical elaboration impossible. In this last case some considerations were made with all the limitations for the outlined situation

#### Results and Discussion

Table 3 shows the results of the Duncan test. Letter "a" indicates the lowest mean and the others the greater ones organised in alphabetical order of size.

Alcohol vinegars of are the most easily recognizable due to their extremely poor composition. All the substances are at the lowest levels except for acidity whose value is only due to the volatile fraction. Other substances worthy of mention are the polyols, such as arabitol and mannitol, and acetoin produced by bacterial metabolism since distilled alcohol is an extremely pure product.

Alcohol	DETERMINATIONS		ALCOHOL	APPLE	HONEY	MALT
Total acidity g/100 mL Volatile acidity g/100 mL Volatile acidity g/100 mL 7.59 ± 0.64 4 6.5 ± 0.13 5.82 5.4 fixed acidity g/100 mL 7.59 ± 0.64 4 6.5 ± 0.13 5.82 5.4 fixed acidity g/100 mL 7.59 ± 0.60 0.97 ± 0.14 0.82 1.0 fixed acidity g/100 mL 7.59 ± 0.63 4 6.6 ± 0.13 5.82 5.4 fixed acidity g/100 mL 7.59 ± 0.60 0.97 ± 0.14 0.82 1.0 fixed acidity g/100 mL 7.59 ± 0.60 0.97 ± 0.14 0.82 1.0 fixed acidity g/10 mL 7.59 ± 0.00 0.97 ± 0.14 0.82 1.0 fixed acidity g/1. 0.23 ± 0.03 2.23 ± 0.14 0.96 1.2 fixed acidity of ash mcq/L 1.47 ± 0.13 24.11 ± 1.72 9.60 8.4 fixed acidity g/1. 0.22 ± 0.12 1.60 ± 0.27 3.42 1.60 fixed acidity g/1. 0.23 ± 0.02 3.02 ± 0.03 2.72 2.7 fixed acidity g/1. 0.06 ± 0.04 0.68 ± 0.26 0.18 0.5 fixed acidid g/1. 0.06 ± 0.04 0.68 ± 0.26 0.18 0.5 fixed acidid g/1. 0.06 ± 0.04 0.68 ± 0.26 0.18 0.5 fixed acidid g/1. 0.02 ± 0.01 0.15 ± 0.05 0.41 fixed acidid g/1. 0.02 ± 0.01 0.15 ± 0.05 0.41 fixed acidid g/1. 0.03 ± 0.02 0.53 ± 0.06 0.20 0.3 1.23 fixed acidid g/1. 0.03 ± 0.02 0.53 ± 0.06 0.20 0.3 1.23 fixed acidid g/1. 0.03 ± 0.02 0.53 ± 0.06 0.20 0.3 1.23 fixed acidid g/1. 0.03 ± 0.02 0.53 ± 0.06 0.20 0.3 1.23 fixed acidid g/1. 0.03 ± 0.02 0.53 ± 0.06 0.20 0.3 1.23 fixed acidid g/1. 0.03 ± 0.02 0.53 ± 0.06 0.20 0.3 1.23 fixed acidid g/1. 0.03 ± 0.03 0.53 ± 0.06 0.20 0.3 1.23 fixed acidid g/1. 0.03 ± 0.03 0.03 ± 0.040 0.170 0.39 1.24 fixed acidid g/1. 0.09 ± 0.190 0.330 ± 0.040 0.170 0.39 1.24 fixed acidid g/1. 0.00 ± 0.00 0.77 ± 0.02 0.80 0.7  ixed acidid g/1. 0.00 ± 0.00 0.77 ± 0.02 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 ± 0.00 0.70 0.30 0.70 0.70 0.70 0.70 0.70	Density		1.0010 ± 0.0002	1,0080 ± 0,0010	1.0200	1.0100
Volatile acidity         g/100 mL         7.59 ± 0.64         4.65 ± 0.13         5.82         5.4           Fixed acidity         g/100 mL         0.07 ± 0.00         0.97 ± 0.14         0.82         1.0           Reduced extract         g/L         1.73 ± 0.93         15.80 ± 1.34         25.00         9.5           Ash         g/L         0.23 ± 0.03         2.23 ± 0.14         0.96         1.2           Alkalinity of ash         mcq/L         1.47 ± 0.13         24.11 ± 1.72         9.60         8.4           Glycerol         g/L         0.23 ± 0.12         1.60 ± 0.27         3.42         1.6           Proline         mg/L         3 ± 2         13 ± 3         2         17           pH         2.34 ± 0.02         3.02 ± 0.01         0         0           Malic acid         g/L         0.09 ± 0.05         0.02 ± 0.01         0           Malic acid         g/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.72 ± 0.09         0.68         0.4           Succinic acid         g/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.72 ± 0.09         0.68         0.4           Succinic acid         g/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.72 ± 0.09         0.68         0.4           Succinic acid         g/L <td>Alcohol</td> <td>% vol.</td> <td>0.46 ± 0.31</td> <td>0.22 ± 0.04</td> <td>0.96</td> <td>0.06</td>	Alcohol	% vol.	0.46 ± 0.31	0.22 ± 0.04	0.96	0.06
Fixed acidity         g/100 mL         0.07 ± 0.00         0.97 ± 0.14         0.82         1.0           Reduced extract         g/L         1.73 ± 0.93         15,80 ± 1.34         25,00         9.5           Ash         g/L         0.23 ± 0.03         2.23 ± 0.14         0.96         1.2           Alkalinity of ash         mcg/L         1.47 ± 0.13         24,11 ± 1.72         9.60         8.4           Glycerol         g/L         0.23 ± 0.12         1.60 ± 0.27         3.42         1.6           Proline         mg/L         3 ± 2         13 ± 3         2         1.7           Proline         mg/L         0.02         3.02 ± 0.03         2.72         2.7           Tartaric acid         g/L         0.06 ± 0.04         0.68 ± 0.26         0.18         0.5           Lactic acid         g/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.72 ± 0.09         0.68         0.4           Succinic acid         g/L         0.02 ± 0.01         0.15 ± 0.05         0.41           Succinic acid         g/L         0.03 ± 0.02         0.53 ± 0.06         0.20         0.3           Tannic polyphenols         mg/L         7 ± 7         7 ± 7         138 ± 27         49         3	Total acidity	g/100 mL	7.46 ± 0,64	5.36 ± 0.13	6,48	6.12
Reduced extract   g/L   1.73 ± 0.93   15.80 ± 1.34   25.00   9.5	Volatile acidity	g/100 mL	7.59 ± 0.64	4.65 ± 0.13	5.82	5,49
Reduced extract	Fixed acidity	g/100 mL	0.07 ± 0.00	0.97 ± 0.14	0,82	1,05
Ash g/L	Reduced extract	g/L	1.73 ± 0.93	15.80 ± 1.34		9.50
Alkalinity of ash	Ash	100				1.20
Glycerol   g/L   0.23 ± 0.12   1.60 ± 0.27   3.42   1.60	Alkalinity of ash	meg/L	1.47 ± 0.13		335, 1135, 1235	8.40
Proline	Glycerol	0.007	0.23 ± 0.12		20000000	1.60
