

# NEW PROGRAM

Meeting Vinelink november 22th, 2002

## GRAPEVINE WOOD DECAY DISEASES RESEARCH PROGRAM PROPOSALS (FAVOR GROUP 2)

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17 participants, representing 7 countries (Australia, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, USA) have met in Epernay (Champagne) on September 4 and 5<sup>th</sup>. Two wood decay diseases have been targeted: Petri disease or grapevine young decline, having *Phaeomoniella chlamydospora* (P.c.) as causal agent, and esca with its pathogen sequences, P.c., *Phaeoacremonium aleophilum* (P.a.) *Eutypa lata* (E.l.) *Fomitiporia punctata* (F.p.) and *Stereum hirsutum* (S.t.)

Three main research domains have been defined: General knowledge and techniques to be developed or acquired, one specific action on Petri disease and one on esca.

**1-Petri diseases:** The following research actions have been proposed:

- **Nursery contaminations of propagated material:**
  - Detection of contaminated stock plants
  - Others contamination sources in nursery
  - Writing a paper on contamination of plant propagated material by wood decay fungi in nursery.
- **Foliar symptoms expression and physiology of grapevine:**
  - Setting an experimental model for studies
  - Pathogen effect on such a model
- **Relationship between Petri diseases and esca**
  - Specific studies on P.c. biology
  - P.c. artificial inoculation in the vineyard and following of expressed symptoms
  - Use of toxins synthesised by P.c. to trigger foliar symptoms and following such symptoms in the vineyard

**2-Esca:** The research is oriented on the following actions:

- **Variability of symptoms expressed in the laboratory, in greenhouse and in different vineyards**
  - *Laboratory:* Test antagonisms or synergies existing between different pathogens being involved in the disease
  - *Greenhouse and vineyard:*
    - Correlation between expressed symptoms and pathogens taken alone
    - Study of parameters involved in foliar symptoms expression
- **Esca control:**
  - General knowledge on P.a. and F.p. biology to acquire
  - Control methods to be tested in vineyards

The research program is totally open to scientists who wish to collaborate with Favor group 2.

A research for financing such program at national or European level is under progress. Among the different possibilities, the constitution of a Cost group (European financing) on woody plants wood decay diseases has been considered, as the submission to different scientific calls. Nevertheless, the Favor group 2 on Grapevine Wood Decay diseases constitutes a place where scientists can meet and organised coordinated researches, financed by the own money of each laboratory engaged on such topic.