



Contest: New / Innovative Grape Varieties Several Surprises!

Graz, July 2021

The continuous rise of PIWI plantings is represented in this year's risen numbers of applicants for the Austrian PIWI wine contest for new and innovative grape varieties. Not only known areas for producing wine have competed but also the area Bergland of Austria is starting to strongly mix it up within the PIWI scene!



©Spandl

Already for the third time has the association "PIWI Austria" held the Austrian wine competition for new/ innovative grape varieties that are fungus-resistant. For the tasting conducted by a jury on the 22nd of July 165 wines by 83 different wineries were submitted. With the exception of Salzburg, every province of Austria, ranging from Lake Constance to Lake Neusiedl, was represented with at least one wine.

Naturally white wines dominated the amount of submissions, the most prominent type (with 30 wines submitted) being Muscaris, followed by Sauvignier gris and Donauriesling. Most often submitted within the red wine category was the Roesler. PIWI wines' versatility was proven by the high number of submissions for the category "Archaic Wines". Wines with skin fermentation, vinification in qvevri etc. would fall into this category.

Hosting venue for this jury-based tasting was once again the modern sensory room of the Versuchsstation Haidegg in Graz. The jury was made up of renowned experts and undertook the evaluation using the international 20-point-system. Depending on the points given the golden & silver badges will be awarded soon. For one category to be evaluated at least 10 wines had to be submitted.



©Spandl

Jury: Janez Valdhuber (Uni Marburg), Helmut Hirzer (Weinlabor Silberberg), Wolfgang Renner (PIWI Österreich, Kostleitung), Leonhard Steinbauer (Versuchsstation Haidegg), Martin Palz (LK Steiermark), Erich Leitner (TU Graz), Christian Eitler (LK Niederösterreich), Robert Steidl (Steidl-Weinberatung), Helmut Gangl (BA für Weinbau Eisenstadt), Stanko Vrsic (Uni Marburg), Christoph Gabler (Weinbauschule Krems), Christian Waltl (W2 – Weinbau Waltl, Klagenfurt), Erwin Gartner (LK Kärnten), Reinhold Holler (WBS Silberberg), Daniel Pachinger (LK Burgenland), Martin Nowak (Versuchsstation Haidegg). Not shown in photo: *Georg Thünauer (Weingut Thünauer), Michael Gangl (Kobathof, Tieschen), Peter Hiden (Versuchsstation Haidegg), Sabrina Dreisiebner-Lanz (Bio Ernte Steiermark), Dorothea Leis (TU Graz), Josef Platzer (Versuchsstation Haidegg)*

PIWI?

“PIWI” stands for “pilzwiderstandsfähige Rebsorten” which translates to types of grapes resistant against fungal diseases. These types of grapes are new and greatly innovative. They derive from complex cross-breeding and are not related to transgenic or cisgenic alterations! They are to a greater or lesser extent resistant against the two most important fungal threats in viticulture: *Peronospora* (downy mildew) and *Oidium* (powdery mildew). The modern generation of PIWI varieties is not only low-maintenance in the vineyard but has also got potential for excellent types of wine. PIWIs suit the idea of the “Green Deal” excellently. In the future one will not be able to pass by PIWIs if wanting to pursue ecological and economically sustainable wine-growing successfully in the long run! Currently 1.5% of Austria's total vineyard area is filled with PIWIS. The frontrunner is Styria with 2.9%.

The Association

The association “PIWI Österreich” (PIWI Austria) was founded 2005 as a working group to promote fungal-resistant grape varieties. The purpose of this association is among others knowledge transfer and the exchange of knowledge, the organisation of inspections and study tours, regular meetings, the exchange of experiences as well as public relations work. Now there are approximately a hundred members.

