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# ENZYMATIC TEST KIT FOR THE DETERMINATION OF CITRIC ACID IN GRAPE JUICE AND WINE

### **PRODUCT**

Product no. 4A126, for 30 tests, for in vitro use only

### PRINCIPLE OF MEASUREMENT

Citric acid may be used at the final stages of winemaking to make minor adjustments to acid levels without affecting the bi-tartrate stability of the wine. It is determined enzymatically according to the following equations:

CL

Citrate → oxaloacetate + acetate

In the presence of enzymes MDH and LDH, both the oxaloacetate and its decarboxylation product pyruvate, are reduced by NADH to malate and lactate respectively.

MDH/LDH

Oxaloacetate + pyruvate + NADH + H<sup>+</sup> → malate + lactate + NAD<sup>+</sup>

The amount of NADH oxidised is measured at 340 nm and is stoichiometrically related to the amount of citrate present.

## **CONTENTS**

The kit includes the following reagents:

| Reagent No. | Reagent  | Preparation   | Quantity   | Stability                                       |
|-------------|----------|---|------------|---|
| 1           | Buffer   | Nil   | 33 mL      | 1 year at 4°C                                   |
| 2           | NADH     | Add 1.7 mL of distilled water to either bottle as required, mix to dissolve | 2 x 1.7 mL | 1 year at 4°C<br>(1 month at 4°C once diluted)  |
| 3           | MDH/LDH  | Mix gently by inversion before use  | 0.7 mL     | 1 year at 4°C                                   |
| 4           | CL       | Add 0.35mL of distilled water to either bottle as required, mix to dissolve | 2 x 0.35mL | 1 year at 4°C<br>(2 months at 4°C once diluted) |
| 5           | Standard | Nil   | 3.3 mL     | 1 year at 4°C                                   |

The shelf life of Reagent 1 can be extended by placing aliquots in a freezer.

Do not freeze reagents 2, 3 or 4.

Failure to store reagents at the recommended temperature will reduce their shelf life.

For concentration of Standard, refer to label on bottle.

## **SAFETY**

- Wear safety glasses
- Do not ingest Buffer or Standard as they contain sodium azide as a stabilizer

## **PROCEDURE**

**Operating Parameters** 

Wavelength 340 nm

Cuvettes 1cm, quartz, silica, methacrylate or polystyrene

Temperature  $20 - 25^{\circ}$ C Final volume in cuvette 3.14 mL

Zero against air without cuvette in light path

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#### SAMPLE PREPARATION

Samples should be diluted to ensure concentration in the assay solution is no more than 0.5 g/L. For most samples, a 1 in 2 dilution with distilled water should be sufficient.

For samples containing between 1 g/L to 2.5 g/L of citric acid, a 1 in 5 dilution would be appropriate. Ideally, A<sub>1</sub> should lie between 0.90 – 1.20 absorbance units.

Red wines or highly coloured undiluted juice samples require decolourisation. To decolourise, add approximately 0.1 g of PVPP to 5 mL of sample in a test tube. Shake well for about 1 minute. Clarification is achieved by settling or filtering through Whatman No. 1 filter paper.

#### **SAMPLE ANALYSIS**

a. Pipette the following volumes of reagents into the cuvettes:

| Reagent         | Blank             | Standard          | Sample            |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Buffer       | 1.00 mL (1000 μL) | 1.00 mL (1000 µL) | 1.00 mL (1000 µL) |
| 2. NADH         | 0.10 mL (100 µL)  | 0.10 mL (100 μL)  | 0.10 mL (100 µL)  |
| Distilled water | 2.00 mL (2000 µL) | 1.80 mL (1800 µL) | 1.80 mL (1800 µL) |
| Sample/Standard |                   | 0.20 mL (200 µL)  | 0.20 mL (200 µL)  |
| 3. MDH/LDH      | 0.02 mL (20 μL)   | 0.02 mL (20 μL)   | 0.02 mL (20 μL)   |

- b. Mix well by gentle inversion and read absorbances, A<sub>1</sub>, after 5 minutes.
- c. Pipette the following reagent into the cuvettes:

| 4. CL | 0.02 mL (20µL) | 0.02 mL (20µL) | 0.02 mL (20µL) |
|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|

d. Mix well by gentle inversion and read absorbances, A2, after 25 minutes.

#### **CALCULATIONS\***

1. Calculate the Net Absorbance for the Blank, Sample and Standard:

Net Absorbance,  $A_N = A_1 - A_2$ 

2. Calculate the Corrected Absorbance by subtracting the Net Absorbance for the Blank from the Net Absorbance for the Sample.

Sample Corrected Absorbance,  $A_C$  = Sample  $A_N$  – Blank  $A_N$ 

- 3. Do the same for the Standard by substituting the Standard absorbance values in place of the Sample absorbance values.
- 4. Calculate the Citric acid concentration as follows;

Citric acid (g/L) =  $A_C \times 0.4787 \times Dilution Factor$ 

http://www.vintessential.com.au/certification/calculation-worksheets/

### **REFERENCES**

1. OIV, 2018, Compendium of international methods of wine and must analysis. *International Organisation of Vine and Wine*, Vol 1: Paris, France, pp. OIV-MA-AS313-09.

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<sup>\*</sup>A calculation spreadsheet is available for download at: