1 Bioprotection by non-Saccharomyces yeasts in oenology: evaluation of O₂ consumption and impact on

- 2 acetic acid bacteria
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8 ABSTRACT

9 Bioprotection by yeast addition is increasingly used in oenology as an alternative to sulfur dioxide (SO₂). Recent studies have also shown that it is likely to consume dissolved O_2 . This ability could limit O_2 for other 10 microorganisms and the early oxidation of the grape must. However, the ability of yeasts to consume O_2 in a 11 12 context of bioprotection was poorly studied so far considering the high genetic diversity of non-Saccharomyces. 13 The first aim of the present study was to perform an O_2 consumption rate (OCR) screening of strains from a large multi species collection found in oenology. The results demonstrate significant inter and intra species 14 diversity with regard to O₂ consumption. In the must *M. pulcherrima* consumes O₂ faster than Saccharomyces 15 cerevisiae and then other studied non-Saccharomyces species. The O2 consumption was also evaluate in the 16 context of a yeast mix used as industrial bioprotection (Metschnikowia pulcherrima and Torulaspora 17 delbrueckii) in red must. These non-Saccharomyces yeasts were then showed to limit the growth of acetic acid 18 19 bacteria, with a bioprotective effect comparable to that of the addition of sulfur dioxide. Laboratory experiment 20 confirmed the negative impact of the non-Saccharomyces yeasts on Gluconobacter oxydans that may be related 21 to O_2 consumption. This study sheds new lights on the use of bioprotection as an alternative to SO_2 and suggest 22 the possibility to use O₂ consumption measurements as a new criteria for non-Saccharomyces strain selection 23 in a context of bioprotection application for the wine industry.

24 **KEYWORDS**

25 Oenology; bioprotection; *Metschnikowia pulcherrima*; *Gluconobacter oxydans*; O₂ consumption rate;

26 sulphur dioxide alternative

27 HIGHLIGHTS

28 - OCR is significantly different both at the inter et intra species level

- 29 Bioprotection and cold temperatures limit the growth of acetic acid bacteria
- 30 OCR is a new parameter for industrial bioprotection selection

31 **1. INTRODUCTION**

32 Sulfur dioxide (SO_2) is the most used additive in the winemaking process. Reducing its doses with 33 alternatives is the subject of research projects, particularly in oenology (Lisanti et al., 2019). Its multiple 34 properties, namely antimicrobial, antioxidant, antioxidasic and its low cost explain its wide use. 35 However, SO₂ in winemaking process is pointed out because it can cause intolerance in humans (Timbo et al., 2004; Vally et al., 2009; Warner et al., 2000). Indeed, SO₂ has been shown to play a role in adverse 36 reactions in a small population of "sulfite-sensitive" individuals (about 1%) (Papazian, 1996). In 37 38 addition, the consumer's view of the agrifood products has changed as they are now more aware of 39 preservative compounds, and thus wish to limit these products in items they consume (Apaolaza et al., 40 2017; D'Amico et al., 2016). On the basis of health problems, European regulations (Conventional wines: Regulation (EC) N° 606/2009 Annex1B) reduced maximum doses authorized in winemaking by 41 42 50 mg/L for organic specifications: the doses must be under 100 mg/L of total SO₂ for red wines (< 2g/L43 of sugars). Thus, searching for SO_2 alternatives has been a major challenge in oenology for the last decade. Among them, chemical solutions (ascorbic acid, sorbic acid, DMDC, etc.) or physical methods 44 45 (filtration and thermal treatment) that can permits to reduce microbial spoilage of must or wine have 46 been proposed (Lisanti et al., 2019). An emerging alternative concerns bioprotection (Nardi, 2020). This 47 strategy is largely applied for food preservation (Leyva Salas et al., 2017; Lücke, 2000) and has more 48 recently been developed for wine (Di Gianvito et al., 2022; Morata et al., 2019); it consists in the early 49 addition of microorganisms (mainly non-Saccharomyces yeasts) directly to the harvest, in the press or at vatting to replace the first SO₂ addition. 50

51 Recent studies have established the effectiveness of bioprotection in oenology, particularly related to its 52 antimicrobial properties and niche occupation during the winemaking process. The use of non-53 Saccharomyces yeast in grape must, indeed allows the colonization of the environment, thus preventing 54 the development of spoilage microorganisms during the prefermentary stages, such as Brettanomyces 55 bruxellensis (Simonin et al., 2020, 2018; Windholtz et al., 2021d, 2021a). Acetic acid bacteria (AAB) 56 are among other microorganisms susceptible to alter the musts and wines quality. AAB produce acetic 57 acid, ethyl acetate leading to "vinegar" and "nail polish-remover" off-favors as well as SO₂ combining 58 products such as gluconic acid (Bartowsky and Henschke, 2008; Du Toit and Pretorius, 2000; 59 Ramachandran et al., 2006). The impact of sulfur dioxide on AAB is not clearly established (Andorrà et 60 al., 2008; Joyeux et al., 1984a) and other means to limit their impact and growth such as filtration and 61 flash pasteurization have been proposed (Lisanti et al., 2019). A recent work reported a potential action 62 of a mix of Torulaspora delbrueckii and Lachancea thermotolerans applied as a bioprotection agent on 63 AAB population levels at the start of alcoholic fermentation (Escribano-Viana et al. 2022).

Recently, the antioxidant potential of non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts was reported to be related to their oxygen consumption (Giménez et al., 2023; Windholtz et al., 2021b). Simonin et al. (2018) showed a decrease of dissolved O_2 in white must treated with bioprotection (*Torulaspora delbrueckii*). *Metschnikowia pulcherrima* was also reported to reduce browning intensity of the must because it consumes oxygen very efficiently and reduces its availability for the polyphenol oxidases (Giménez et al., 2023).However, only few strains and species of non-*Saccharomyces* yeast have been considered until now and their impact on AAB population level was so far not been evaluated.

The aims of this work were (i) to study the antioxidant properties and to assess the oxygen consumption of non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts; (ii) to evaluate their impact on AAB as bioprotection in a context of no added sulfur dioxide during red winemaking process. A large collection of non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts representative of the genetic diversity of the species naturally present in grape must was considered. The O₂ consumption of non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts and of a commercial bioprotection agent composed of two species *Torulaspora delbrueckii* and *Metschnikowia pulcherrima* (BP) on grape must was studied as well as their impact on AAB growth.