PH	Proline	- 15.30				179
Tartaric acid         g/L         0.09 ± 0.05         0.02 ± 0.01         0           Malic acid         g/L         0.06 ± 0.04         0.68 ± 0.26         0.18         0.5           Lactic acid         g/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.72 ± 0.09         0.68         0.4           Citric acid         g/L         0.02 ± 0.01         0.15 ± 0.05         0.41         0.4           Succinic acid         g/L         0.03 ± 0.02         0.53 ± 0.06         0.20         0.3           Total polyphenols         mg/L         7 ± 7         601 ± 205         133         23           Tannic polyphenols         mg/L         7 ± 7         138 ± 27         49         3           Non-tannic polyphenols         mg/L         0 ± 0         463 ± 196         84         20           Catechins         mg/L         0 ± 0         463 ± 196         84         20           Catechins         mg/L         0 ± 0         463 ± 196         84         20           Catechins         mg/L         0 ± 0         463 ± 196         84         20           Catechins         mg/L         0 ± 0         0.330 ± 0.040         0.170         0.39           Luminosity         %         0.	pH	Ŭ			10 Sec. 1985	2.78
Malic acid         g/L         0.06 ± 0.04         0.68 ± 0.26         0.18         0.5           Lactic acid         g/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.72 ± 0.09         0.68         0.4           Citric acid         g/L         0.02 ± 0.01         0.15 ± 0.05         0.41           Succinic acid         g/L         0.03 ± 0.02         0.53 ± 0.06         0.20         0.3           Total polyphenols         mg/L         7 ± 7         601 ± 205         133         23           Tannic polyphenols         mg/L         7 ± 7         138 ± 27         49         3           Non-tannic polyphenols         mg/L         0 ± 0         463 ± 196         84         20           Catechins         mg/L         0 ± 0         463 ± 196         84         20           Catechins         mg/L         0 ± 0         463 ± 196         84         20           O.D. 420 nm         0.190 ± 0.190         0.330 ± 0.040         0.170         0.39           Luminosity         %         0.70 ± 0.06         0.77 ± 0.02         0.80         0.7           Saturation         %         22.0 ± 6.0         28.3 ± 2.1         15.5         34           Dominance         nm         579 ± 0.54<	The Transfer of the Control of the C	g/L			727.5	0
Lactic acid	Malic acid	3.000			3082	0.57
Succinic acid   g/L   0.03 ± 0.02   0.53 ± 0.06   0.20   0.3     Total polyphenols   mg/L   7 ± 7   601 ± 205   133   23     Tannic polyphenols   mg/L   0 ± 0   463 ± 196   84   20     Catechins   mg/L   7 ± 4   220 ± 58   134   2     Catechins   mg/L   7 ± 4   220 ± 58   134   2     O.D. 420 nm   0.190 ± 0.190   0.330 ± 0.040   0.170   0.39     Luminosity   %   0.70 ± 0.06   0.77 ± 0.02   0.80   0.7     Saturation   %   22.0 ± 6.0   28.3 ± 2.1   15.5   34     Dominance   nm   579 ± 0.54   576 ± 0   575   57     Iron   mg/L   0.60 ± 0.08   3.34 ± 0.45   3.54   0.3     Copper   mg/L   0.02 ± 0.02   0.07 ± 0.02   0.10   0.1     Manganese   mg/L   0.01 ± 0.01   0.42 ± 0.07   1.15   0.14     Lead   mg/L   0.01 ± 0.01   0.02 ± 0.01   0.05   0.2     Sodium   mg/L   73 ± 4   113 ± 16   49   22     Calcium   mg/L   73 ± 4   113 ± 16   49   22     Calcium   mg/L   73 ± 4   113 ± 16   49   22     Acetoin   mg/L   0.0 ± 0.1   45 ± 9.5   2   10     Xylitol   mg/L   0.0 ± 0.1   45 ± 9.5   2   10     Sorbitol   mg/L   18 ± 6.9   117 ± 21.5   39   185     Sorbitol   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Sorbitol   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Sorbitol   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L   12 ± 9.8   3172 ± 475.0   393   185     Calcium   mg/L	Lactic acid		0.02 ± 0.02	0,72 ± 0,09	773.00 5 1 30.00	0.43
Total polyphenols mg/L	Citric acid	g/L	0.02 ± 0.01	0.15 ± 0.05	0.41	0
Tannic polyphenols         mg/L         7 ≠ 7         138 ± 27         49         3           Non-tannic polyphenols         mg/L         0 ± 0         463 ± 196         84         20           Catechins         mg/L         2 ± 1         50 ± 18         13           Proanthocyanidins         mg/L         7 ± 4         220 ± 58         134         2           O.D. 420 nm         0.190 ± 0.190         0.330 ± 0.040         0.170         0.39           Luminosity_         %         0.70 ± 0.06         0.77 ± 0.02         0.80         0.7           Saturation         %         22.0 ± 6.0         28.3 ± 2.1         15.5         34           Dominance         nm         579 ± 0.54         576 ± 0         575         57           Iron         mg/L         0.60 ± 0.08         3.34 ± 0.45         3.54         0.3           Copper         mg/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.07 ± 0.02         0.1         0.           Zine         ng/L         0.03 ± 0.03         0.16 ± 0.02         0.10         0.1           Manganese         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.42 ± 0.07         1.15         0.1           Lead         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.02	Succinic acid	g/L	$0.03 \pm 0.02$	0.53 ± 0.06	0,20	0.35
Non-tannic polyphenols   mg/L   0 ± 0   463 ± 196   84   20	Total polyphenols	mg/L	7 ± 7	601 ± 205	133	239