The Best Wines

Cat.	Place	Establishment	Address	WWW	Type of Wine	Year
SOUVIGNIER GRIS	1	Wein vom Pock	Annaberg 24 8354 St. Anna am Aigen	weinvompock.at	Souvignier gris	2020
	2	Ulrich Steinbauer	Rassach 60 8510 Stainz	hofbrennerei.at	Souvignier gris	2020
	3	Bio Weingut Mons de Reuch	Am Anger 15 7451 Oberloisdorf	mons-de-reuch.com	Souvignier gris	2020
DONAU-RIESLING	1	Kollerhof am Eichberg	Eichberg Trautenburg 39 8463 Leutschach a.d.Wstr.	kollerhof.com	Donauriesling	2020
	2	Weingut Haimel	St. Georgenergasse 5 3133 Traismauer	weingut-haimel.at	Donauriesling	2020
	3	Biohof Leeb	2020 Schöngrabern 119	bauernhof-leeb.at	Donauriesling	2020
MUSCARIS	1	Der Peiserhof - Ferien.Wein.Gut	Haiden 50 8552 Eibiswald	peiserhof.at	Muscaris	2020
	2	Weingut Adam- Lieleg	Kranach 78 8463 Leutschach a.d.Wstr.	adam-lieleg.at.at	Muscaris „Arumlilie“	2020
	3	Weingut Leitner GbR	Schattauberg 79 8211 Ilztal	leitnerhof.at	Muscaris	2020
CABERNET BLANC	1	Josef Scharl - Charakterweine	Plesch 1 8354 St. Anna am Aigen	weinhof-scharl.at	Cabernet blanc	2020
	2	Versuchsstation Haidegg	Ragnitzstraße 193 8047 Graz	haidegg.at	Cabernet blanc	2019
	3	Hirschmugl Domäne am	Am Plöckelberg 6 8430 Leibnitz	hirschmugl- domaene.at	Cabernet blanc „Nobilis“	2019
DONAUVELTLINER	1	Weingut Drexler- Leeb	Hochstraße 65 2380 Perchtoldsdorf	drexler-leeb.at	Donauveltliner	2020
	2	Weinbauernhof Diem	2015 Zellerndorf 122	weinbauernhof- diem.at	Donauveltliner	2020
	3	Bio Weinbau Müllner	2033 Dürnleis 47	bioweinbau- muellner.at	Donauveltliner	2020
WHITE WINES VARIETIES	1	Weingut Sternat	Eichberg Trautenburg 94 8454 Arnfels	sternat.at	Bronner	2020
	2	NÖ Landesweingut Krems	Wienerstraße 101 3500 Krems	wbs-krems.at	Blütenmuskateller	2020
	3	Bio Weinbau Peter Paradeiser	Am Kogl 12 3481 Fels am Wagram	peter- paradeiser.at	Johanniter	2020
CUVÉES	1	Karolinger Weinbau	Höhenweg 19 9062 Moosburg	weinauskaernten.at/win- zer/karolinger-weinbau	„Luitwinde“	2020
	2	Weingut Leitner GbR	Schattauberg 79 8211 Ilztal	leitnerhof.at	„PIWI Duett“	2020
	3	Weinbau Köck	Pollenitz 6 9560 Feldkirchen	weinbau-koeck.at	„Polenikus BIO halbtrocken“	2020

Kat.	Platz	Betrieb	Anschrift	www	Weinbezeichnung	Jg.
„ARCHAIC WINES“	1	Weinhof Lang	Aschau 29 8083 St. Stefan i. Rosental	weinhof-lang.at	„Long Orange“	2018
	2	Ploder Rosenberg	Unterrosenberg 86 8093 St. Peter a. Ottersbach	ploder-rosenberg.at	„VIVAS“	2019
	3	Bioweingut Thünauer	Eichberg 158 8453 St. Johann i.S.	weinbau-thuenauer.com	„Natural“	2019
ROESLER	1	Weingut Leeb	Stiftgasse 1 7092 Winden am See	weingut-leeb.at	„Black Fable“	2019
	2	Weinbau/Buschenschank Fam. Mayer	Brunner Gasse 38 2380 Perchtoldsdorf	weinbau-mayer.at	Roesler „Reserve“	2018
	3	Weinbau Köck	Pollenitz 10 9560 Feldkirchen	weinbau-koeck.at	Roesler „Barrique“	2018
RED WINES / VARIETIES	1	Sprenger Franz	Quadratsch 13 6551 Pians		„Bongerter Rubin“	2018
	2	Weingut Mauser	Hauptstraße 41 2120 Obersdorf	mauser.at	Rathay	2016
	3	Thomas Ranits	Obere Dorfstraße 39 2474 Gattendorf		„Theo“ Cabernet Jura	2020

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information:

Contact Information: Wolfgang Renner (Obmann PIWI Österreich)
c/o Versuchsstation Obst- und Weinbau Haidegg
Ragnitzstraße 193
8047 Graz
Tel. 0676 866 6 6614
wolfgang.renner@stmk.gv.at



Wolfgang Renner, Chairman PIWI Austria