



# NAMUR 2009

## Wine Production in Denmark

### Do the Characteristics of the Vineyards affect the Chances for awards?

**Jan BENTZEN, Valdemar SMITH**

Department of Economics, The Aarhus School of Business, Aarhus University, Denmark  
*jb@asb.dk; vs@asb.dk*

By the end of the former century there were less than 10 commercial vintners producing wine in Denmark. There was widespread acceptance of the view that commercial production of wine in the most northern parts of Europe was impossible. However, the number of commercial wine producers in Denmark grew to nearly 80 at the end of year 2008 and the Association of Danish Wine Producers now counts more than 1 400 members. Denmark can no longer be seen as a non-wine producing country! Formally, the transformation of Denmark to a wine producing country took place in year 2000 when Denmark was accepted as a commercial wine producing nation within the European Union. Based on remarkably detailed micro data, this paper first gives a description of wine production in Denmark and thereafter we address the question whether vineyard characteristics are important for the quality of the wine and/or whether individual characteristics of the vintner is important. Using a hedonic model, the focus is especially on the importance of general factors like the slope of the vineyards, the type of soil, geography, grape variety, ... in relation to the awards obtained by the respective vineyards.