

# VITICULTURAL CLIMATE AND CLIMATIC GROUPS IN IBERO-AMERICAN WINE PRODUCER REGIONS\*

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## **RESUMO**

### **Clima Vitícola e Grupos Climáticos nas Regiões Produtoras de Vinhos Ibero-Americanas**

A produção de vinhos constitui-se numa importante atividade sócio-econômica em diversos países Ibero-Americanos. As regiões vitivinícolas nestes países localizam-se em diversos tipos de clima. No âmbito de um projeto de zoneamento vitivinícola do CYTED (Programa Ibero-Americano de Ciência e Tecnologia para o Desenvolvimento), foi realizada uma caracterização climática na macrorregião Ibero-Americana. O projeto constituiu uma base de dados climáticos que caracteriza as regiões vitivinícolas, incluindo variáveis climáticas relevantes para a viticultura: temperatura do ar (média, máxima e mínima), precipitação pluviométrica e evapotranspiração, dentre outras. Através do uso dos índices climáticos do Sistema CCM Geovitícola (IH, IF e IS), mais de 90 mesoclimas de regiões vitícolas de diferentes

países (Argentina, Bolívia, Brasil, Chile, Cuba, Espanha, México, Peru, Portugal e Uruguai) foram caracterizadas pelo seu respectivo clima vitícola. Os resultados, que integram a base de dados do Sistema CCM ([www.cnpuv.embrapa.br/tecnologias/ccm](http://www.cnpuv.embrapa.br/tecnologias/ccm)), mostraram que a viticultura Ibero-Americana está localizada numa grande quantidade de grupos climáticos em relação ao conjunto de grupos climáticos da viticultura mundial. O trabalho apresenta os grupos climáticos encontrados na viticultura Ibero-Americana, identificando também novos grupos climáticos ainda não caracterizados em outras regiões vitivinícolas do mundo. Também são identificados alguns grupos climáticos não encontrados na vitivinicultura Ibero-Americana. A pesquisa destaca regiões caracterizadas pela existência de “clima vitícola com variabilidade intra-anual”, com potencial para produzir mais de um ciclo vegetativo da videira por ano. Os resultados permitem constatar que a grande

variabilidade e diversidade climática presente na vitivinicultura Ibero-Americana constitui-se num dos motivos que explicam a grande diversidade existente em termos de tipos de vinhos produzidos, características sensoriais e tipicidade dos vinhos, bem como da originalidade da produção vitivinícola desta macrorregião.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The wine production is an important activity in many Ibero-American countries. The wine producer regions of these countries configure a large use of different climate types and viticultural climates. In a vitivinicultural zoning project of CYTED (Ibero-American Program for Science, Technology and Development), a viticultural climatic characterization was done in this macro viticultural region (Cytred, 2003; Sotés & Tonietto, 2004; Catania et al., 2007).

The goal of this study was to characterize the viticultural climate and the climatic groups found in the wine producing regions in Ibero-American countries (a large grape-growing region) and also to compare these groups with the variability found in the viticulture worldwide.

## **2. MATERIAL AND METHODS**

The Geoviticulture MCC System (Tonietto, 1999; Tonietto & Carbonneau, 2004) was used as the methodology to characterize the viticultural climate and the climatic groups of more than 90 mesoclimates in viticultural regions in 10 Ibero-American countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Spain,

Mexico, Peru, Portugal and Uruguay (Table 1).

The CYTED project has assembled a climatic database to characterize the viticultural regions (database presented in the different Chapters - Part II of this book), including relevant variables for viticulture. The database established regarding grape-growing regions correspond to the inter-annual monthly means of climatic variables, as much as possible the normal climatic of the 1961–1990 series (minimum, maximum and mean air temperature; precipitation; and Penman's potential evapotranspiration, among others) from standardized meteorological stations representing the climate of the grape-growing regions. For each region the three indices of the MCC System were calculated: Heliothermal index (HI), Cool night index (CI) and Dryness index (DI).

The results of Ibero-American regions were analyzed and characterized by Principal Component Analysis (PCA). Also, the climatic groups of the different viticultural regions of Ibero-American countries of this study were displayed with the international database of viticultural climate available in Tonietto (1999) and Tonietto & Carbonneau (2004) – Table 2, for 20 other countries in the world, in order to characterize the placement of the Ibero-America viticulture in the world context (Colombia: La Unión – COla; and, Guatemala: Estanzuela – GTes; database obtained in the same bibliography).

## **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The viticultural climates found in the Ibero-American región are presented in the

Table 1. Viticultural regions/mesoclimates of the climatic database in Ibero-American countries.

COUNTRY	VITICULTURAL REGION / MESOCLIMATE	ACRONYM	COUNTRY	VITICULTURAL REGION / MESOCLIMATE	ACRONYM
ARGENTINA	Valles de Famatina/Chilecito	ARri	CHILE	Valle de Curicó/Curicó	CLCr
	Valle del Tulum/San Juan (INTA)	ARsj		Valle de Curicó/Huaquen	CLHu
	Valle del Tulum/Albardón INTA	ARai		Valle de Maule/Cauquenes	CLCq
	Valle del Tulum/Sarmiento INTA	ARsi		Valle de Maule/Linares	CLLi
	Valle del Tulum/San Martín INTA	ARmi		Valle de Maule/Talca	CLTc
	Valle del Tulum/Las Casuarinas (25 de mayo)	ARlc	CUBA	Sur de la Habana/Batabanó	CUsh
	Jáchal/Jáchal	ARja		Banao/Sancti Spiritus	CUBa
	Zona Alta del Río Mendoza/Chacras de Coria	ARcc		Jagüey Grande/Provincia Matanzas	CUjg
	Norte de Mendoza/Mendoza Aero	ARme	MEXICO	Baja California/San Vicente/La Calentura	MXic
	Este de Mendoza/San Martín	ARsm		Baja California/Valle de Guadalupe/Olivares Mexicanos	MXgu
	Este de Mendoza/INTA Junin	ARju		Baja California/San Vicente/San Vicente	MXsv
	Valle de Uco/EI Peral (Mza)	ARpe		Baja California/Santo Tomás/Santo Tomás	MXst
	Valle de Uco/San Carlos (Mza)	ARsc		Baja California/Valle de Palmas/Valle de Palmas	MXvp
	Valle de Uco/Vista Flores (Mza)	ARvf	PERU	Baja California/Ojos Negros/Valle de San Rafael	MXon
	Sur de Mendoza/San Rafael Aero	ARra		Valle de Cañete/Cañete	PEca
	Sur de Mendoza/Malargue Aero	ARma		Valle de Ica/Ica	PEic
	Valles del Río Negro/INTA Alto Vale	ARav	PORTUGAL	Vinhos Verdes/Viana do Castelo/Meadela	PTvv
	Valles del Río Negro/Neuquen Aero	ARna		Trás-os-Montes/Chaves	PTtm
	Catamarca/Tinogasta	ARca		Trás-os-Montes/Miranda do Douro	PTmd
Córdoba/Córdoba	ARco	Douro-Porto/Régua		PTdo	
		Dão/Visou		PTda	
		Bairrada/Anadia		PTba	
		Beira Interior/Figueira de Castelo Rodrigo		PTbi	
		Beira Interior/Fundão		PTfa	
		Lisboa-Torres Vedras/Dois Portos		PTes	
		Ribatejo/Santarém		PTri	
BOLIVIA	Valle Central de Tarija/Avilez/Juntas	BOav	SPAIN	Extremadura/Ribera Guadiana-Tierra de Barros y Montánchez/Almendralejo	ESet
	Valle Central de Tarija/Avilez/Cenavit	BOce		Madrid/Madrid/Retiro	ESmd
	Valle Central de Tarija/Cercado/EI Tejar	BOte		La Rioja/Rioja/Logroño	ESri
	Valle Central de Tarija/Cercado/Yesera Norte	BOyn		Canaria/Tenerife y Lanzarote/Sta Cruz de Tenerife	ESte
	Valle Central de Tarija/Mendez/Sella Quebrada	BOme		Castilla y León/Bierzo/Villafranca	ESbi
				Cataluña/Tarragona y Priorato/Reus	ESra
				Cataluña/Penedés/Vilafranca del Penedés	ESpe
				Castilla y León/Toro/Toro	ESto
				Castilla y León/Ribera del Duero/Aranda de Duero	ESrd
				Murcia/Jumilla/Jumilla	ESmu
				Navarra/Navarra/Olite	ESna
				Andalucía/Jerez/Jerez de la Frontera	ESje
				Andalucía/Málaga/Málaga	ESma
		Galicia/Ribeiro, Orense/Orense	ESor		
		Galicia/Rias Baixas, Pontevedra/Pontevedra	ESpv		
		Castilla y León/Rueda y Cigales/Valladolid	ESrc		
		Aragón/Calatayud/Calatayud	ESca		
		Aragón/Campo de Borja/Borja	EScb		
		Aragón/Cariñena/Cariñena	ESñe		
		Aragón/Somontano/Barbastro	ESso		
		Comunidad Valenciana/Utiel-Requena/Requena	EScv		
		Castilla-La Mancha/Castilla-La Mancha, Uclés/Alcazar de San Juan	ESuc		
		Castilla-La Mancha/Valdepeñas/Valdepeñas	ESvl		
		URUGUAY	Canelones/Las Brujas	UYca	
BRAZIL	Campanha/Bagé	BRca			
	Serra do Sudeste/Encruzilhada do Sul	BRss			
	Campos de Cima da Serra/Vacaria	BRcc			
	Serra Gaúcha/Bento Gonçalves	BRsg			
	Planalto Catarinense/São Joaquim	BRsj			
	Minas Gerais/João Pinheiro/Oct.-Mar. Period	BRj3			
	Minas Gerais/João Pinheiro/Mar.-Aug. Period	BRj8			
	Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Aug.-Jan. Period	BRs1			
	Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Sep.-Feb. Period	BRs2			
	Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Oct.-Mar. Period	BRs3			
	Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Nov.-Apr. Period	BRs4			
	Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Dec.-May. Period	BRs5			
	Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Jan.-Jun. Period	BRs6			
Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Feb.-Jul. Period	BRs7				
Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Mar.-Aug. Period	BRs8				
Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Apr.-Sep. Period	BRs9				
Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/May.-Oct. Period	BRs10				
Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Jun.-Nov. Period	BRs11				
Vale do Submédio São Francisco/Petrolina/Jul.-Dec. Period	BRs12				
CHILE	Valle de Casablanca/Casablanca	CLcb			
	Valle del Maipo/La Platina	CLip			
	Valle del Maipo/Pirque	CLpi			
	Valle del Maipo/Tagante	CLta			
	Valle del Maipo/Melipilla	CLme			
	Valle de Cachapoal/Totihue	CLto			
	Valle de Cachapoal/Graneros	CLgr			
	Valle de Cachapoal/Quinta de Tilcoco	CLqt			
	Valle de Colchagua/San Fernando	CLsf			
	Valle de Colchagua/Colchagua	CLcl			

Table 2. Regions representing viticultural mesoclimates in 20 wine producer countries (Source: Tonietto, 1999; Tonietto & Carbonneau, 2004).

COUNTRY	VITICULTURAL REGION / MESOCLIMATE	ACRONYM	COUNTRY	VITICULTURAL REGION / MESOCLIMATE	ACRONYM
AUSTRALIA	Mildura	AUmi	GERMANY	Trier	DEtr
	Mount Gambier	AUmo		Würzburg	DEwü
	Nuriootpa	AUnu	INDIA	Ludhiana	INlu
CANADA	Québec	CAqu		Pune	INpu
	Summerland	CAsu	ISRAEL	Haifa	ILha
	Vancouver	CAva	ITALY	Lecce	ITle
CHINA	Bei Jing	CNbe		Modena	ITmo
	Tong Chuan	CNto		Perugia	ITpe
	Urumqi	CNur		Ravenna	ITra
	Yi Couniy	CNyc		Trapani	ITta
	Yi Li	CNyl		Treviso	ITte
ENGLAND	Maidstone	GBma	JAPAN	Kofu	JPko
FRANCE	Agen	FRag	NEW ZEALAND	Napier	NZna
	Ajaccio	FRaj	REP. OF KOREA	P'ohang	KRpo
	Angers	FRan		Suwon	KRsu
	Bastia	FRba	SLOVAKIA	Bratislava	SKbr
	Besançon	FRbe	SLOVENIA	Beli Kriz	Slbe
	Bordeaux	FRbo		Bizeljsko	Slibi
	Carcassonne	FRca		Murska Sobota	Slmu
	Cognac	FRcg		Novo Mesto	Slnm
	Colmar	FRcl	SOUTH AFRIQUE	Cape Town	ZAca
	Macon	FRma	SWITZERLAND	Geneva	CHge
	Montélimar	FRmm	THAILAND	Bangkok	THba
	Montpellier	FRmp		Chiangmai	THch
	Nantes	FRna	TUNISIA	Bizerta	TNbi
	Pau	FRpa		Nabeul	TNna
	Perpignan	FRpe		Tunis-Cartagena	TNtu
	Reims	FRre	TURKEY	Izmir	TRiz
	Toulouse	FRte		Tekirdag	TRte
Toulon	FRtn	USA	Cleveland	UScl	
Tours	FRtr		Fresno	USfr	
GERMANY	Freiburg	DEfr		Medford	USme
	Geiseinheim	DEge		Portland	USpo
	Neustadt	DEne		Rochester	USrc
	Stuttgart	DEst		Sacramento	USsc