79 2. MATERIALS & METHODS

80 2.1. INTER AND INTRASPECIES DIVERSITY OF YEAST AND O₂ CONSUMPTION

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2.1.1.Biological material

82 Strains from different collections and belonging to different species were selected: Torulaspora delbrueckii (n=7), Saccharomyces cerevisiae (n=8), Hanseniaspora uvarum (n=8), Lachancea 83 thermotolerans (n=9) and Saccharomyces uvarum (n=4), Metschnikowia pulcherrima (n=11, Sipiczki, 84 85 2022), (Table S1).. From storage at -80°C, each strain was cultivated on YPD-based medium (10 g/L Yeast extract, 10 g/L Peptone, 20 g/L D-Glucose, and 25 g/L agar, pH adjusted to 4.8 with 86 orthophosphoric acid) and then subcloned on the same medium. Species identity was validated using 87 88 MALDI-TOF MS (Windholtz et al., 2021a). Since no data were available for *M. pulcherrima* species, 89 isolates were analyzed by MALDI-TOF MS and D1/D2 sequencing analysis. A main spectra library 90 (MSP) dendrogram was constructed using a correlation distance measure and an average linkage 91 algorithm with the MALDI Biotyper Compass Explorer (Bruker-Daltonics).

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2.1.2. Experimental design

For yeast precultures, one colony was suspended in 10 mL of pasteurized red grape juice (Jafaden, France) and grown at 25°C for 2-3 days under agitation. A sample was taken to evaluate the initial viable population level. Dead and viable cell population were estimated by flow cytometer (CytoFlex, Beckman Coulter) using propidium iodide at 3μ L/mL. To study the impact of yeast on oxygen consumption, the grape juice was inoculated at 10^6 viable cells/mL with the different strains. Viable population levels were measured with the flow cytometer (CytoFlex, Beckman Coulter) at the start of experiment then at the end, after O₂ was completely consumed.

100 2.2. EVALUATION OF OXYGEN CONSUMPTION RATE

101 The O_2 consumption by yeast was studied on an industrial pasteurized organic grape juice 102 (Jafaden, France). The commercial bioprotection preparation used was Zymaflore®Egide (ZE) (Laffort, Floirac, France), is composed of a mix of Torulaspora delbrueckii and Metschnikowia pulcherrima 103 (50/50 w/w). Pure cultures of Torulaspora delbrueckii (ADY TD), Metschnikowia pulcherrima (ADY 104 105 MP) of ZE commercial Zymaflore®Egide bioprotection (Laffort, Floirac, France) and Saccharomyces cerevisiae (ADY SC) with Zymaflore®X-pure (Laffort, Floirac, France) strains were also used to study 106 107 their O₂ consumption capacity. Active Dry Yeast (ADY) was rehydrated according to the manufacturer's 108 recommendations at 50mg/L corresponding to 10⁶ UFC/mL. Different inoculation rates, 12.5 mg/L, 25 mg/L and 50 mg/L were tested (ADY ZE). 109

In all experiments, a negative and positive control were carried out, consisting of non-inoculated grape juice or ZE (50 mg/L) inoculated juice respectively. To evaluate the O_2 consumption of dead yeast cells and the impact of the preculture two treatments were considered: heat inactivated ADY ZE (80 °C, 30 min), ZE Inoculum at 50 mg/L (10⁶ cells/mL). A yeast preculture (protocol described in section 2.1.2)

114 was established for "ZE Inoculum" treatment.

115 **2.3.** MONITORING DISSOLVED O_2 AND EVALUATION OF THE O_2 CONSUMPTION RATE (OCR)

Grape juice oxygenated at saturation by bubbling with air $(8 \pm 0.2 \text{ mg/L})$ and bioprotection was 116 distributed in 120 mL glass bottles (Duran® borosilicate glass equipped with oxygen sensor spot) in 117 triplicates. Grape juice saturated with O2 without yeast addition was the negative control. Bottles were 118 sealed and incubated at 13°C with agitation, to reproduce typical conditions of a pre-fermentation 119 maceration. In order to measure dissolved oxygen, a compact 4 channel FireStingO2 oximeter 120 121 (Pyroscience, Bionef, France) with optics fiber and sensor spot OXSP5 (Bionef, Montreuil, France) 122 inserted inside the 250 mL glass bottle was used. The bottles were filled up to the brim with the 123 experimental grape juice, closed with GL45 with septum caps (Bromobutyl, D. Dutscher, Merignac, 124 France) and slightly shaken during measurements by a multiple-position stirring plate (Thomas 125 Scientific, New Jersey, USA). The dissolved oxygen measurements started after a 10 min equilibration 126 time and were carried out by automatic on-line measurement at intervals of 10 seconds, until the total 127 O₂ consumption was achieved.

From the data of dissolved O_2 over time, the O_2 consumption as function of the time (ΔO_2 between initial O₂ concentration and final O₂ concentration each 10 seconds) was calculated for each modality. According to Ferreira et al. (2015), a trend curve and its equation were obtained using Microsoft Excel (2015) and the Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR) expressed as mg.O₂ consumed/L/h was calculated (an example is presented Figure S.3). Concerning the inter and intra species diversity on O₂ consumption (2.1), OCR was expressed as mg.O₂ consumed/L/h/viable cell.

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2.4. IMPACT OF BIOPROTECTION ON ACETIC ACID BACTERIA

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2.4.1.Experimental design at the industrial scale

Merlot grapes from the 2018 vintage were produced in Pomerol AOC estate (Bordeaux, south-west,
France). In the winery, the harvest was crushed according to standard practices and distributed in new
225 L french oak barrels. The experiment was carried out in duplicate. A pre-fermentation maceration
at 10°C was performed during 48h before inoculation with 200 mg/L of commercial *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (Excellence® XR) to conduct alcoholic fermentation (AF).