Catechins         mg/L         2 ± 1         50 ± 18         13           Proanthocyanidins         mg/L         7 ± 4         220 ± 58         134         2           O.D. 420 nm         0.190 ± 0.190         0.330 ± 0.040         0.170         0.39           Luminosity         %         0.70 ± 0.06         0.77 ± 0.02         0.80         0.7           Saturation         %         22.0 ± 6.0         28.3 ± 2.1         15.5         34           Dominance         nm         579 ± 0.54         576 ± 0         575         57           Iron         mg/L         0.60 ± 0.08         3.34 ± 0.45         3.54         0.3           Copper         mg/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.07 ± 0.02         0.1         0.           Zinc         mg/L         0.03 ± 0.03         0.16 ± 0.02         0.10         0.1           Manganese         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.42 ± 0.07         1.15         0.1           Lead         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.02 ± 0.01         0.05         0.2           Sodium         mg/L         14 ± 4         27 ± 5         26         1           Calcium         mg/L         38 ± 27         894 ± 81 <td< td=""><td>Tannic polyphenols</td><td>mg/L</td><td>7 + 7</td><td>138 ± 27</td><td>49</td><td>32</td></td<>	Tannic polyphenols	mg/L	7 + 7	138 ± 27	49	32
Proanthocyanidins         mg/L         7 ± 4         220 ± 58         134         2           O.D. 420 nm         0.190 ± 0.190         0.330 ± 0.040         0.170         0.39           Luminosity         %         0.70 ± 0.06         0.77 ± 0.02         0.80         0.7           Saturation         %         22.0 ± 6.0         28.3 ± 2.1         15.5         34.           Dominance         nm         579 ± 0.54         576 ± 0         575         57           Iron         mg/L         0.60 ± 0.08         3.34 ± 0.45         3.54         0.3           Copper         mg/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.07 ± 0.02         0.1         0.           Zinc         mg/L         0.03 ± 0.03         0.16 ± 0.02         0.10         0.1           Manganese         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.42 ± 0.07         1.15         0.1           Lead         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.02 ± 0.01         0.05         0.2           Sodium         mg/L         14 ± 4         27 ± 5         26         1.           Calcium         mg/L         73 ± 4         113 ± 16         49         22           Potassium         mg/L         7 ± 3.5	Non-tannic polyphenols	mg/L	0 ± 0	463 ± 196	84	207
O.D. 420 nm       0.190 ± 0.190       0.330 ± 0.040       0.170       0.39         Luminosity       %       0.70 ± 0.06       0.77 ± 0.02       0.80       0.7         Saturation       %       22.0 ± 6.0       28.3 ± 2.1       15.5       34.         Dominance       nm       579 ± 0.54       576 ± 0       575       57         Iron       mg/L       0.60 ± 0.08       3.34 ± 0.45       3.54       0.3         Copper       mg/L       0.02 ± 0.02       0.07 ± 0.02       0.1       0.         Zinc       mg/L       0.03 ± 0.03       0.16 ± 0.02       0.10       0.1         Manganese       mg/L       0.01 ± 0.01       0.42 ± 0.07       1.15       0.1         Lead       mg/L       0.01 ± 0.01       0.02 ± 0.01       0.05       0.2         Sodium       mg/L       14 ± 4       27 ± 5       26       1         Calcium       mg/L       38 ± 27       894 ± 81       483       36         Magnesium       mg/L       3.5       693 ± 118.6       1874       30         Erythritol       mg/L       1 ± 1.1       24 ± 2.8       10       1         Xylitol       mg/L       18 ± 6.9 <t< td=""><td>Catechins</td><td>mg/L</td><td>2 ± 1</td><td>50 ± 18</td><td>13</td><td>7</td></t<>	Catechins	mg/L	2 ± 1	50 ± 18	13	7
Luminosity_ % 0.70 ± 0.06 0.77 ± 0.02 0.80 0.7 Saturation % 22.0 ± 6.0 28.3 ± 2.1 15.5 34. Dominance num 579 ± 0.54 576 ± 0 575 575 575 1ron mg/L 0.60 ± 0.08 3.34 ± 0.45 3.54 0.3 Copper mg/L 0.02 ± 0.02 0.07 ± 0.02 0.1 0.2 Zinc mg/L 0.03 ± 0.03 0.16 ± 0.02 0.10 0.1 Manganese mg/L 0.01 ± 0.01 0.42 ± 0.07 1.15 0.14 Lead mg/L 0.01 ± 0.01 0.02 ± 0.01 0.05 0.2 Sodium mg/L 14 ± 4 27 ± 5 26 1. Calcium mg/L 73 ± 4 113 ± 16 49 2. Calcium mg/L 38 ± 27 894 ± 81 483 36. Magnesium mg/L 7 ± 3.5 693 ± 118.6 1874 304 Erythritol mg/L 0 ± 0.1 45 ± 9.5 2 11 Xylitol mg/L 0 ± 0.1 45 ± 9.5 2 11 Xylitol mg/L 0 ± 0.1 45 ± 9.5 2 11 Xylitol mg/L 18 ± 6.9 117 ± 21.5 39 Mannitol mg/L 12 ± 9.8 3172 ± 475.0 393 185		mg/L	7 ± 4	220 ± 58	134	21
Saturation         %         22.0 ± 6.0         28.3 ± 2.1         15.5         34.           Dominance Inm         579 ± 0.54         576 ± 0         575         57           Iron         mg/L         0.60 ± 0.08         3.34 ± 0.45         3.54         0.3           Copper         mg/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.07 ± 0.02         0.1         0.           Zinc         mg/L         0.03 ± 0.03         0.16 ± 0.02         0.10         0.1           Manganese         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.42 ± 0.07         1.15         0.1           Lead         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.02 ± 0.01         0.05         0.2           Sodium         mg/L         14 ± 4         27 ± 5         26         1           Calcium         mg/L         73 ± 4         113 ± 16         49         2           Potassium         mg/L         38 ± 27         894 ± 81         483         36           Magnesium         mg/L         7 ± 3.5         693 ± 118.6         1874         300           Erythritol         mg/L         1 ± 1.1         24 ± 2.8         10         1           Xylitol         mg/L         0 ± 0.1         45 ± 9.5	O.D. 420 nm		0.190 ± 0.190	0.330 ± 0,040	0.170	0.390
