

EuroMaster Vinifera

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**SAUVIGNON BLANC:
DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE MARLBOROUGH REGION**

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1. ABSTRACT

Today the Marlborough area, located northeast of the New Zealand South Island, is the most planted wine region in New Zealand and the most well known place in the world for its unique Sauvignon Blanc wines. Soil variation within the Marlborough region, coupled with differences in topography, rainfall and temperature give rise to viticultural sub-regions, each characterised by distinct growing conditions that are reflected in quite different wines. Wairau Valley, Southern Valley and Awatere Valley are the three most obvious sub-regions within Marlborough. In order to get a better understanding of the effects that environment and winemaking techniques might have on Sauvignon Blanc wine styles, three plots from the three different regions were selected and followed throughout their vinification. Different analyses were performed before and after fermentation, including aroma analysis and a sensory tasting panel, in order to compare the significant differences within the three valleys.