Three treatments were applied: 1) bioprotection ZE was inoculated at 50 mg/L (BP modality) directly
on to the grapes following the manufacturer's indications; 2) 50 mg/L of SO₂ were added at vatting (SO₂
modality); 3) no SO₂ nor bioprotection ZE (Without SO₂ modality) were applied. Throughout the

winemaking process, 10 mL samples of must were collected in sterile conditions at different stages in 144 each barrel: vatting, 24h of maceration, 48h of maceration and start AF (loss of 0.01 density points). 145 146 Acetic acid bacteria populations were monitored by quantitative PCR (Q-PCR) using specific primers 147 (laboratory personal communication). For this analysis, cells were collected from samples after 148 centrifugation at 9000 rpm during 10 min and were rinsed twice with EDTA 50mM before being frozen 149 and conserved at -20°C until subsequent DNA extraction. For DNA extraction and Q-PCR reactions, 150 the protocol was followed according to Zott et al. (2010). Classical chemical analysis (residuals sugars, 151 total acidity, malic acid, pH, ethanol (v/v) and volatile acidity was obtained with Enology Analyzer Y15 (BioSystems, Spain) and a WineScanTM Flex (Foss, Hillroed, Denmark) coupled to Foss Integrator 2 152 153 software (version 2.0.2).

154 2.4.2 Laboratory scale

The impact of the bioprotection agent ZE on *Gluconobacter oxydans* was tested at two temperatures: 10 and 15 °C. From storage at -80°C, strain 08ba05(isolated fromgrape berries, CRBO collection) was cultivated on a selective medium (BA) (25% (v/v) of commercial red grape juice, 5g/L of yeast extract, 1 mL/L of Tween 80 and 25% of agar, adjusted to pH 4.8). BA medium was supplemented with antibiotics, namely pimaricine at 5 g/L and penicillin at 1.25 g/L to inhibit yeast and lactic acid bacteria respectively. Species identity was validated using MALDI-TOF MS (Windholtz et al., 2021a).

Preculture of *Gluconobacter oxydans* was performed using the following protocol: one colony was
suspended in 10 mL of pasteurized red grape juice (Jafaden, France) and grown at 25°C during 1 week
under agitation.

164 To determine viable bacteria populations in the preculture, the epifluorescence method using 165 ChemChrome V6 (Chemunex) containing fluorescein diacetate was used. The protocol described by 166 Divol et al. (2005) was applied. 1 ml of preculture was filtered on a 0.4 μ m filter (IsoporeTM) and then 167 placed on a pad soaked in ChemChrome V6 (Chemunex) at 1 % (v/v) in ChemSol B16 buffer 168 (Chemunex). The Pad and the filter in contact were incubated in the dark at 30 °C. Finally, living cells 169 were counted (colored in green) with an epifluorescence microscope (excitation filter 480 nm and 170 emission 515 nm).

- Then, industrial pasteurized red grape juice (Jafaden, France) saturated with O_2 (8 ± 0.2 mg/L) was inoculated with ADY bioprotection at 50 mg/L and with 10^5 viable cells/mL of *G. oxydans*. For this experiment, all modalities were saturated with oxygen twice: at the initial O_2 saturation and when the oxygen was totally consumed (after 26h), the red juice was re-saturated with O_2 at 8 ± 0.2 mg/L. The samples were collected at three different stages to monitor *G. oxydans* population levels: at start of
- 176 experiment (0h, after inoculation), 26h (after O_2 consumption of the initial O_2 saturation) and at the end
- 177 of experiment (about 48h, time to consume the second O₂ saturation). The O₂ concentration was on-line

monitored throughout the experimentation by the same system previously as described (section 2.3).
Population levels (UFC/mL) of *G. oxydans* were estimated on BA solid media.

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181 **2.5. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

Statistical analysis were performed on Rstudio (RStudio Team, 2022). Results are presented as
scatterplots using "ggplot2" package (Wickham et al., 2016), violin diagram with « ggstatsplot »
package (Patil, 2021), «palmerpenguins » package (Horst et al., 2020) and « tidyverse » package
(Wickham and Wickham, 2017).

Parameters of normality and homogeneity of variances were controlled using Shapiro-Wilks and 186 Levene's tests using "car" package (Fox and Weisberg, 2018). An analysis of variance by ANOVA 187 using "agricolae" package (Mendiburu Delgado, 2009) or a Student test were used to determine 188 significant differences. The Tukey HSD test was used to classify significant modalities (if >2 189 190 modalities). If parameters were not respected, a Kruskall-wallis test weas applied. Also, a Dunnetts test 191 was used to compare modalities with a defined control. For this test, « DescTools » package (Signorell 192 et al., 2019), « dplyr » package (Wickham et al., 2020) and « multcomp » package (Hothorn et al., 2016) 193 were required.

195 **3. RESULTS**

196 **3.1.YEAST INTER/INTRA SPECIES VARIABILITY REGARDING O2 CONSUMPTION**

In order to evaluate the inter/intra species variability of the O₂ consumption rate in grape juice, a 197 198 collection of 47 strains belonging to 6 species (Torulaspora delbrueckii, Saccharomyces cerevisiae, 199 Hanseniaspora uvarum, Lachancea thermotolerans, Saccharomyces uvarum and M. pulcherrima) was 200 gathered (Table S1). Species were chosen because they are frequently reported to be associated with grape juice and proposed as commercial yeast for bioprotection (Nardi, 2020). For each species, strains 201 202 were selected to represent the intra-species genetic diversity as previously reported in the literature 203 (Albertin et al., 2016, 2014; Hranilovic et al., 2018; Marullo et al., 2020). Since no data were available on M. pulcherrima intraspecies genetic diversity, we used two complementary methods (MALDI-TOF 204 MS and D1/D2 sequences analysis to construct dendrograms (Figure S.1 and S.2) to situate our isolates 205 in the *pulcherrima* clade (Sipiczki 2022). On the D1/D2 dendrogram tree, isolates gathered in the same 206 207 branch, except L0674.

