



For an Environmental Approach to Vineyard Protection

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A finger is often pointed at agriculture as being responsible for a considerable role in the degradation of nature and directly aimed by the social demand of environment. In wine growing, which uses a lot of pesticides compared with others crops, the question of environmental stakes is very important. The main wine areas in France are consequently very concerned by this problem. Integration of the environmental question in the approach of the technical practices of wine growing is rather slow and not at the same level on all the farms. Environmental performance can be evaluated through different types of diagnoses. In contrast, there is no tool to evaluate the economic impact of environmentally friendly practices, only those developed following fall in the price of wine and they are concerned only by production cost control (Pailler, 1998).

Economic and environmental dimensions are not often considered simultaneously in agriculture. There is no method for evaluating the cost linked to the environmental dimension in grape production. This point need to be clarified (Pailler and Corade, 2004). We need to better understand and to include environmental concerns in management processes of farms instead of referring to a classic approach which ignores the environment. The aim of the method described here is simply to identify practices from the grape production which are environmentally friendly and which are not, particularly as concerns about phytosanitary operations.

The aim of this presentation is first to present a norm describing technical practices. Then, we will define what an environmental operation is and what is not in the production process of grapes, especially in vineyard protection. The last part will deal with how to evaluate the environmental cost on a grape farm.