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PGI-CY-A1621 Nicosia

7. LINK WITH THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Details of the geographical area:

1. Natural factors:

The province of Nicosia lies in the northern part of the regions of Cyprus which are effectively controlled by the Republic of Cyprus and is adjacent to the province of Pafos in the west, the province of Keryneia in the north, the province of Larnaca in the southeast, the province of Famagusta in the east and the province of Limassol in the south.

The province of Nicosia occupies 2 717 sq. km and covers 30% of the entire area of Cyprus.

Climate characteristics: The vineyard areas are mainly on the northern slopes of the Range of Troodos, where the climate is relatively mild in summer and cold in winter. Based on measurements taken in 1991-2005, the average daily temperature is approximately 15.1 ^{o}C. The average daily temperature in summer ranges between 22 ^{o}C and 24.8 ^{o}C, and in winter it ranges between 6 ^{o}C and 7.6 ^{o}C.

Relief / soil characteristics: Mountainous relief, with intense natural slopes at altitudes ranging from 500 m to 1300 m, with average slopes of 20^{o} to 40^{o}, with plenty of gorges and ranges, and with volcanic, rocky and barren soils. Terraces are usually constructed on the ground to allow for planting the vineyards.

There is an average of 7.4 sunshine hours per day.

The average annual rainfall is approximately 721.7 mm. The higher levels of rainfall occur in the months of December, January, February and March, and there is minimum rainfall in other months.

2. Human factors:

The vineyards occupy barren and sloping areas and therefore they are very hard to maintain.

Irregular planting types are used in most vineyards grown in this area. Rudimentary measures are taken to fight weeds. The vines are formed in cup shapes and the varieties grown are almost exclusively only Dopio Mavro and Xynisteri, as well as Maratheftiko to a lesser degree.

Maximum yields were set by the producers themselves (viticulturists and viniculturists) on the basis of empirical data collected over time and were established officially in 2004 by national decrees.

Authorised oenological practices are laid down in Community law; traditionally, however, the ones used are those relating to increasing/decreasing acidity, adding sulphites and clarifying-stabilising the wines.

On the basis of empirical data, producers found that grapes ripened better and had a higher sugar content. Therefore they set minimum natural alcohol strengths by volume, which were then established officially.

In most cases, wooden containers are used in harvesting.

Construction of terraces is also an important human geomorphological intervention in the area.

Details of the product:

Detailed characteristics

2006 - 2007 vintage dry red wines:

- total alcoholic strength: Average 13.7% vol.

- reducing sugars: Average 2.4 g/l

- total sulphurous acid: Average 47.5 mg/l

- volatile acidity: Average 12.9 meq/l

- total acidity: Average 65 meq/l

Organoleptic characteristics

The characteristics of the wines are:

- aromatic purity,

- good structure,

- soft tannins.

Causal interaction:

The above soil and climate characteristics, in conjunction with the human factor, have played a decisive role in the choice of varieties and the quality characteristics of the wines produced in the area.

Most vineyards are on sloping ground with a northern orientation, and therefore with less sunshine, which are additional factors affecting their potential and, in conjunction with the local climate, they affect vine growth.

The soil characteristics, relief, altitude, temperature, relatively low sunlight, increased rainfall, frost, etc. have made the quality characteristics and ripening of the grapes, as well as the resulting wine, different, therefore contributing to the significance of the geographical indication “Nicosia”.

8. FURTHER CONDITIONS

Legal framework: In national legislation

Type of further condition: Derogation on the production in the demarcated geographical area

Description of the condition:

In accordance with relevant provisions laid down in national legislation, (Regulatory Administrative Act No 206/2010), vinification takes place in the same administrative area or in an adjacent one

Additional provisions laid down in national law (Regulatory Administrative Act No 294/2010) concerning the labelling of wines, in accordance with Article 70(1) of Regulation (EC) No 607/2009:

- The terms indicating the harvest year shall appear on all wines with a PDO or PGI. Packages of a nominal volume of 200 ml or less are exempted from the obligation.

- The terms listed in Part B of Annex XIV to Regulation (EC) No 607/2009 indicating the sugar content shall appear on the labels of all wines.