208 Violin representations for Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR, expressed in mg/L of O₂ consumed by viable cell and by hour) were generated for each species (Figure 1). Experiment times varied between 209 2.5 h and 7.5 h and the OCR mean was of 1.47 x $10^{-6} \pm 0.5$ x 10^{-6} mg O₂ consumed/L/h/viable cell. M. 210 *pulcherrima* was the most efficient species to consume O₂ with a mean OCR of $1.87 \times 10^{-6} \pm 0.31 \times 10^{-10}$ 211 ⁶ mg O₂ consumed/L/h/viable cell. Conversely, Saccharomyces cerevisiae and Saccharomyces uvarum 212 were the least efficient species with a mean OCR of 1.01 x $10^{-6} \pm 0.19$ x 10^{-6} and 1.20 x $10^{-6} \pm 0.28$ x 213 10⁻⁶, respectively. Intermediate behaviors were observed for *H. uvarum* (1.47 x $10^{-6} \pm 0.42$ x 10^{-6}), *L.* 214 *thermotolerans* (1.49 x $10^{-6} \pm 0.65$ x 10^{-6}) and *T. delbrueckii* (1.48 x $10^{-6} \pm 0.44$ x 10^{-6}). Furthermore, a 215 216 high OCR variability at the intra-species level could be highlighted, especially for L. thermotolerans (ranging from 0.92 x $10^{-6} \pm 0.18$ x 10^{-6} to 2.69 x $10^{-6} \pm 0.09$ x 10^{-6}) and for *H*. uvarum (ranging from 217 $0.98 \times 10^{-6} \pm 0.14 \times 10^{-6}$ to $2.27 \times 10^{-6} \pm 0.22 \times 10^{-6}$). No correlation was observed in between the initial 218 219 oxygen consumption rate (mg.O₂ consumed/L/h) values and the population levels during that time.

The O₂ consumption in the must by bioprotection can be a major advantage in the winemaking process.
Therefore, the non-*Saccharomyces* mix behavior, especially in an industrial context, was then studied more in details.

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3.2. Evaluation of O₂ consumption by a mix of non-saccharomyces as

225 BIOPROTECTION

Two strains of *M. pulcherrima*. and *T. delbrueckii*, already available as a commercial bioprotection
agent, were chosen to more deeply study their O₂ consumption properties. The objective of this part of

- the study was to determine whether the application formulation had an impact on O_2 consumption, depending on the species, alone or in combination.
- 230 Different experiments were considered related to yeast inoculation rate and the use of mixed or pure
- cultures. The O₂ consumption rates (OCR express as mg.O₂ consumed/L/h) of the different treatments
- are presented in Figure 2. For each experiment, a negative and positive control were carried out
- consisting in grape juice with no addition of yeast and addition of ZE, respectively. The mean OCR of
- the negative control (n=5) was of 0.087 mg/L/h \pm 0.02 and the positive control (ADYZE 50 mg/L)
- 235 generated an OCR of 1.39 ± 0.06 mg/L/h (n=5).
- 236 The OCR of the heat inactivated ADYZE was not significantly different from the negative control 237 (Dunnett test), suggesting that yeast O₂ consumption is linked with yeast viability. OCRs of directly 238 applied ADY and after preculture did not differ (Dunnett test), demonstrating that the ADY formulation had no impact on O₂ consumption. Figure 2 shows that the OCR of both strains increases with the 239 inoculation rate, with 0.36 ± 0.09 , 0.75 ± 0.09 and 1.39 ± 0.06 mg/L/h O₂ for 10, 25 and 50 mg/L of ZE, 240 respectively. The OCR obtained from commercial ADY of different yeast species (T. delbrueckii (ADY 241 242 TD), M. pulcherrima (ADY MP) and Saccharomyces cerevisiae (ADY SC)) confirmed the results previously obtained. Indeed, M. pulcherrima was the most efficient strain to consume O₂ (2.54 x $10^{-6} \pm$ 243 0.59 x 10⁻⁶) and S. cerevisiae the less effective (0.42 x $10^{-6} \pm 0.12$ x 10^{-6}). Furthermore, the O₂ 244 245 consumption rate by T. delbrueckii is not significantly different (Dunnett test) from the mix of M. pulcherrima and T. delbrueckii (ZE). Interestingly, the ZE mix consumed significantly less O₂ than the 246 247 M. pulcherrima pure culture.
- 248 These results confirmed the interest of O_2 consumption by non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts in grape juice.
- 249 This capacity could be an additional selection criteria for bioprotection products in winemaking process.
- 250 A final aspect was thus addressed, concerning the impact of bioprotection yeast on acetic acid bacteria.
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252 **3.3.IMPACT OF NON-***SACCHAROMYCES MIX* ON ACETIC ACID BACTERIA

253 Acetic acid bacteria (AAB) are strictly aerobic microorganisms and oxygen is an essential growth factor 254 (Bartowsky and Henschke, 2008). The risk of spoilage by AAB during wine production can be controlled 255 by niche occupation and by eliminating or limiting oxygen. Our previous results showed that the bioprotection consumed dissolved O₂ in the must. Thus, the aim of this study was to test the hypothesis 256 257 that the use of non-Saccharomyces yeasts as bioprotection could negatively impact AAB population level and growth and may be related to O₂ consumption. The impact of bioprotection ZE was tested 258 259 through an experiment at the industrial scale conducted in a Pomerol wine estate. Indigenous AAB population was monitored during the first stages of the winemaking process, by quantitative PCR 260 261 method. Three treatments were implemented (SO_2 , without SO_2 and BP) on Merlot must (Figure 3) in 262 barrels of 225 L. In this experiment, bioprotection implantation was verified by Maldi-TOF MS analysis 263 on colonies (data not shown). Analysis of wine after alcoholic fermentation was presented in Tableau

- S.3. No significant differences were noticed for the classical enological parameters. A significant difference could be observed for AAB population at the end of the prefermentary maceration. Without SO₂, the AAB population reached 5.10⁷ UFC/mL (4 log increase) while with SO₂ reached only 3.10⁴
 UFC/mL (increase 1 log increase). Interestingly, the AAB population remained stable with BP (5.10³-
- $10^{4} \text{UFC/mL} \text{ and even decreased at Start AF stage.}$
- 269 *G. oxydans* is the most abundant species among acetic acid bacteria present in grape must (Joyeux et al.,

1984a). At laboratory scale, the impact of bioprotection ZE on G. oxydans was tested in standardized

- grape juice, at two temperatures (10 and 15 °C) in presence of O_2 at saturation. The OCR obtained are
- presented in Figure 4. As expected, OCR are significantly higher in the presence of bioprotection ZE.
- At 10°C, the OCR was of 0.822 ± 0.018 mg/L/h and 2.432 ± 0.068 mg/L/h, for 0h to 26h and 26h to
- 48h, respectively when bioprotection ZE was added. The OCR was of 0.010 ± 0.023 mg/L/h and 0.060
- ± 0.0035 mg/L/h for G. oxydans alone. The OCRs were significantly higher at 15°C than at 10°C and
- significantly increased after the second addition of O_2 at saturation for all treatments. The presence of
- bioprotection ZE reduced significantly the growth of *G. oxydans* after 48h at 10°C and 15°C (significant
- at 0.05). The combination of bioprotection ZE addition and a low temperature $(10^{\circ}C)$ led to a decrease
- of the G. oxydans population from 24h by one log, to achieve 10^4 UFC/mL at the end of the experiment.

280 4. DISCUSSION

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281 4.1. EVALUATION OF O₂ CONSUMPTION BY NON-SACCHAROMYCES YEAST

282 In this study, we aimed at evaluating O_2 consumption by yeast in a context of bioprotection utilization during the prefermentary winemaking stages. Must can be exposed to O₂ during crushing, pressing, or 283 pumping (Schneider, 1998; Toit et al., 2006). Moreover, in the without SO_2 conditions, polyphenol 284 285 oxidases are not inhibited. So, protection from oxidation during prefermentary stages in order to limit 286 the O₂ dissolved concentrations is a key issue especially when no SO₂ is used. In the present study, tests 287 were implemented to monitor the dissolved oxygen and the ability of different species of non-288 Saccharomyces yeast to consume it. We aim to define an OCR value associated with different 289 bioprotective yeast. Significant differences appeared both at the inter and intraspecies levels; among the 290 six species tested, S. uvarum and S. cerevisiae had the lowest OCR, whereas M. pulcherrima was most efficient species. The O₂ consumption ability in grape juice was showed to be related to yeast cell 291 292 viability, but with no correlation with cell multiplication. Active Dry Yeast (ADY) are produced at the 293 industrial scale by aerobic metabolism in the presence of low sugar concentrations, that could impact the ADY yeast cell metabolism in favor of the respiration one. Our data showed that the O₂ consumption 294 295 was not related to the production under an ADY form, with similar levels obtained with direct 296 inoculation of ADY after rehydration or with a pre-culture. For winemakers, bioprotection by adding 297 mix between M. pulcherrima. and T. delbrueckii is normally applied at 50 mg/L directly on the grape or after vatting stage following manufacturer protocol. Application of the mix at a higher dosage (over 50 mg/L) could limit *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* implantation during the alcoholic fermentation, as demonstrated by (Windholtz et al., 2021c), resulting in a higher volatile acidity content in the final wine and stuck alcoholic fermentation. The consumption of O_2 by the mix was higher at 50 mg/L than at 10 or 25 mg/L. Nevertheless, the application rate could be increased in the case of a harvest at an advanced maturity, to allow better occupation space in must (Windholtz et al., 2021d). Overall, our results support

- the importance of adjusting the dose of the yeast preparation in a context of bioprotection application.
- 305 In eukaryotic cells, oxygen is metabolized to perform both catabolic and anabolic functions. The 306 classical mitochondrial respiratory chain through oxidative phosphorylation, leads to ATP synthesis. In 307 grape must, yeast species are mainly facultative anaerobic, i.e. they also have capacity to metabolize 308 glucose by fermentation. Yeasts can be subdivided into two groups, according to their capacity to carry 309 out aerobic fermentation based on the Crabtree effect (Deken, 1966; Gancedo and Serrano, 1989). This 310 is linked to a catabolic repression by glucose that inhibits respiration, favoring alcoholic fermentation. 311 Saccharomyces cerevisiae is known to be strongly Crabtree positive (Swanson and Clifton, 1948). When 312 the glucose concentration is higher than 1g/L, a catabolic repression of glucose occurs thus inhibiting 313 respiration to the benefit of fermentation (Barnett and Entian, 2005). Torulaspora delbrueckii and 314 Lachancea thermotolerans are also reported as Crabtree positive (Gonzalez et al., 2013). Hanseniaspora 315 uvarum and Metschnikowia pulcherrima are considered as Crabtree negative (Mencher et al., 2021; 316 Venturin et al., 1994) with a higher respiration capacity compared to Saccharomyces cerevisiae and an 317 enhanced biomass production (Schnierda et al., 2014). Aerobic species show approximately three times 318 higher respiratory fluxes of the tricarboxylic acid cycle (TCA cycle) than Saccharomyces cerevisiae. In 319 our experimental conditions, the hypothesis that Crabtree negative species consume higher amounts of 320 dissolved O₂ in grape must could not explain the differences among species; *Hanseniaspora uvarum*, as 321 Crabtree negative, consumes equivalent amount of O_2 than Torulaspora delbrueckii and Lachancea
- 322 *thermotolerans*, both Crabtree positive species.

323 In addition to the Crabtree effect and thus to respiration, different metabolic pathways use molecular O_2 324 (Rosenfeld and Beauvoit, 2003) such as lipids, amino acids, vitamins, iron or ubiquinone metabolisms. 325 Yeast consume O₂ for growth and lipid synthesis (sterols and unsaturated fatty acids for membrane 326 integrity) (Salmon, 2006). Metschnikowia pulcherrima species is also studied in a completely different 327 context, as an oleaginous yeasts. These yeast produce microbial lipids that can reach more than 20 % of 328 their dry cell weight as lipids (Thorpe and Ratledge, 1972). They have been studied as a promising 329 alternative to vegetal oils, for direct replacement in food applications or biodiesel production (Sitepu et 330 al., 2014). Lipid biosynthesis by such yeast and their accumulation is initiated with a limited excess 331 carbon and nutrient source (usually nitrogen) and they exhibit an ability to consistently supply acetyl-

332 CoA and NADPH (Sutanto et al., 2018). As lipid synthesis is also correlated with O₂ consumption (Nioi

et al., 2022), this particular metabolic pathways in *Metschnikowia pulcherrima* could explain its higher
 O₂ consumption capacity compared to other species.

