



IMPROVING THE
SUSTAINABILITY OF GRAPE
AND WINE PRODUCTION AT
THE PRIORAT REGION



**EFFICIENCY IN THE USE OF RESOURCES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY
OF VINE AND WINE SECTOR OF PRIORAT
LIFE PRIORAT+MONT SANT | LIFE15 ENV/ES/000399**

What is LIFE PRIORAT+MONT SANT?

LIFE PRIORAT+MONT SANT is a project that seeks to develop and demonstrate a model of sustainable wine production in the Priorat region, by applying a set of methodologies for the efficient use of natural resources throughout the value chain, which is subsequently replicable in other wine producing regions of the European Union.

The project is carried out by five entities: VITEC (Wine Technological Center), as coordinator, the Regulatory Council of the Montsant Appellation of Origin (DO Montsant), the Regulatory Council of the Priorat Qualified Appellation of Origin (DOQ Priorat), the company Lavola 1981, SA and Plataforma Tecnológica del Vino (Wine Technological Platform, PTV).

LIFE PRIORAT+MONT SANT has a global budget of 1,529,153 euros, has the financial contribution of the LIFE + tool of the European Union, and will run for four years, from July 2016 to June 2020.

[Go to www.lifeprioratmontsant.eu if you want to know it!](http://www.lifeprioratmontsant.eu)

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PRELIMINARY RESULTS 2016-2017

The LIFE PRIORAT + MONT SANT project aims to demonstrate to the wineries and wine growers the benefits of the application of sustainable production techniques, which allow the optimization of the use of water, fertilizers and

pesticides.

To achieve this goal, three technical actions have been carried out and these are the preliminary results:



B1 Action: Optimization of water management for the vineyard:

Hydric stress was monitored in 14 climatic zones and, taking into account these collected data, 3 technical reports were sent to the project participants detailing the water stress for each grape variety in each zone and giving irrigation recommendations. To assess the influence of the irrigation on wine quality, the maturation was monitored from grape samples and then, with the grapes produced, a total of 38 microvinifications of 50 liters were carried out in VITEC's experimental winery.

For more information click [here](#).



B2 action: Minimise of the use of pesticides in integrated pest and vine disease control programs:

The objective of this action is to control the pests and diseases of the vine with products and practices which are not chemical synthesis. The three tested practices contribute positively to the reduction of the use of chemical pesticides.

For more information click [here](#).



B3 action: Efficient use of fertilisers in the vineyard:

Fertilization were monitored in 197 vineyards in the Priorat region and, based on the results, VITEC sent 54 technical reports with recommendations with the fertilizer dose to be applied. These vineyards where the monitoring were carried out were incorporated into a Geographical Information System in order to favour visualization and organization. In this way you can

cross the data obtained in other technical actions of the project.

For more information click [here](#).

OUR TECHNICAL ADVANCES

Soil analysis campaign

The soil analysis campaign planned in the LIFE PRIORAT+MONTSANT project has been launched. This type of analysis is advisable to do it when the harvest is over, and especially before proceeding to the winter fertilization to verify that the concentrations of the major nutrients are the correct ones (Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium). In addition, it is advisable to include organic matter in this analysis because of its importance in the development of the microbial flora of the soil.

Verification of weather stations by VITEC

In the LIFE PRIORAT+MONTSANT project, it is verified periodically that the meteorological stations are working correctly; this task is done by the Wine Technological Center (VITEC). In order to avoid possible component failures, on-site maintenance tasks are performed at each installed station. In this way, the proper functioning of each of its sensors is verified and it is also verified that it stores and transmits all meteorological data in an optimal way so that they can be consulted via the web by all those interested.

NEWS AND NETWORKING

Progress meeting with the LIFE Monitor of the project

The progress meeting of the LIFE PRIORAT + MONTSANT project for the 2016-2017 period took place on October 26th. The meeting was organized at the headquarters of DOQ Priorat, in Torroja del Priorat, in Tarragona. This meeting was attended by the partners working on the project (VITEC, DO Montsant, DOQ Priorat, Lavola and PTV) and the LIFE monitor. During the day they discussed, among other issues, how the project has evolved from the technical, administrative and dissemination point of view of the project. Subsequently, an

assessment of the overall progress of the project was made, ending with a meal with all those present at the meeting.



Sustainable Wine and Market seminar

In the 1st Sustainable Wine and Market seminar held in Valladolid on June 16th, the LIFE PRIORAT+MONT SANT project was presented by VITEC, the project coordinator. In this meeting it was highlighted the need to protect the environment and the fundamental role of the wine sector, which for years has been working on actions that minimize the impact of agricultural and industrial activity on the environment.

Conference on new trends in marketing and technological innovation in viticulture

In the framework of the 1st Wine Week of Galicia, which took place in the knowledge center of La Molinera from June 5th to 8th in the capital of As Burgas, on the 8th June, the conference on new trends in marketing was held. Within this day, Plataforma Tecnológica del Vino (PTV), a member of the LIFE PRIORAT + MONT SANT project, presented the project as an example of how to contribute to the adaptation and mitigation of climate change in viticulture for the development of the circular economy.

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