

Regional Charter *(extract)*

Terroir and Territory: A Commitment for the Future

Living together and managing the health and environmental risks of disease control practices used by the Bourgogne wine industry.

Introduction

To respond to the needs and concerns of those living in winegrowing communities, a joint committee involving some 30 members of Bourgogne wine trade bodies, the CAVB and the BIVB has been meeting regularly since November 2016. This committee seeks to establish an action plan to ensure the maintenance of good relations within these winegrowing communities and manage the health and environmental risks linked to disease and pest control practices in the vines.

In order to produce quality wines that are economically viable, the use of products for disease control is essential. Bourgogne wine producers are aware of the environmental and public health risks linked to these practices and as such, are seeking to establish the most sustainable way to use said products to reduce those risks.

The existing departmental charters signed in 2016 relating to good agricultural and viticultural practices to reduce the risk of exposure of vulnerable persons to disease control products, as well as the guide to agroecology in viticulture (INAO- IFV, 2017), are fully integrated into this Regional Charter.

This Charter is one of the responses offered by winegrowing professionals to limit any health risks to people and to protect the environment. It is the first pillar of the Regional Strategy for ensuring good relations within the winegrowing community and to manage the health and environmental risks of disease control practices used in the Bourgogne winegrowing region.

This Charter includes actions that will allow the industry to achieve the goals and commitments it has set itself.

Aims of the Charter

This Charter has multiple aims:

- To clarify the work of winemakers and ensure winegrowing communities live together in harmony
- To ensure winemakers are better aware of best practices for using disease control products
- To set up programs to limit any undesirable consequences

This Charter will help:

- Winegrowers find technical, organizational, and communication solutions with regard to disease control
- Its signatories establish a constructive and peaceful dialogue, and improve communication, training and information sharing

Geographical reach:

This Charter covers the whole of the Bourgogne winegrowing region from Mâcon to Chablis.

Explaining the work of winemakers and ensuring winegrowing communities live together in harmony

It is important to promote concertation among winegrowers, local authorities, and citizens, in order to create a climate of trust. These exchanges, carried out in an amicable manner, must allow:

- Industry professionals to explain their work, and how they fight pests and diseases within the framework of technical, economic, and organizational constraints
- Citizens and local authorities to express their expectations and questions

To establish a successful dialogue:

- First, a meeting must be held with the mayor, local winegrowers, and representatives from the industry, other structures involved, and local people
- A list must be drawn up of key points and reciprocal commitments on the part of each party
- An open meeting should be held with residents of the *commune*

For successful cohabitation:

- Ensure prior discussion before planting new vines near to houses and other buildings that may be affected, and before any new constructions begin alongside where vines are grown
- Inform tourists and walkers about respecting private property and ensure they are aware that they are passing through a place of work where there are certain risks
- Plan suitable times for spraying with any establishments that might be concerned

Ensuring winemakers are better aware of best practices

As part of the Certiphyto accreditation, winemakers learn about the dangers of different products and application methods, helping them select those solutions least harmful to the wellbeing of those applying the product, and other users of the land and the neighboring environment.

The winemaker must:

- Detect problematic situations to better inform people beforehand about the risks, whilst taking into account the level of threat from pests and diseases, the weather, the types of products to be used, and the proximity to homes or other buildings that may be affected
- Check that any treatment is justified on the plot in question (health of the vines, wind speed, non-treatment zones, treatment quotas, etc.)
- Be informed by consulting *Mémo Vigne*, the Bulletin Santé du Végétal (BSV) health report and other technical reports
- Choose the least toxic and most appropriate treatment method or product, taking care with regard to the ingredients contained therein, choosing non-carcinogenic, mutagenic, or reprotoxic (CMR) products when there are viable alternatives, and use lower doses
- Check, repair, and where necessary replace their spray equipment in order to reduce the dose of active ingredients
- Use a sprayer in good working order that is correctly calibrated, and ensure that treatment equipment that is more than five years old is checked over by an approved organization, and that this is repeated every five years
- Properly train employees carrying out the spraying and check that the instructions are respected, given that the employer is legally responsible for those in his or her employ

- Make sure that all rules governing the handling of leftover product and spray equipment cleaning are respected
- Ensure that products are properly used and commit to taking all necessary precautions to ensure that the products are kept within the boundary of the plot where they are being used
- Correctly transport, store, prepare, and manage any pest or disease control product effluent such as leftovers, and make sure filling is carried out without spillage
- Use the appropriate measures, whatever the weather, to ensure that no products spill over onto other properties during application
- Ensure that the health of operators is properly protected

Setting up programs to limit any undesirable consequences

Existing regulations oblige winegrowers to take special care when spraying to avoid products contaminating outside the area of applications. It is thus necessary to establish a series of actions to protect the health of those applying the products on the one hand, and the environment on the other.

In order to reduce environmental and health risks, specific measures must be implemented by the winegrower.

They must check plots where there is an environmental or health risk:

- By identifying sensitive areas around the edge of plots, such as establishments for vulnerable people, dwellings, rivers or streams, etc., and neighboring plots where people are working
- By evaluating the distances separating plots from sensitive areas

Furthermore, weather conditions, the type of plots, and structures beside the plot being treated can have an influence on the containment within plots. To limit this, winemakers must:

- Assess the wind direction and speed, along with the air temperature and humidity
- Take into account the growth of the vine in terms of foliage density
- Identify nearby natural windbreaks
- Spray in the right conditions in terms of temperature, humidity, wind, rain, and environment. It is forbidden to spray if the wind speed is in excess of 19 kph
- Prevent the spread of any pest or disease control product from extending beyond the treatment zone, or into any ditch, stream or river, footpath or waterproof surfaces
- Use special spread-prevention nozzles for weed-killing, and anti-drip systems
- Use an anti-spread sprayer (side by side) that allows close access to vegetation and limit spraying, unless there are topographical constraints
- Remain vigilant during treatment with regard to spraying and monitoring settings, and making sure there are no people nearby
- Adapt spraying times to ensure spraying only takes place when there are no people around

Follow-up and monitoring

All signatories of the Charter will meet annually to:

- Consider any necessary revisions that may be necessary
- Develop monitoring tools and measurements such as treatment frequency indexes on a regional level, and monitor sale of pest and disease control products sold regionally
- Monitor the evolution of relationships with communities in winegrowing areas