PCA of the Figure 1 for 9 producer countries. These results show the high variability in terms of viticultural climate existing in Ibero-America.

Considering the total variability in climate of worldwide viticultural regions described in previous works (Tonietto & Carbonneau, 2004), the viticultural regions of each Ibero-American country have viticultural climates that cover complementary spaces, making possible a whole climate conditions for wine

production (Figure 1).

The results also shows viticultural regions characterized by tropical climates with intra-annual climatic variability: Vale do Submédio São Francisco region (BRs1 to BRs12) and João Pinheiro region (BRj3 and BRj8) (Figure 1), with the possibility to have more than one growing cycle per year. Cuba (CUsh, CUba, CUjg regions) also has climates in evaluation for viticulture with intra-annual variability classified in the climatic groups IH+3 IF-2 IS-2

## VITICULTURAL CLIMATE OF PRODUCER REGIONS IN IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES

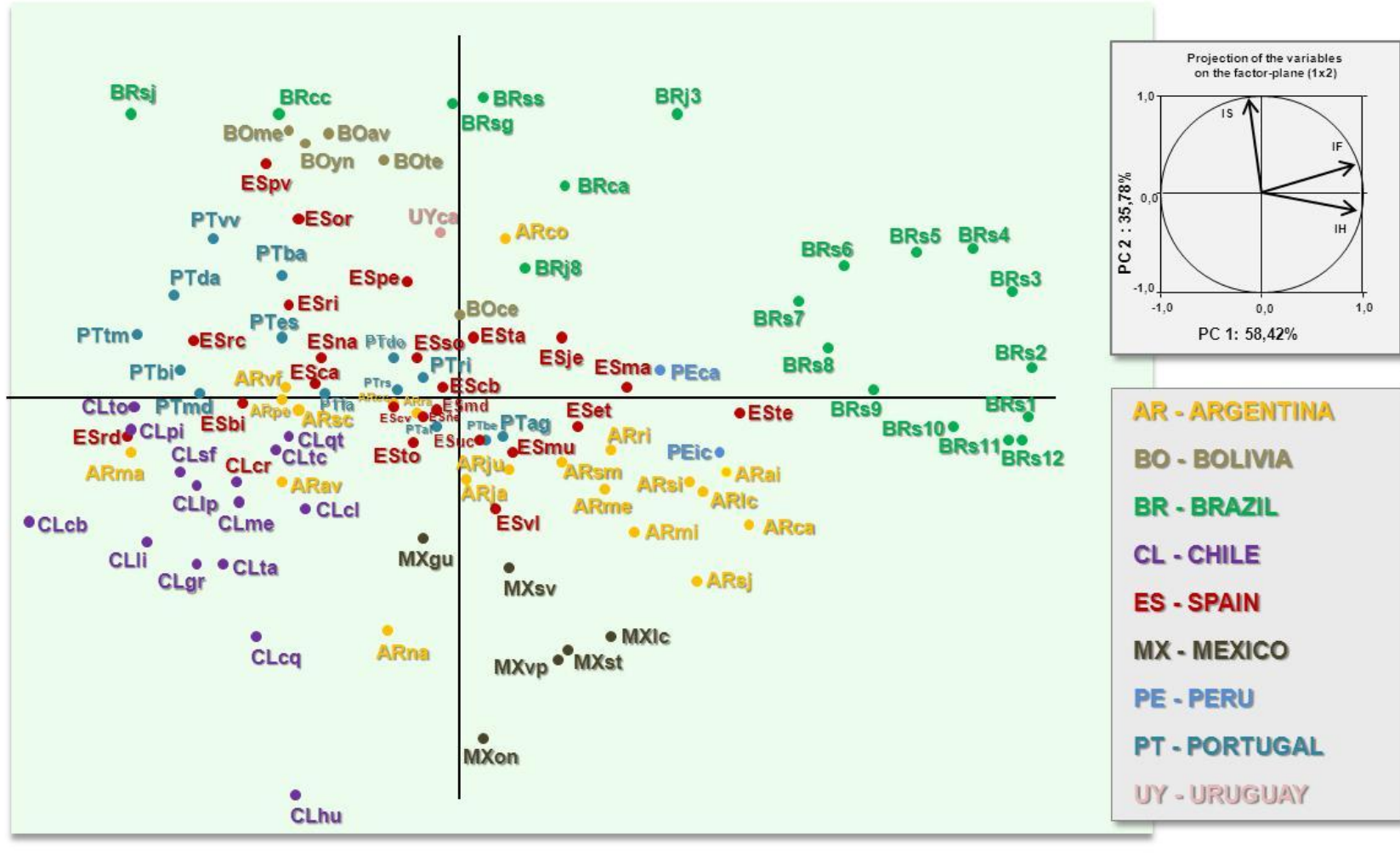


Figure 1. PCA showing the variability of the viticultural climate (HI, CI and DI indices of the MCC System) of the regions (Table 1) in 9 Ibero-American countries.

## VITICULTURAL CLIMATE IN PRODUCER REGIONS OF THE WORLD

### Variability in the Ibero-American Regions

- IBERO-AMERICAN REGIONS

- OTHER REGIONS WORLDWIDE

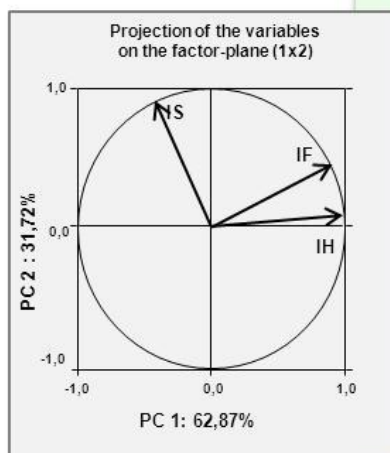


Figure 2. PCA showing the distribution of the viticultural climate (HI, CI and DI indices of the MCC System) of producer regions (Table 1) belonging to Ibero-American countries in relation to the context of other worldwide producer regions (Table 2).



and IH+2 IF-1 IS-1 (detailed description on the Chapter of Cuba – Part II of this book).