Saturation         %         22.0 ± 6.0         28.3 ± 2.1         15.5         34.           Dominance         nim         579 ± 0.54         576 ± 0         575         57           Iron         mg/L         0.60 ± 0.08         3.34 ± 0.45         3.54         0.3           Copper         mg/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.07 ± 0.02         0.1         0.           Zinc         mg/L         0.03 ± 0.03         0.16 ± 0.02         0.10         0.1           Manganese         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.42 ± 0.07         1.15         0.1           Lead         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.02 ± 0.01         0.05         0.2           Sodium         mg/L         14 ± 4         27 ± 5         26         1           Calcium         mg/L         73 ± 4         113 ± 16         49         2c           Potassium         mg/L         38 ± 27         894 ± 81         483         36           Magnesium         mg/L         7 ± 3.5         693 ± 118.6         1874         303           Erythritol         mg/L         1 ± 1.1         24 ± 2.8         10         1           Xylitol         mg/L         0 ± 0.1         45 ± 9.5	Luminosity	%	$0.70 \pm 0.06$	0.77 ± 0.02	0.80	0.70
Dominance   nm   579 ± 0.54   576 ± 0   575   575   1601   mg/L   0.60 ± 0.08   3.34 ± 0.45   3.54   0.35	Saturation	%	22.0 ± 6.0	28.3 ± 2,1	\$25.40.40m	34.4
Iron	Dominance	nın	579 ± 0,54	576 ± 0		575
Copper         mg/L         0.02 ± 0.02         0.07 ± 0.02         0.1         0.           Zinc         mg/L         0.03 ± 0.03         0.16 ± 0.02         0.10         0.10           Manganese         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.42 ± 0.07         1.15         0.16           Lead         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.02 ± 0.01         0.05         0.2           Sodium         mg/L         14 ± 4         27 ± 5         26         1           Calcium         mg/L         73 ± 4         113 ± 16         49         2           Potassium         mg/L         38 ± 27         894 ± 81         483         36           Magnesium         mg/L         22 ± 7         46 ± 5         27         5           Acetoin         mg/L         7 ± 3.5         693 ± 118.6         1874         30           Erythritol         mg/L         1 ± 1.1         24 ± 2.8         10         1           Xylitol         mg/L         0 ± 0.1         45 ± 9.5         2         1           Arabitol         mg/L         34 ± 9.5         110 ± 27.5         607         42           Sorbitol         mg/L         12 ± 9.8         3172 ± 475.0	Iron	mg/L	$0.60 \pm 0.08$	3.34 ± 0.45	4,000,000	0.37
Zinc         mg/L         0.03 ± 0.03         0.16 ± 0.02         0.10         0.11           Manganese         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.42 ± 0.07         1.15         0.14           Lead         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.02 ± 0.01         0.05         0.2           Sodium         mg/L         14 ± 4         27 ± 5         26         1           Calcium         mg/L         73 ± 4         113 ± 16         49         20           Potassium         mg/L         38 ± 27         894 ± 81         483         36           Magnesium         mg/L         22 ± 7         46 ± 5         27         50           Acetoin         mg/L         7 ± 3.5         693 ± 118.6         1874         30           Erythritol         mg/L         1 ± 1.1         24 ± 2.8         10         1           Xylitol         mg/L         0 ± 0.1         45 ± 9.5         2         1           Arabitol         mg/L         18 ± 6.9         117 ± 21.5         39         39           Mannitol         mg/L         12 ± 9.8         3172 ± 475.0         393         185	Copper	mg/L	0.02 ± 0.02		75.853	0.3
Manganese         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.42 ± 0.07         1.15         0.14           Lead         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.02 ± 0.01         0.05         0.2           Sodium         mg/L         14 ± 4         27 ± 5         26         1           Calcium         mg/L         73 ± 4         113 ± 16         49         20           Potassium         mg/L         38 ± 27         894 ± 81         483         36           Magnesium         mg/L         22 ± 7         46 ± 5         27         57           Acetoin         mg/L         7 ± 3.5         693 ± 118.6         1874         30           Erythritol         mg/L         1 ± 1.1         24 ± 2.8         10         1           Xylitol         mg/L         0 ± 0.1         45 ± 9.5         2         1           Arabitol         mg/L         18 ± 6.9         117 ± 21.5         39         39           Mannitol         mg/L         34 ± 9.5         110 ± 27.5         607         42           Sorbitol         mg/L         12 ± 9.8         3172 ± 475.0         393         185	Zinc	1000000	$0.03 \pm 0.03$			0.10
