Wild grapevine (Vitis vinifera var. silvestris) in Italy: Distribution, characteristics and germplasm preservation 1989 report

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S u m m a r y: Research on the distribution and characteristics of wild grapevines (Vitts vinifera var. silvestris) in Italy was started whose main goals are:

- the preservation of the germplasm by setting up plant collections;
- the furthering of biological knowledge about this plant;
- the study of relations between wild and cultivated grapevines by means of chemotaxonomic techniques;
- the assessment of the possibility of using wild plants for genetic improvement of grapevines.
 The gathering of data began in 1984.

221 sites in 15 out of the 20 Italian regions have been indicated as possible locations in which wild grapevines grow. So far, 49 of these sites have been inspected. The greatest number of individuals were found in central Italy. This population is dioecious (male/female = 1.8) with few (2.0%) hermaphrodite examples.

The leaves of the Italian wild grapevines generally have 3 lobes (57%), but 5 to 7-lobe (36%) and non-lobed (8.9%) plants exist. Lower variability exists with regard to leaf shape. The study of seed morphology has classified the plants into three groupe, one of which is very numerous.

Two germplasm collections have been established with approximately 400 vines.

Key words: Vitis vinifera var. silvestris, Italy, geographical distribution, gene resources, gene bank, ampelography, biometry, analysis, sexuality, morphology, leaf, seed.

Introduction

6 years ago (Scienza 1983) research on the distribution and characteristics of wild grapevines (Vitis vinifera var. silvestris) in Italy was started whose main aims are:

- the preservation of the germplasm by setting up plant collections:
- the furthering of biological knowledge about this plant;
- the study of relations between wild and cultivated grapevines by means of chemotaxonomic techniques;
- the assessment of the possibility of using wild plants for genetic improvement of grapevines.

Initial results have already been published (SCIENZA et al. 1986 and in print). The distinguishing feature of wild European grapevines as compared to cultivated ones is their sexuality. Wild vines are mostly dioecious: the male/female ratio of Italian population is 2:1, with few hermaphrodite examples (2.6%).

From the data obtained it seems likely that wild vines grow all over the country up to an altitude of 800-1000 m a.s.l.

These plants are liana-like and can achieve a remarkable development up to 15-20 m in height. They adapt to the most geologically diverse soils and can grow in different botanical associations, provided there are trees available to serve as supports. Clusters are of small dimensions, scattered or dense. Berries are small, usually spherical, with about 2 seeds each, black is the predominant colour (9% are white). The degree of variability in sugar content, acidity, tartaric and malic acid contents is rather large, even the anthocyanin and polyphenol contents show high variability.

Chemotaxonomic studies to compare wild and cultivated vines are being carried out using pollen (Tedesco *et al.* 1990) and embryonic (Scienza *et al.* 1990) protein; and anthocyanin profiles (Mattivi *et al.* 1990).

Germplasm collections are being set up by multiplying scions from wild plants.

In this paper we report the developments achieved by this project with particular emphasis on leaf and seed morphology.

Leaf and seed morphology have been recognized as important in *Vitis* taxonomy. Leaf size and petiolar sinus angle width are important phylogenetical characteristics, indeed wild grapevines have smaller leaves with a wider sinus petiolar angle than cultivated ones (Levadoux 1956). According to Stummer (Levadoux 1956), two kinds of seeds exist: 'sativa' and 'silvestris', the first type is larger and longer, with a higher length/width ratio than the second one.

Materials and method

The gathering of data began in 1984. Based upon spot inspections and information obtained from the Corpo Forestale dello Stato (Italian Forestry Service), some geographical sites where wild grapevines are present were singled out in different regions of the country.

