



# *Proceedings*

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## Grapevine Performance and Production Strategies in Tropical Climates

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### Abstract

Viticulture is a traditional activity in countries with a temperate climate which, however, has gained significance in several regions of hot climate in the world. Under tropical conditions the behavior of the grapevine differs considerably from the one observed in temperate regions. The absence of a dormancy period and the use of an appropriate cultivation technology offer the possibility of timing the harvest for any day of the year. This feature brings about the perspective of a great expansion for the tropical viticulture be it for the continuous market supply with table grapes, be it for the possibility to produce large volumes of wine and juice in small industrial plants. The climatic variability found in inter-tropical zones, mainly due to the altitude, has allowed for the identification of regions with a great potential for the production of grapes for fine vintage wines. In this study relevant aspects of the grapevine performance in hot climates are presented and the management techniques employed in the tropical viticulture in Brazil are discussed. Furthermore, aspects related to the harvest timing according to the regional and seasonal climatic variations are dealt with, as well as the kind of products (table grapes, wine, juice), the intrinsic characteristics of the cultivars used and the market opportunities for some Brazilian grape growing regions are presented as examples.

**Keywords:** tropical viticulture, tropical climate, wine, juice, table grape, vineyard management