Lead         mg/L         0.01 ± 0.01         0.02 ± 0.01         0.05         0.2           Sodium         mg/L         14 ± 4         27 ± 5         26         1           Calcium         mg/L         73 ± 4         113 ± 16         49         20           Potassium         mg/L         38 ± 27         894 ± 81         483         36           Magnesium         mg/L         22 ± 7         46 ± 5         27         55           Acetoin         mg/L         7 ± 3.5         693 ± 118.6         1874         30           Erythritol         mg/L         1 ± 1.1         24 ± 2.8         10         1           Xylitol         mg/L         0 ± 0.1         45 ± 9.5         2         1           Arabitol         mg/L         18 ± 6.9         117 ± 21.5         39         3           Mannitol         mg/L         34 ± 9.5         110 ± 27.5         607         42           Sorbitol         mg/L         12 ± 9.8         3172 ± 475.0         393         185	Manganese	mg/L	$0.01 \pm 0.01$			0.10
Sodium         mg/L         14 ± 4         27 ± 5         26         1           Calcium         mg/L         73 ± 4         113 ± 16         49         20           Potassium         mg/L         38 ± 27         894 ± 81         483         36           Magnesium         mg/L         22 ± 7         46 ± 5         27         53           Acetoin         mg/L         7 ± 3.5         693 ± 118.6         1874         303           Erythritol         mg/L         1 ± 1.1         24 ± 2.8         10         1           Xylitol         mg/L         0 ± 0.1         45 ± 9.5         2         1           Arabitol         mg/L         18 ± 6.9         117 ± 21.5         39         39           Mannitol         mg/L         34 ± 9.5         110 ± 27.5         607         42           Sorbitol         mg/L         12 ± 9.8         3172 ± 475.0         393         185		1220				0.23
Calcium       mg/L       73 ± 4       113 ± 16       49       20         Potassium       mg/L       38 ± 27       894 ± 81       483       36.         Magnesium       mg/L       22 ± 7       46 ± 5       27       57         Acetoin       mg/L       7 ± 3.5       693 ± 118.6       1874       303         Erythritol       mg/L       1 ± 1.1       24 ± 2.8       10       1         Xylitol       mg/L       0 ± 0.1       45 ± 9.5       2       11         Arabitol       mg/L       18 ± 6.9       117 ± 21.5       39       11         Mannitol       mg/L       34 ± 9.5       110 ± 27.5       607       42         Sorbitol       mg/L       12 ± 9.8       3172 ± 475.0       393       183		11/2004-700/05			5332	15
Potassium         mg/L         38 ±         27         894 ±         81         483         36.           Magnesium         mg/L         22 ±         7         46 ±         5         27         55.           Acetoin         mg/L         7 ±         3.5         693 ±         118.6         1874         305           Erythritol         mg/L         1 ±         1.1         24 ±         2.8         10         1           Xylitol         mg/L         0 ±         0.1         45 ±         9.5         2         11           Arabitol         mg/L         18 ±         6.9         117 ±         21.5         39         1           Mannitol         mg/L         34 ±         9.5         110 ±         27.5         607         43           Sorbitol         mg/L         12 ±         9.8         3172 ±         475.0         393         185	10.0	21/01/20/20	73 ± 4		300,000	26
Magnesium       mg/L $22 \pm 7$ $46 \pm 5$ $27$ $55$ Acetoin       mg/L $7 \pm 3.5$ $693 \pm 118.6$ $1874$ $303$ Erythritol       mg/L $1 \pm 1.1$ $24 \pm 2.8$ $10$ $11$ Xylitol       mg/L $0 \pm 0.1$ $45 \pm 9.5$ $2$ $11$ Arabitol       mg/L $18 \pm 6.9$ $117 \pm 21.5$ $39$ $2$ Mannitol       mg/L $34 \pm 9.5$ $110 \pm 27.5$ $607$ $42$ Sorbitol       mg/L $12 \pm 9.8$ $3172 \pm 475.0$ $393$ $186$	Potassium	mg/L	38 ± 27		573 SOP-AD-02 **	365
Acetoin       mg/L       7 ± 3.5       693 ± 118.6       1874       303         Erythritol       mg/L       1 ± 1.1       24 ± 2.8       10       1         Xylitol       mg/L       0 ± 0.1       45 ± 9.5       2       1         Arabitol       mg/L       18 ± 6.9       117 ± 21.5       39       39         Mannitol       mg/L       34 ± 9.5       110 ± 27.5       607       42         Sorbitol       mg/L       12 ± 9.8       3172 ± 475.0       393       185		mg/L,	22 ± 7		24/3/5/3	52
Erythritol       mg/L       1 ± 1.1       24 ± 2.8       10       1         Xylitol       mg/L       0 ± 0.1       45 ± 9.5       2       1         Arabitol       mg/L       18 ± 6.9       117 ± 21.5       39       39         Mannitol       mg/L       34 ± 9.5       110 ± 27.5       607       43         Sorbitol       mg/L       12 ± 9.8       3172 ± 475.0       393       183	(1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)	mg/L	7 ± 3,5	693 ± 118,6	25/25/25/25/25/25	308
Xylitol       mg/L       0 ±       0.1       45 ±       9.5       2       1         Arabitol       mg/L       18 ±       6.9       117 ±       21.5       39       9         Mannitol       mg/L       34 ±       9.5       110 ±       27.5       607       42         Sorbitol       mg/L       12 ±       9.8       3172 ±       475.0       393       185	100 March 100 100		l ± 1.1			- 11
Arabitol     mg/L     18 ±     6.9     117 ±     21.5     39     9       Mannitol     mg/L     34 ±     9.5     110 ±     27.5     607     42       Sorbitol     mg/L     12 ±     9.8     3172 ±     475.0     393     183	500 TO 1000 TO	mg/L	0 ± 0.1	45 ± 9.5	2000	11
Mannitol mg/L $34 \pm 9.5$ $110 \pm 27.5$ $607$ 43 Sorbitol mg/L $12 \pm 9.8$ $3172 \pm 475.0$ $393$ $183$		mg/L	18 ± 6.9	117 ± 21.5	39	5
Sorbitol mg/L 12 ± 9.8 3172 ± 475.0 393 185	0.000	mg/L	34 ± 9,5		100000000	43
		mg/L	12 ± 9.8	3172 ± 475.0	393	185
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	scyllo-Inositol	mg/L	1 ± 0.7	4 ± 1.2	10	1
	myo-Inositol	mg/L	11 ± 6.2	78 ± 9.8	0.400000	86