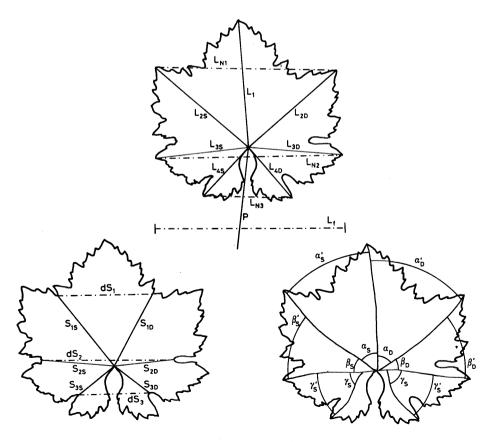


Fig. 1: Scheme of the phyllometric measures.

Whenever possible, the sex type of each individual vine was determined, and a sample made up of 10 leaves located opposite to the flower clusters was taken from each plant and measured. With male plants, a pollen sample was taken. With each female or hermaphrodite plant, samples of ripe grape clusters were collected, so that data from clusters, berries and seeds could be gathered. During winter, ligneous scions were gathered from each plant in order to multiply them in germplasm collections.

On the lower side of each leaf the following measurements were taken (Fig. 1):

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\begin{array}{lll} L_1 &= \text{main vein length;} \\ L_{2D}, L_{2S}, L_{3D}, L_{3S}, L_{4D}, L_{4S} &= & \text{superior (2), median (3) and inferior (4) lateral vein length;} \\ L_{N1}, L_{N2}, L_{N3} &= & \text{superior (2), median (3) and inferior (4) lateral vein length;} \\ L_{p} &= & \text{petiolar length;} \\ L_{p} &= & \text{maximum leaf width;} \\ S_{1D}, S_{1S}, S_{2D}, S_{2S}, S_{3D}, S_{3S} &= & \text{superior (1), median (2) and inferior (3) sinus length;} \\ D &= & \text{right, S = left;} \\ \alpha_{D}, \alpha_{S}, \beta_{D}, \beta_{S}, \gamma_{D}, \gamma_{S} &= & \text{superior (1), median (2) and inferior (3) sinus length;} \\ D &= & \text{right, S = left;} \\ \end{array}
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12 phyllometric indexes were calculated:

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\begin{array}{rcl} {\rm SSN} &=& (L_{\rm 2S} + L_{\rm 2D}) \, / \, (2 \, {\rm x} \, L_{\rm 1}); \\ {\rm SMN} &=& (L_{\rm 3S} + L_{\rm 3D}) \, / \, (2 \, {\rm x} \, L_{\rm 1}); \\ {\rm AIN} &=& (L_{\rm 4S} + L_{\rm 4D}) \, / \, (2 \, {\rm x} \, L_{\rm 1}); \end{array}
standardized superior vein:
standardized median vein:
standardized inferior vein:
                       = (\alpha_p + \alpha_s)/2;
α angle
                     = (\beta_D^D + \beta_S^S)/2;
= (\gamma_D + \gamma_S)/2;
\beta angle
γ angle
                                                                                \begin{array}{lll} SCL & = & (S_{1S} + S_{1D}) \, / \, (L_{2S} + L_{2D}); \\ MLC & = & (S_{2S} + S_{2D}) \, / \, (L_{3S} + L_{3D}); \\ ILC & = & (S_{3S} + S_{3D}) \, / \, (L_{4S} + L_{4D}); \end{array}
superior lobature coefficient:
median lobature coefficient:
inferior lobature coefficient:
superior lobe extension coefficient
                                                                               \begin{array}{lll} {\rm SEC} & = & {\rm L_{N1} \, / \, (L_{2S} + L_{2D});} \\ {\rm IEC} & = & {\rm L_{N3} \, / \, (L_{4S} + L_{4D});} \end{array}
(Grenan 1984):
inferior lobe extension coefficient: IEC
R coefficient (GALET 1956): L, / L,
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These 12 coefficients and the main vein length are sufficient to describe shape and lobature characteristics of grapevine leaves (Galet 1956; Grenan 1984).

The length and maximum width of 100 seeds per vine, when possible, were measured.

