



# 2016 Standard Bank Chenin blanc Top 10 Challenge wines



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## Introduction

- Chenin blanc is the most planted grape variety in South Africa.
- Chenin blanc's quality and style depend on the vineyards and the winemaker's vinification choices; producing a wide range of aroma and taste profiles.
- There is currently a big drive by various industry role players, researchers, as well as producers and wineries, to improve the quality and perception of South African Chenin blanc wines.
- The Standard Bank Chenin blanc Top 10 Challenge is an annual competition evaluating the quality of bottled Chenin blanc wines.
- Knowing which are the characteristics that experts consider the best could help winemakers tailor their wines for specific consumers.
- The aim of this work was to describe the sensorial composition of the Top 10 wines, as well as the five lowest scoring wines, from the Standard Bank Chenin blanc Top 10 Challenge of 2016.
- Winemakers were used to describe these wines.



## Tasting

- 15 wines: 10 highest scored (CB1-CB10) and lowest scored (CB11-CB15)
- 20 wine experts (Chenin blanc winemakers)
- Describe the wines: appearance, nose and palate

## Results

- Word clouds constructed using the results obtained from the tasting sheets. Words displayed in a larger font indicate those terms used more frequently by the wine experts.

<p><b>CB1</b> Sommelier Selection Chenin 2015, Boschendal</p>	<p><b>CB2</b> Chenin Blanc 2015, Allée Bleue</p>	<p><b>CB3</b> Culinaria Chenin Blanc 2015, Leopard's Leap</p>	<p><b>CB4</b> Collection Barrel Fermented Chenin Blanc 2015, Kleine Zalze Wines</p>	<p><b>CB5</b> The Dry Land Collection Barrel Fermented Chenin Blanc 2015, Perdeberg Winery</p>
<p><b>CB6</b> 21 Gables Chenin Blanc 2015, Spier Wine Estate</p>	<p><b>CB7</b> Family Reserve Chenin Blanc 2015, Kleine Zalze Wines</p>	<p><b>CB8</b> Reserve Chenin Blanc 2015, DeMorgenzon</p>	<p><b>CB9</b> The Bernard Series Old Vine Chenin Blanc 2015, Bellingham</p>	<p><b>CB10</b> Private Cellar Barrel Fermented Chenin Blanc 2013, Rijks Cellars</p>
<p><b>CB11</b></p>	<p><b>CB12</b></p>	<p><b>CB13</b></p>	<p><b>CB14</b></p>	<p><b>CB15</b></p>

- Highest scored wines had a combination of well defined aroma attributes together with a good balance and a good palate.
- Lowest scored wines were less complex and more one-dimensional, the number of descriptors used to describe them was less, with only one descriptor being dominant.