335 Finally, yeast metabolic interactions can take place, resulting in a modification of the aerobic respiration 336 by microorganisms. Mencher et al. (2021) showed an impact of co-inoculation with Metschnikowia 337 pulcherrima on the Saccharomyces cerevisiae metabolism during alcoholic fermentation. Glycolysis 338 was increased while the TCA cycle was decreased. They also observed that Metschnikowia pulcherrima 339 had a higher respiration capacity compared to Saccharomyces cerevisiae and was able to deplete O_2 340 from the medium at a higher rate, which is congruent with our results. Our data shows that the ZE mix consumed significantly less O₂ than the *M. pulcherrima* pure culture, for a given inoculation rate (50 341 342 mg/L). This result is difficult to interpret without precise population quantification of each species in 343 the mix. Indeed, a negative interaction between the two species in the ZE mix may lead to a higher percentage of T. delbrueckii at population level thus explaining that the OCR is lower than with M. 344 pulcherrima alone. Indeed, the mix of this two species could be an advantage: both species occupies the 345 346 niche (Windholtz et al., 2021a,d), Metschnikowia pulcherrima is efficient for O₂ consumption whereas 347 Torulaspora delbrueckii enhance the wine fruitiness in without SO₂ context (Windholtz et al., 2021c).

348 Aside from the use of sulfur dioxide, very few alternatives with antioxidant properties are proposed for 349 the winemaking process. Ascorbic acid is an alternative but should always be associated with low doses 350 of SO₂ (Bradshaw et al., 2004); oenological tannins (González-Centeno et al., 2012; Magalhães et al., 351 2014; Pascual et al., 2017; Vignault et al., 2020); yeast derivatives (Inactive Dry Yeast Preparations) 352 (Bahut et al., 2020; Nioi et al., 2022) and inactivated dry yeasts rich in glutathione (Gimenez et al., 353 2023) can also be considered. Recently, preliminary studies were carried out on the bioprotection by using non-Saccharomyces yeasts as an antioxidant potential. The use of non-Saccharomyces resulted in 354 355 a consumption of O_2 dissolved in must, reducing its browning while maintaining GSH concentrations 356 in white wines (Binati et al., 2021; Giménez et al., 2023; Windholtz et al., 2021b). Our study shows that 357 the high O₂ consumption capacity is a trait associated with *Metschnikowia pulcherrima* and some strains 358 of Lachancea thermotolerans that could be relevant candidates in a selection for bioprotection 359 application.

360 4.2. NEGATIVE IMPACT OF NON-SACCHAROMYCES ON ACETIC ACID BACTERIA

In grape must, the presence of acetic acid bacteria (AAB) is likely to produce ethyl acetate and acetic
acid (Drysdale and Fleet, 1989; Du Toit and Pretorius, 2000). These microorganisms are obligate aerobic
(De Ley, 1984) able of oxidizing ethanol into acetic acid (Joyeux et al., 1984a).

Three genera are mainly associated with must and wine spoilage: *Acetobacter*, *Gluconobacter* and *Gluconacetobacter* (Bartowsky and Henschke, 2008). *Gluconobacter oxydans* is the major species in the must although, in the case of grapes with grey rot, *Acetobacter aceti* can also be found at high population levels (Du Toit and Lambrechts, 2002; Joyeux et al., 1984b). The effectiveness of SO₂ on
these spoilages is not clearly established in the literature. Moreover, in the case of botrytised grapes,
AAB produce compounds that combine SO₂, thus reducing its effectiveness (Barbe et al., 2001; Joyeux
et al., 1984b).

371 Until now, the antimicrobial effect of bioprotection using Metschnikowia pulcherrima has been reported 372 on Hanseniaspora uvarum (Albertin et al., 2016; Canonico et al., 2023; Johnson et al., 2020; Jolly et al., 373 2014). Simonin et al. (2020) also showed a potential impact on Brettanomyces bruxellensis during 374 prefermentation stages. This species occupies the must environment without affecting its organoleptic properties and with very low fermentative activity (Morata et al., 2019; Windholtz et al., 2021a). 375 376 Bioprotection composed of two non-Saccharomyces species (Torulaspora delbrueckii and Metschnikowia pulcherrima) also showed an antimicrobial activity by occupying the niche thus 377 378 reducing the relative abundance of *Hanseniaspora uvarum* and filamentous fungi during prefermentary 379 stages (Johnson et al., 2020; Windholtz et al., 2021c; Windholtz et al., 2021a). Escribano-Viana et al. 380 (2022) showed an impact of Torulaspora delbrueckii and Lachancea thermotolerans as bioprotective 381 agents on AAB development during the first stages of the winemaking process. In the present study, we 382 confirmed that the presence of Torulaspora delbrueckii and Metschnikowia pulcherrima negatively 383 impacts AAB population levels during prefermentary stages. At the winery scale, this bioprotective effect was comparable and even greater than sulfur dioxide addition as it was reported by Escribano-384 385 Viana et al. (2022) using Torulaspora delbrueckii and Lachancea thermotolerans. We suggest that the 386 negative interactions between yeast and obligate aerobic bacteria that could be partially mediated by the 387 O2 consumption in must by BP. The negative interaction between non-Saccharomyces yeast and AAB is reinforced at low temperature (10°C) even if the colder the temperature, the more O₂ dissolves in the 388 389 medium (Schlaepfer, 1949).

390 **5.** CONCLUSION

In this study, the O₂ consumption capacity by non-Saccharomyces was characterized and quantified by 391 392 OCR evaluation, both at interspecies and intraspecies levels. M. pulcherrima was found to be the most 393 efficient O_2 consumer. The use of *Torulaspora delbrueckii* and *Metschnikowia pulcherrima* negatively impacts AAB population levels during prefermentary stage and this bioprotective effect was comparable 394 395 and even greater than sulfur dioxide addition. Further studies would be needed to study the interactions, 396 competition and space occupation phenomena between non-Saccharomyces yeast used as bioprotection and AAB. Finally, this study highlights the possibility to use the O₂ consumption as a new criteria for 397 398 non-Saccharomyces strain selection in a context of bioprotection application for the wine industry.