Two methods of numerical taxonomy were used: discriminant and cluster analyses. Discriminant analysis was carried out using Wilks' method, step-wise procedure, minimizing the Wilks' lambda. Cluster analysis was realized with weighted pair group method centroid, using square Euclidean distances.

Results

Distribution

221 sites have been indicated as possible locations of wild grapevines, 189 of which by the Italian Forestry Service. 49 sites were inspected to ascertain the genetic nature of the vines (excluding the American species) and to collect all data and samples. On average, 3-4 vines occupy each site. Wild grapevines may occur in 15 out of 20 Italian regions, their presence has been



Fig. 2: Location of Vitis vinifera var. silvestris sites in some Italian regions. Indicated (0) and visited (\bullet) sites.

ascertained in 10 until now. The greatest number of individuals have been found in central Italy (Fig. 2, Table 1).

Sex

About 65 % of the plants were studied during their flowering season. Of these the male/female ratio was approximately 1.8 while hermaphrodite plants accounted for only 2.0% (Tables 2 and 3).

Leaf morphology

Table 4 indicates the main statistical characteristics of the 13 phyllometric indices studied. Wild grapevine leaves are small (L_1 35-110 mm), with low length/width ratio (R 0.60-1.00), wide sinus petiolar angle ($\alpha + \beta = 65-120^{\circ}$ and IEC 0.7-1.5). Leaves range from non-lobed (SLC 1) to highly lobed (SLC 0.4).

Table 1: Distribution of wild grapevine sites as located in some Italian regions

	ļ		!!!
DISTRICTS	· 	T E S VISITED	VINES
	INDICATED	101160	VINES
 TRENTINO	 3	 3	
LOMBARDY	! 13) 0	-
VENETIA	! 1	1 1	1 1
EMILIA	 7	3	11
LIGURIA	 2 	l 2	
TOSCANY	 37 	24	! 92 ! !
UMBRIA	6	2	3
 LATIUM 	 45	8	23 23
ABRUZZO	16	2	7
MOLISE	11	1	2
APULIA	10	0	-
CAMPANIA	18	0	-
BASILICATE	21	1	6
CALABRIA	29 1	0	-
 SARDINIA 	2	0	-
TOTAL	221 	49	161

Table 2: Ratio distribution of wild vines in relation to their sex

TOTAL		MALES		FEMALES	s .	HERMAPHRODITES	TES
INDIVIDUALS	×	INDIVIDUALS	ж	INDIVIDUALS	×	INDIVIDUALS	ж
101	100	64	63.4	35	34.6	2	2.0

Table 3: Sex characteristics of the wild vines sampled in Italy

TOTAL		PROBABLY		MALES	 S	FEMALES	LES	HERMAPHE	ODITES	HERMAPHRODITES UNCLASSIFIED	FIED	r EMALES	R ES
		POST-CULTURAL*	TURAL.									HERMAPHRODITES	RODITES
INDIVIDUALS	×	INDIV.	×	INDIV. X		INDIV.	ж	INDIV.	×	INDIV.	ж	INDIV.	×
161	100	80	5.0	64	39.8	35	21.7	5	1.2	35	19.9		20 12.4

* ACCORDING LEVADOUX (1956)

	AVERAGE	 S.D. 	 MIN. 	 MAX
MAIN VEIN LENGTH mm	73.3	19.2	28	 <u>1</u> 69
STAND. SUPERIOR VEIN	0.86	0.08	0.59	1.12
STAND. MEDIAN VEIN	0.61	0.09	 0.34	0.94
STAND. INFERIOR VEIN	0.35	0.07	0.17	0.67
SUPERIOR LOBATURE COEFF.	0.71	0.15	0.25	0.97
MEDIAN LOBATURE COEFF.	0.84	0.10	0.38	1.10
 INFERIOR LOBATURE COEFF.	0.88	0.06	0.60	1.18
 α ANGLE	45.5	6.90	26.5	70.0
 β ANGLE	48.0	7.43	27.5	75.5
 γ ANGLE	47.0	7.36	21.5	70.5
 SUPERIOR LOBE EXTENSION COEFF.	0.63	0.08	0.41	0.96
 INFERIOR LOBE EXTENSION COEFF.	1.07	0.21	0.17	1.71
R COEFF.	0.80	0.10	0.53	1.12