The high diversity of the viticultural climate of the producers regions in Ibero-American countries is demonstrated in the PCA of Figure 2, which make possible to compare with representative part of the worldwide climatic variability. We can observe that only climate class of IH Very cold (ARpa) and Cold (CLcb, BRsj) in Ibero-American countries have little presence (Table 3).

In terms of climatic groups the results showed that the Ibero-American viticulture is placed in a wide range of variability when compared to other wine producing regions variability around the world. Compared to the world database of the article Tonietto & Carbonneau (2004), the Ibero-America viticulture is present in 32 of the 45 climatic groups identified in the world viticulture, many of them characterized, for instance, only in Ibero-America (Table 3).

The climatic variability found in the Ibero-America viticulture certainly is responsible for the numerous types and different qualities and originalities of wines produced in Ibero-America, as demonstrated for different countries in the Chapters of this book (Part II).

The Ibero-American climatic database will be integrated to the MCC database in the international website ([www.cnpuv.embrapa.br/tecnologias/ccm/ccm.en.html](http://www.cnpuv.embrapa.br/tecnologias/ccm/ccm.en.html)).

#### **4. CONCLUSIONS**

The Ibero-American viticulture for wine

production is representative of the most part of the macro climatic variability found in the world. The results allow to conclude that the wide variability and climatic diversity present in Ibero-America may be one of the reasons to explain the diversity in terms of wine types, sensorial characteristics, typicity and uniqueness of wines produced on this macro-region.

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APOYO



POLITÉCNICA

**Embrapa**

*Uva e Vinho*