399 CREDIT AUTHORSHIP CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

400 Sara Windholtz: Conceptualization, Investigation, formal analysis, Visualisation, Writing-original

401 draft; Claudia Nioi: Conceptualization, Methodology, supervision, Writing – review & editing; Joana

402 Coulon: Funding acquisition, Supervision, Ressources, Writing – review & editing; Isabelle Masneuf-

403 **Pomarède**: conceptualization, Funding acquisition, Supervision, Writing – review & editing.

404 DECLARATION OF COMPETING INTEREST

405 The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships

406 that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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- 646

649	Figure caption
650	Figure 1: Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR expressed as mg of O ₂ consumed/L/h/ viable cell) of yeast
651	species
652	1 dot = 1 repetition/ strain. Kruskall-Wallis significance at 0.01, violin with different letters differ
653	significantly
654	Figure 2: OCR obtained for different bioprotection industrial preparations.
655	ANOVA (***: p-value<0.001), HSD post hoc, different letters indicate that means are significantly
656	different.
657	Dunnett's test, significance is indicated as follow: * significant at 0.05, ** significant at 0.01, ***
658	significant at 0.001 in comparison to the negative control (n=5) or positive control (n=5)
659	ZE: mix of M. pulcherrima et T. delbrueckii (Zymaflore®Egide), Sc: S. cerevisiae
660	(Zymaflore®Xpure), Mp: Metschnikowia pulcherrima of ZE, Torulaspora delbrueckii: Torulaspora
661	delbrueckii of ZE; Inoculum: mix of Torulaspora delbrueckii and Metschnikowia pulcherrima with
662	fresh biomass after pre-culture step (10 ⁶ cell/mL), Heat inactivated: ADY ZE rehydrated then heating
663	at 80°C during 30 min.
664	Figure 3: Population dynamics of acetic acid bacteria during prefermentary stages.
665	BP: bioprotection ZE at 50 mg/L, Without SO ₂ and SO ₂ at 50 mg/L.
666	Significance is indicated as follow: * significant at 0.05, ** significant at 0.01, *** significant at 0.001
667	(ANOVA).
668	Figure 4: Impact of bioprotection ZE (50 mg/L) on G. oxydans and on O ₂ consumption.
669	Population levels of <i>G. oxydans</i> at 10°C (A) and 15°C (B) UFC/mL. O ₂ consumption rate (OCR: mg
670	O_2 consumed/L/h) after the first saturation (0h \rightarrow 26h) and the second saturation (26h \rightarrow 48h) at 10°C
671	and 15°C (C).
672	Go: G. oxydans at 10 ⁵ cells/mL alone, ZEGo: G. oxydans at 10 ⁵ cells/mL with 50 mg/L of ZE.
673	Significance is indicated as follow: * significant at 0.05, ** significant at 0.01, *** significant at 0.001
674	(T-test).
675	Supplementary data caption
676	Figure S.1: MSP Dendrogram by MALDI Biotyper Method Editor for Metschnikowia pulcherrima
677 679	strains Default personator set for MSP dendrogram creation (Distance Mesure: correlation) DSM 70336
670	DETAIL parameter set for MSF dendrogram creation (Distance Mesure, correlation), DSM 70550
690	Figure S 2: Phylogenetic tree for <i>Metschnikowig pulcharring strains</i> based on D1/D2 regions
691	comparing to reference strains by species in (Siniczki, 2022)
001	comparing to reference strains by species in (Sipiczki, 2022)
682	Figure S.3: Process for obtaining the OCR for a strain.
683	Table S.1: Collection of yeast used this study.



Figure 1: Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR expressed as mg of O₂ consumed/L/h/viable cell) of yeast strains and species. (color should be used to print this figure)

1 dot = 1 repetition/ strain. Kruskall-Wallis significance at 0.01, violin with different letters differ significantly



15 Figure 2: OCR obtained for different bioprotection industrial preparations.

16 ANOVA (***: p-value<0.001), HSD post hoc, different letter indicate means are significantly differents.

17 Dunnett's test, significance is indicated as follow: * significant at 0.05, ** significant at 0.01, *** significant

18 at 0.001 in comparison with negative control (n=5) or positive control (n=5)

19 ZE: mix of *M. pulcherrima* et *T. delbrueckii* (Zymaflore®Egide), Sc: *S. cerevisiae* (Zymaflore®Xpure), Mp:

20 Metschnikowia pulcherrima of ZE, Torulaspora delbrueckii: Torulaspora delbrueckii of ZE; Inoculum: mix

21 of Torulaspora delbrueckii and Metschnikowia pulcherrima with fresh biomass after pre-culture step (10⁶

cell/mL), Heat inactivated: ADY ZE rehydrated then heating at 80°C during 30 min.

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Figure 4: Impact of bioprotection ZE (50 mg/L) on *G. oxydans* and on O₂ consumption

57 Population levels of *G. oxydans* at 10°C (**A**) and 15°C (**B**) UFC/mL. O₂ consumption rate (OCR: mg O₂

consumed/L/H) after the first saturation (0h \rightarrow 26h) and the second saturation (26h \rightarrow 48h) at 10°C and 15°C (C).

60 Go: G. oxydans at 10^5 cells/mL alone, ZEGo: G. oxydans at 10^5 cells/mL with 50 mg/L of ZE.

Significance is indicated as follow: * significant at 0.05, ** significant at 0.01, *** significant at 0.001 (Ttest).

- ...

72 Supplementary data



73

Figure S.1: MSP Dendrogram by MALDI Biotyper Method Editor for *Metschnikowia pulcherrima* strains

- 76 Default parameter set for MSP dendrogram creation (Distance Mesure: correlation), DSM 70336
- 77 DSM, CBS 2244 PAH,VLM and CBS 610NT CBS belong to Bruker database.

78



81 Figure S.2: Phylogenetic tree for *Metschnikowia pulcherrima* strains based on D1/D2 regions comparing

82 to reference strains by species in (Sipiczki, 2022)

- 83 In black, reference strains for *Metschnikowia species* (Sipiczki, 2022), in pink color strain of own collection.
- 84 Sequences treatment was obtained using BioEdit Sequence alignement editor logiciel and
- 85 <u>http://phylogeny.lirmm.fr/</u> to generate tree.
- 86









Figure S.3: Process for obtaining the OCR for a strain.

