

The AWRI tannin web portal

What is it?

The AWRI's tannin web portal is a new online application that allows easy analysis of tannin, total phenolics and total pigment in red wines and ferments.

How does it work?

The AWRI has developed a spectral calibration that predicts tannin concentration, total phenolics and total pigment based on six UV-Vis absorbance readings.

Users simply need to dilute samples in acid, leave them for three hours, and then read the absorbance at six specified wavelengths. The absorbance readings are entered into a web interface which returns results for tannin, total phenolics and colour (total pigment) immediately.

A quality control (QC) process is built into the system, and users are provided with a QC standard to measure with every batch analysed.

What are the benefits?

- Results are obtained immediately – there is no need to send samples away to an external lab.
- Historical data are all stored in one place and are easily accessible.
- Sample preparation is simple.
- No expensive new instrument is required – the method will work on any UV-Vis spectrophotometer.
- Users do not need expertise in establishing and maintaining calibrations.
- Users can see the context of their results by comparing against the data in our extensive database, selected by region, vintage or variety as required.

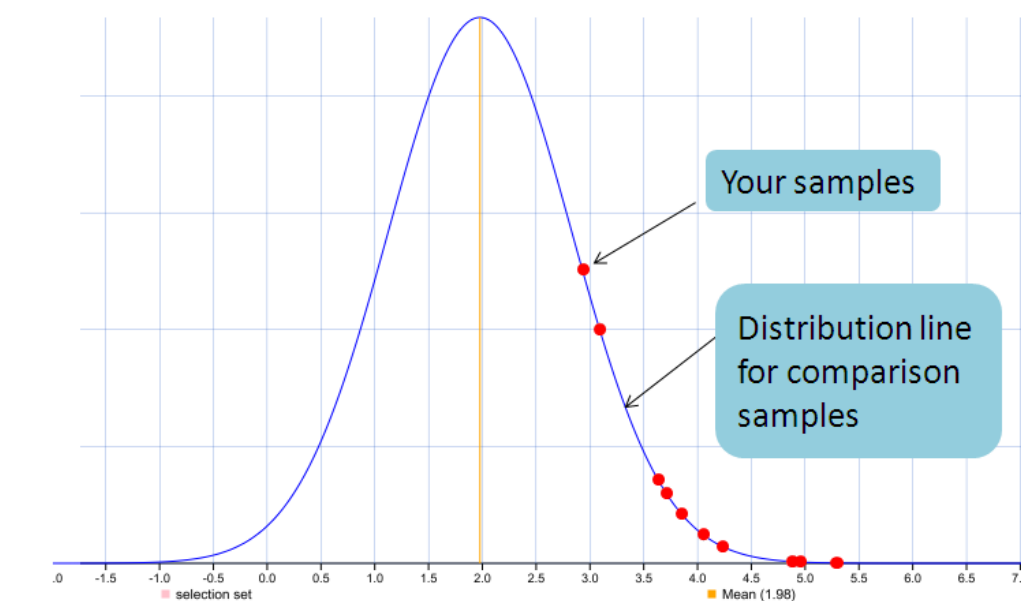


Figure 1 An example of the benchmarking plots produced by the tannin web portal

Why is measuring tannin important?

Tannin is a critical component of red wine and influences both wine colour and mouth-feel. Research at the AWRI has shown good correlation between wine grades and tannin concentration.

The ability to measure the tannin in wines can provide insight into:

- effects of winemaking practices
- colour stability
- vintage to vintage variability
- regional characteristics
- effects of ageing
- product specifications
- competitor benchmarking
- consumer preferences

It will also help support decision-making processes associated with:

- fermentation monitoring
- winemaking trials
- pressing
- blending

Where can I find out more?

For further information on the AWRI tannin web portal please contact us:

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