Tab.1: Analytical determinations of non-wine vinegars. Means and standard errors for each class of products,

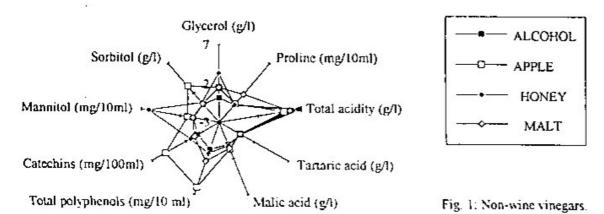
Proanthocyanichns
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10 300 ITALIAN VINEGARS 1508 ± 0% 203 ± 014 1668 ± 144 437 ± 031 0.50 ± 0.15 077 + 577 + 475 + 1002 + 0001 1013 ± 0000 1015 ± 004 628 ± 005 607 ± 009 027 ± 021 1231 ± 021 178 ± 024 1306 ± 026 134 ± 016 134 ± 016 134 ± 016 137 ± 016 Kid 65 52 ± 1949 ± 135 1014 # 0:001 012417 156 ± 037 087 ± 020 1210 ± 229 1273 ± 544 1775 ± 540 1975 ± 010 084 ± 016 093 ± 007 0 33 # 0 02 010 - 100 White 512 ± 036 1700 ± 032 1235 ± 032 1034 ± 736 184 ± 031 087 ± 082 576 700 10 + 50 + NON - ITALIAN VINEGARS 0 77 9 1015 + 0000 0 38 + 010 6 55 + 044 5 57 + 023 14 14 + 223 12 14 + 020 20 93 + 3 59 2 14 + 030 20000-3 1021 36 00 36 00 390 73 98 018 ± 8 + 000 1 87

