

Structuring a geographical indication for tropical wines in the São Francisco Valley, Brazil

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Jorge Tonietto¹, Giuliano Elisa Pereira² ¹Embrapa Grape and Wine, Bento Gonçalves, Brazil ²Embrapa Grape and Wine/Semiarid, Petrolina, Brazil Email: jorge.tonietto@embrapa.br

The Brazilian legislation on geographical indications (GI) are presented in the Law 9.279 and INPI Normative Instruction 25/2013, establishing the conditions for the registration of GI, whether in modality of "Indicação de Procedência" (IP) or "Denominação de Origem" (DO). Since 2002, a new strategy to organize and to promote regions, quality and identity of Brazilian wines began in the South of the country with the register of the first Brazilian GI - Vale dos Vinhedos. Later in that region, other GI jointed the strategy – Pinto Bandeira, Altos Montes, Monte Belo, Farroupilha and Vale da Uva Goethe already registered, and two others in structuring process – Campanha Gaúcha and Altos de Pinto Bandeira. The first GI in Northeast region of Brazil is in structuring process in the São Francisco Valley, a semi-arid region with the potential to produce grapes and tropical wines all over the year. Demanded by the vitivinicultural association Instituto do Vinho do Vale do São Francisco – VinhoVasf, this GI is in development by a RD&I project coordinated by Embrapa, with some partners. The studies in the GI project include many topics, among others: zoning soils and the viticultural climate with intra-annual variability, mapping the geographical area - relief (elevation, slope and aspect), land use, viticulture area mapping, viticulture production systems, cultivars for tropical wine production, oenological practices, physicochemical and organoleptic characterization of the wines. The specification document, with the requirements to qualify products in this GI is in development, including, among others: the delimited geographical area; varieties of Vitis vinifera authorized; grape production in the delimited area; training systems; maximum productivity; quality of grapes for wine making; authorized wine types; oenological practices; physicochemical characteristics for each type of wine; organoleptic analysis; elaboration, aging and bottling in the delimited area; labeling standards. Having a structure of control based on the "Conselho Regulador" of VinhoVasf, the GI will be submitted to a plan of control to assure that the products will correspond to the specification requirements to qualify the tropical wines of this GI.