

Fact Sheet

Is your wine 'Bretty'?



How can I find out if my wine is 'Bretty'?

AWRI Commercial Services offers a *Brettanomyces* detection service that encompasses the detection of 'Bretty' characteristics and the presence of live Brett strains in wines. As an extended service, Commercial Services can also determine if the live strains are likely to be sulfite-resistant, and can conduct an audit to detect the presence or absence of Brett throughout your winery.

Why is it important?

In most wineries there is a constant background presence of *Brettanomyces* yeasts. Avoiding wine spoilage requires ongoing sanitation procedures, appropriate wine storage conditions and monitoring regimes. Brett spoilage typically occurs in red wine stored in barrel, and can be a very slow process. . The AWRI helpdesk has seen many different wines affected by *Brettanomyces*. The majority of wines have been red but examples of Brett in Chardonnay and sparkling wine are also not uncommon.

What does the service involve?

Wines need to be sampled using sterile equipment (which can be provided for a small cost) and aseptic sampling techniques. The wines will be sent to AWRI Commercial Services where the samples will be quantified for the presence of 4-ethylphenol (4EP) and 4ethylguaiacol (4EG) and plated to check for the presence of live *Brettanomyces* yeast.

If live *Brettanomyces* strains are detected, action can be taken to reduce the risk of tainting products. The AWRI helpdesk is available to provide advice on managing Brett in the winery to Australian levy payers.



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AWRI Commercial Services is also able to provide a full audit of the winery to determine probable sources of contamination and provide information on key focus areas to manage Brett in the winery.

How much does it cost?

Analytical Services	Per sample AUD ex GST
Plating for Brettanomyces	\$ 63
Rapid detection of <i>Brettanomyces</i> (vinoBrett using Veriflow [™])	\$ 84
GCMS analysis for 4-EP and 4-EG	\$ 89.25
Additional Services	
Audit of winery for the presence of <i>Brettanomyces</i> : Determine probable sources of contamination or ensure absence of Brett	\$3,150
AWRI helpdesk can consult on methods to manage and/or prevent Brett contamination	No charge**

**No charge applies to Australian levy payers.

Commercial Services

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