	ITALIAN WINE VINEGAR						NON-ITALIAN WINE VINEGAR				NON-WINE VINEGAR			
84.0	Decelored 6"	White e7*	White > T	Red < 7	Ked > 7	Heme- made	White < 7°	White > >	Hed < 7°	Red > ?*	Alcahol > 7º	Apple < 6"	)/ab	Henry *
Density	abc	abedef	edegh	abedefg	ceh		ahed	c de fgh	bedelgh	ede (yh	ab	abedelsh	1bcde	cdefe
Alcoloit						4								
Total aculity	abed	bede :	df	bede !	d٢	a b c	a b	cdef	bode	cdef	df		•bc4	shede
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Fored workty	300					ſ	bed	e f	ь	e e		bca	bede	abc
Reduced extract	ab	bed	beel	bede	beef	fg	bede	bdefg	pedel	bedef		cef	1 be	
Glycerol	a b c	cde	fh	cdefg	fgh	edef	bed	bc	bede	bede		Ъ	abe	cefgb
Prokos	abd	ad .	ď	ad .	đ	ı b d	a d	a b d	d	∎d		abe	abcó	
pH	bed	bed	lı lı	bed	bed	bedef	bede	bed	bed	bed		tef	bc	b
Tartane read	ac	6	d	c .	d	•	16	e d		t		a b		
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Successe send	be :	bc	bc	bc :	be	De	ь	Ьc	be	bc			bc	bc
Total polyphenols	46	abed :	abcdef	peghi .	egi :	sbedeighe	abrde	abedelah	beeghi	abedefghe		beeghi	shedele	.bc
Prounthocyanidans		abc	abede	b(hi :	fi i	abedefgh.	abed	abed	abdfgh	abedelgh		sbedefe	ab .	abede
Potassem	16	b .	ь	b	ъ	b	ъ	ь	b	ъ	1	ъ -	a b	ab
Enythertol	bedef	bedefg	f h	hedefg	belgh	ħ	bode	abed	bdcfgh	fgh		.bc	a b	.bc
Xyldol		A :										ь	,	
Ambdol .	shed	sed .	abc	abc	abe	atre	a cd	a cd	acd	e d	10	10		
Mannitol	ab	460	+14	abedef.	sbede	* bcd		a b	abcdef	b4f		sbede	a b	E
Sorbitol	1											b	1	
cyllo-inoutol	abed	acde :	acef	acde[	4 f	8	abe	abedef	zedef	df	a 6	ah		abs
myo-Incested	ab	bede :	bdfgh	bedef	dh	1	bedefk	bedeigh	dgh	dh		be	ahed	b

