

Chenin blanc has a long history in South Africa and was introduced on home soil in the 17th century by Dutch Settlers who established a trading post at the Cape of Good Hope.

The connection between Chenin blanc and Stellenbosch University dates back to 1963, when prof Orffer, then head of the Department of Viticulture, settled the uncertainty about the identity of the grape variety known as 'Steen' when his research showed Steen and Chenin blanc to be the same.

This contemporary second version of the Chenin blanc wine aroma wheel is the result of a collaborative effort between research and industry, with main partners Stellenbosch University's Institute for Wine Biotechnology, Department of Viticulture and Oenology, Chenin Blanc Association of South Africa, Platter's South African Wine Guide and Chenin

blanc producing cellars. The data was generated through the actual tasting and sensory evaluation of some 3,000 wines produced in South Africa from 2007 to date.

Modern-day South African Chenin blanc wines display a remarkable array of primary, secondary and tertiary sensory attributes, illustrated in the aroma wheel. This pays tribute to the dedicated efforts of generations of Chenin blanc vineyard managers and winemakers. The wheel is intended to provide information, educate and showcase SA Chenin locally and internationally.

For more information, contact Stellenbosch University (Institute for Wine Biotechnology, Department of Viticulture and Oenology):

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"As South Africa's original and still best-selling consumer wine guide, Platter's has provided several editions' worth of tasting data towards the development of this pioneering aroma wheel and related projects, as part of our broader goal of furthering the understanding, appreciation and responsible enjoyment of South Africa's world-class wines across all styles and grape varieties". Philip van Zyl, Editor, Platter's South African Wine Guide, October 2017

"The Chenin Blanc Association has grown in stature both locally, as well as internationally and represents the largest single segment of the SA wine industry. Chenin Blanc offers something very unique to our consumers and is probably the most effective driver for our industry". Ina Smith, Manager, Chenin Blanc Association (CBA), October, 2017

"South African Chenin Blanc has come into its own, setting a benchmark in terms of world class quality and versatility of style which can appeal to wine drinkers around the world. Whether easy-drinking or voluptuous and rich, the varietal never ceases to inspire". Siobhan Thompson, CEO, Wines of South Africa (WOSA), October 2017











