Sustainable wine production in South Africa within the context of climate variability

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Conradie, 2012 (CSIR)



Chase and Meadows, 2007



Hannah et al., 2013

What is special about this area?

- Topography
 - Coastal plain, river valley, mountains, hills





Geology

- Malmesbury shales, greywacke, granite, sandstone
- Orogeny during pre-Cambrian and Permian to Triassic periods
- Affects soil distribution and topography

What is special about this area?





The sea-breeze

- Develops in afternoon due to differences in sea surface and land temperatures
- Penetration depends on topography of coastal area
- Implications for temperature, wind exposure, relative humidity

Modelled with RAMS: Bonnardot *et al.*, 2002, 2005; Bonnardot and Cautenet, 2009



CapeFarmMapper

Legend

Broad Soils Classification (ENPAT)

- Glenrosa and/or Mispah forms (other soils may occur)
- Grey regic sands
 - Miscellaneous land classes, rocky
 - Plinthic catena
 - Prismacutanic and/or pedocutanic diagnostic horizons dominant
 - Red-yellow apedal, freely drained soils
 - Soils with a diagnostic ferrihumic horizon
 - Vertic, melanic, red structured diagnostic horizons, undifferentiated

Scale: 1:3 409 091 Date created: March 27, 2016





Previous studies

• The use of viticultural terroir units for demarcation of geographical indications for wine production in Stellenbosch and surrounds (Carey, 2005)

ADDENDUM 4.5 Map of terroirs identified for Cabernet Sauvignon in the Stellenbosch Wine of Origin District. Descriptions of associated viticultural and oenological performance are provided in Addendum 4.6.



ADDENDUM 4.7 Map of terroirs identified for Sauvignon blanc in the Stellenbosch Wine of Origin District. Descriptions of associated viticultural and oenological performance are provided in Addendum 4.8.



Current projects

- Impact of climate change factors (CO₂, temp) on physiological and vegetative growth parameters of young grafted grapevines (WW HT 14/01).
- Evaluation of existing wine grape rootstocks for their ability to withstand the environmental challenges in SA (WW 12/29).
- Water footprint analysis to improve water use efficiency in table grape production. A case study in the Hex River Valley, Western Cape, South Africa (using Fruitlook satellite data).
- Integration of climate and GIS modelling as key factors in determining cultivar suitability and adaption to a specific environment.
 - Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz sites over climatic band

Macro scale



- Topography, soil, GIS layers.
- Regional climate data (35 years or more for some stations)
- MODIS_LST/ Other remote sensing products (i.e. Fruitlook)
- Refining Worldclim layers with local data (already done for data until 2010)

Selected Weather stations



Rainfall



2015

Rainfall/water resources





- Upt mean annual temp 19°C
- Will take 43 years for the 42 Western cape stations to reach current Upt values.
- Will vineyards disappear then?





- Current infrastructure and production is concentrated in the traditional irrigation regions (~60%).
- Need to find varieties suitable for this warmer 'trailing margin'.

Barlow, 2010

Monthly analysis (30 yr stations)

Month	Ave T slope change	30 yr linear change	Measure ment type	Rainfall per month slope	Rainfall change over period (linear)	Mean over period	% change over period	Rainfall variability between stations	Notes
January	0.058	1.7	Mean	0.25	7.5	17.4	43%	incr	
February	0.046	1.4	Mean	-0.13	-3.9	14.8	-26%	decr	
March	0.072	2.2	Max	-0.83	-24.9	21.0	-118%	decr	max temp increase, almost no min temp increase
April	0.040	1.2	Mean	-0.77	-23.1	40.9	-56%	decr	decrease in monthly rainfall limited mostly to high rainfall stations
May	0.031	0.9	Min	-0.46	-13.8	60.8	-23%		no max increase.
June	0.038	1.1	Min	0.25	7.5	77.6	10%		
July	0.063	1.9	Max	-0.68	-20.4	72.2	-28%		
August	-	-		1.17	35.1	69.1	51%		
September	-	-		-0.63	-18.9	40.5	-47%		
October	0.040	1.2	Mean	-0.13	-3.9	32.4	-12%		split to warmer max in 1997
November	-	-		1.2	36	31.1	116%	incr	nb
December	0.055	1.7	Mean	-0.49	-14.7	21.8	-68%	decr	

Meso scale

- Weather stations /TERVICLIM
- Remote sensing layers
- Fruitlook (ET, biomass, NDVI)
- Block records (cultivar, rootstock, yield etc.)
- Soil maps
- Phenology monitoring
- Growth monitoring
- Ripening monitoring







Micro scale

- Wireless sensor network (soil temp, canopy temp, RH)
- Contextualising each grapevine within its climatic regime over time with robotics (phenology, canopy development, ripening)
- LIDAR, thermal, EM, optics.
- 1st prototype tested
- 2nd end 2016 autonomous.
- "Low-cost robotics"





"The Dassie"







Growth (biomass), ET per week, NDVI index.

Weekly data provided during the full growing season Free to use (government funded until 2016)

Data components are created without any input from the farmer!

FruitLook Status Quo & Future Almost half of FruitLook users save MORE than 10% water and 1 in 10 saves 30% 8% Current Growing Season 21554ha 16944ha 56% Farm area used on FruitLook 17% 5283ha 4300ha 1756ha Crops under Fruitlook coverage **OLIFANTS AREA** 2011-12 2012-13 2013-14 2014-15 2015-16 → 31 000ha 23% FruitLook **BREEDE AREA** 15% FruitLook FruitLook covers more than **BERG AREA** 71 000ha 5% FruitLook 170 000ha of which 21 000ha is in ACTIVE USE

fruitlook.co.za is a tool that helps farmers improve crop productivity and water use by turning raw data into useful information



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