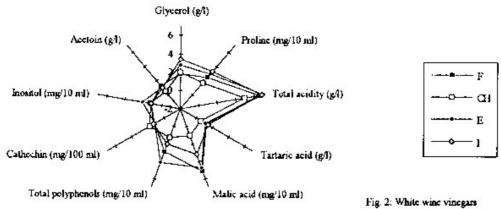
Tab.3: Duncan test (p = 0.05) for all the samples.

Apple vinegars are lower in total acidity and have higher pH, probably due to the low alcoholic strength of cider, the presence of malic acid easily metabolised by lactic bacteria and the lack of tartaric acid. Also proline is present in low quantities. On the other hand, polyphenolic fractions are more represented in apple products, particularly leucoanthocyanidins probably due to easily oxydizable composition of apple and sometimes to wine-making technology. According to Santa Maria and coll. (4) the polyalcohols, with the exclusion of glycerol, could be considered a fingerprint of the raw material particularly in the case of the apple. In these samples sorbitol is the main compound of this class and as a matter of fact its content, over 80% of the whole class, is indicative of its apple origin. In a less sharp way mannitol characterizes our honey vinegar.

All these vinegars are characterized by very low quantities of tartaric acid, this being a fingerprint of wine origin. Also proline and glycerine are typical of wine products. The former is in any case, found in comparable amounts in malt vinegar while the latter is well represented in honey vinegars (fig. 1).



Among the non-Italian wine vinegars there are slight or no differences, with the exception of fixed acidity. This surprising fact is due to the wide variability of the samples because of their geographical origin, the technology adopted for their production and their composition which enhance the variance within each class. The Swiss samples are characterised by poorer compositions of all the fixed parameters compared to the Italian ones. French and German vinegars are in an intermediate situation as shown in figure 2.



The use of cluster analysis applied to all white vinegars, employing all the determinations, gave the dendrogram of figure 3 where three main groups are defined: wine, alcohol and apple vinegars.

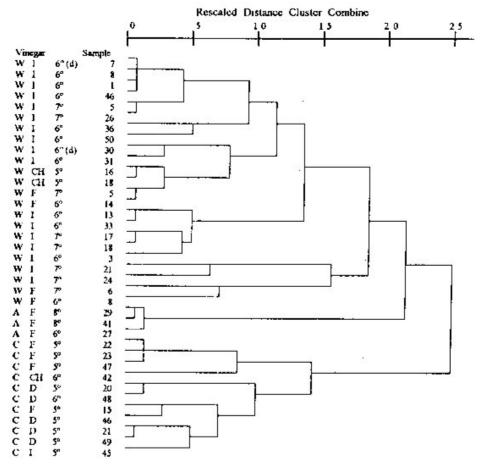


Fig. 3: Clusters of the white vinegars.

Legend: W = wine; A = alcohol, C = apple; I = Italy; CH = Swiss; F = France; D = Germany; d = decolorized

Among the wine samples there are situations of great similarity: the first four samples (7, 8, 1, 46) are produced by the same firm but commercialised with different labels. Similar events are shown for samples 5 and 26, and for samples 30 and 31.

Concerning total acidity, in conformity with Italian law, no cluster is recognizable. It must be said that sometimes the experimental acidity was not in accordance with that declared particularly for non-Italian vinegar. In a further cluster analysis considering only the Italian samples this classification is perfectly defined as a direct consequence of Italian legislation.

Different-country vinegars are not gathered in different clusters either, the similarity of composition on geographic origin being prevalent as for samples 16 and 18 (Switzerland) grouped with samples 5 and 14 (France), all of them characterised by a weak composition of the fixed compounds.

Apple vinegars are well resolved from other products and the classification of the different country is better defined than for wine: samples 22, 23 and 47 are French, sample 42, well separated from the others, is Swiss, but the situation is more complex for German samples. In this last case the cluster includes a French and an Italian sample. A cluster elaboration performed on this class alone gave a different distribution of the samples regardless of origin. In this analysis quality seems to be more important as a grouping factor as confirmed by organoleptic assays still in progress. In any case this last consideration is still under investigation at the moment, and in furure works we shall probably be able to be more precise.

The best results of cluster analysis are achieved for alcohol vinegar. In fact, these samples are strictly clustered together (samples 27, 41 and 29). This behaviour is due to the simple composition of these products very diversified compared to other vinegars.

#### Conclusions

The use of cluster analysis seems to give some help for this first approach to the complex problem of vinegar quality and to identification of its descriptors. Using of the analytical parameters we are able to distinguish products of different botanical and geographical origin.

Exploiting all the analyses in our possession and the whole potential of statistics (principal component analysis, discriminant analysis) this goal will probably be reached. In further papers we are going to study these problems considering also aroma compounds.

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