T0: start of the experiment (0h) ; T1: end of the experiment, than all O₂ dissolved was consumed; curve
acquisition (in grey) was obtained by a compact 4 channel FireStingO2 oximeter (Pyroscience, Bionef, France)
with optics fiber and sensor spot OXSP5 (Bionef, Montreuil, France) (in this example, 1440 points make it up);
trend curve was obtained by Microsoft Excel (2015). The coefficient of the curve trend is OCR of experiment
(in red on the graph).

101 **Table S.1**: Yeast collection of used this study

102 CRBO - Centre de Ressources Biologiques OEnologie, France; DBVPG: The Industrial Yeasts Collection DBVPG, Italy; ISVV - Institut des Sciences de la Vigne et du Vin, France; MUCL - Mycothèque de 103 104 l'Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium; NRRL/ARS - NRRL Agriculture Research Service Culture collection, USA; CRPR - Centre de Recherche Pernod-Ricard, France; UNIFG - University of Foggia; 105 UWOPS - Culture Collection of the University of Western Ontario; DSMZ - Leibniz-Institut DSMZ, 106 Braunschweig, Germany; CLIB - Collection de Levures d'Intérêt Biotechnologique, CIRM-Levures, 107 INRA/AgroParisTech, Thiverval-Grignon, France; UOA/HCPF: Hellenic Collection of Pathogenic Fungi, 108 University of Athens; UWOPS - Culture collection of the University of Western Ontario; CBS: Fungal 109 Biodiversity Centre, Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures, institute of the Royal Netherlands Academy of 110

- The Biodiversity Centre, Centralibureau voor Semininercultures, institute of the Royal Netherlands Acad
- 111 Arts and Sciences (Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen)
- 112 NA stands for "Not Available."
- 113

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- 130
- 131

Strains	Species	Genetic groups	Geographical origins	collection	Ref.
NZ15		Group A	New Zealand (Grape/wine)	CRPR	(1)
L1433		Group B	France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	(1)
y-1614		Group C	Russia (Grape/wine)	NRRL	(1)
DSMZ70285		NA	Germany (Nature, soil)	DSMZ	(1)
L0551		Group A-B-C	France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	(1)
L1448	Ę	Group B	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	(1)
y-915	narı	NA	NA (Cider)	NRRL	(1)
yb-3199	н. Г	NA	Mason, Michigan, USA (Rotten apples)	NRRL	(1)

CONCERTO™		Domestic 1	« Mediterranean country »	CHR Hansen	(2)
UNIFG 18		Domestic 2	Italy (Grape/wine)	UNIFG	(2)
L0672	L. thermotolerans	Mix Europe/N. America	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	(2)
NRLL Y-27911		NA	Louisiana, USA (insect)	NRRL	(3)
ZYMAFLORE OMEGA (Lt7)		NA	(Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
UWOPS 91-902.1		Hawaii/California	Hawaii, Saddle Rd Park (plant)	A.LS	(3)
DBVPG 6867		NA	Brazil (plant)	DBVPG	(3)
Clib 292		Domestic 1	Russia (fruit)	CLIB	(2)
Ltyq25		Europe/oak/France grapes	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	ISVV	(2)
L1440		NA	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	
L1329		NA	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	
L0674		NA	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	
DSMZ3435	-	NA	USA-LA (zobellii Seawater)	CRBO	
Clib403		NA	Egypte - (Fruit)	CRBO	
L0313	ри	NA	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	
L 0530	errin	NA	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	
BLFMP17	nlch	NA	France (Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
Mp4.2	N.	NA	France (Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
L1451		NA	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	
NZ 268		NA	New Zealand (Grape/wine)	CRPR	
ZYMAFLORE® X5		NA	(Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
ZYMAFLORE® Xpure	-	NA	(Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
Zymaflore® Fx10		NA	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
ZYMAFLORE® F15		NA	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
ACTIFLORE® F33	isiae	NA	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
ACTUFLORE® 522 Davis	erevi	NA	(Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
EXCELLENCE [®] XR	S.	NA	(Grape/wine)	LAMOTHE	
		NA NA	(Grape/wine)		
B1/2		Grape/Wine	Crete, Greece (Grape/Wine)		(4)
	-	Nature America		CLIB	(4)
L0705		Bioprocess	Gironde, France (Grape/wine)	CRBO	(4)
MUCL51641		Nature Old World France (Paste of concentrated fruit)		MUCL	(4)
y-11747		Dairy	USA, Ohio, Columbus (Spoilaged sweetened condensed milk)	NRRL	(4)
		Grape/Wine	Cauquenes, Chile (Grape/Wine)	CRBO	
Zymaflore® alpha		NA	(Grape/wine)	LAFFORT	
CBS425		NA	Switzerland (Cider)	CBS	(5)
CBS377	Irum	NA	Germany (Cider)	CBS	(5)
BR6-2	, uva	NA	Brittany/Normandy, France (Cider)	NA	(5)
D11		NA	France (Sparkling wine)	NA	(5)

Tableau S.2: : Analysis of wine after alcoholic fermentation. Bioprotection (BP), SO₂ (50 mg.L-1) and
Without SO₂ treatments in early stages of winemaking.

Modality	Ethanol (v/v)	Residual sugars (g/L)	Total acidity (tartaric acid g/L)	Malique acid (g/L)	PH	Volatile acidity (acetic acid g/L)
Bioprotection	12. 45 ± 0.16	2.7 ± 0.28	$6,4 \pm 0$	$1,3\pm0.07$	3,66 ± 0	$0,25 \pm 0$
Without SO ₂	$\begin{array}{c} 12,53 \pm \\ 0.02 \end{array}$	2 ± 0	$6,4 \pm 0$	1.05 ± 0.35	3,68 ± 0	$0,25 \pm 0.01$
SO_2	$\begin{array}{c} 12.57 \pm \\ 0.06 \end{array}$	3.65 ± 1.3	6.35 ±0.32	1.4 ± 0	3.59 ± 0	0,25 ± 0

140 **GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT (COLOR SHOULD BE USED TO PRINT THIS FIGURE)**

 $[O_2]_i = 8 \pm 0.2 \text{ mg/L}$

+ Gluconobacter oxydans 10⁵ cells/mL ///

10°C



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02

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Go 🛧 ZEGo

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