Table 4: Main characteristics of the wild grapevine leaves

Cluster analysis carried out on the lobature coefficients (SLC, MLC and ILC) of the average leaf of each plant classified the wild grapevines in four groups (Fig. 3, Table 5): A1 (38 individuals) 5 to 7-lobe leaves, A2 (7 individuals) 5 to 7 marked-lobe leaves, B1 (11 individuals) light-lobe leaves and B2 (59 individuals) 3-lobe leaves.

Cluster analysis carried out on shape coefficients (SSN, SMN, SIN, α , β , γ , SEC, IEC, and R) of the average leaf of each plant classified the wild grapevines in four groups (Fig. 4, Table 6): C1 (1 individual) very close sinus petiolar angle, C2 (15 individuals) close sinus petiolar angle, D1 (3 individuals) very wide sinus petiolar angle and D2 (97 individuals) wide sinus petiolar angle.

The validity of the results of the cluster analyses has been verified with discriminant analysis. These analyses were carried out using all the collected leaves, after having classified the vines according to cluster analysis groups, and using the same phyllometric indexes as used in the respective cluster analyses.

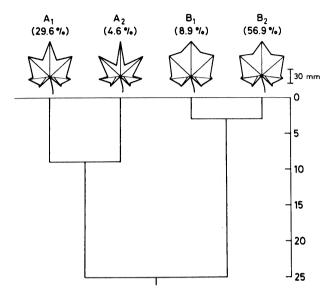


Fig. 3: Dendrogram and average leaf types of the cluster analysis relative to lobature characteristics of the wild vine leaves.

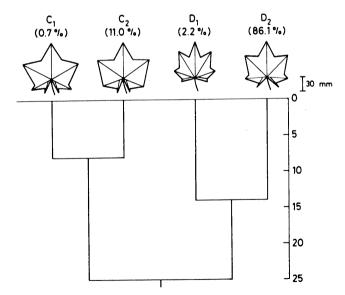


Fig. 4: Dendrogram and average leaf types of the cluster analysis relative to shape characteristics of the wild vine leaves.

 GROUP 	 Superior 	MEDIAN	INFERIOR
 B2	0.76	0.87	0.89
B1	 0.87 	0.91	0.91
A2	0.38 0.38	0.58	0.82
A1	0.61	0.80	0.86

Table 5: Average lobature coefficients of the four lobature cluster groups

Table 6: Average angles of the four shape cluster groups

1	GROUP	 angle 	s	
i		α	β	γ
T	D2	44.8	 47.1	 46.5
1	D1	32.1	37.2	 38.2
	C2	52.6	56.6	53.0
 	C1	60.4	 55.7 	44.3

The discriminant analysis regarding the lobature groups (Fig. 5, Table 7) indicates that superior and median lobes are of greater importance than inferior ones, 68% of cases correctly classified show a high variability in leaf lobature both within plants and groups.

The discriminant analysis regarding the shape groups (Fig. 6, Table 8) indicates the greater importance of the angles α , β and γ . The results of grouped cases correctly classified (76 %) show a satisfactory difference between the groups.

Leaf lobature is different in northern, central and southern Italy. In northern Italy, type A1 (5 to 7-lobe leaves) is prevalent; in southern Italy, type B2 (3-lobe leaves) is prevalent, in central Italy both types are present (Table 9).

Leaf morphology is related to plant sex. Leaves in male plants are smaller than in female ones, of analogous and petiolar sinus angle. Hermaphrodite plants show greater leaf size and a less open petiolar sinus angle (Table 10).

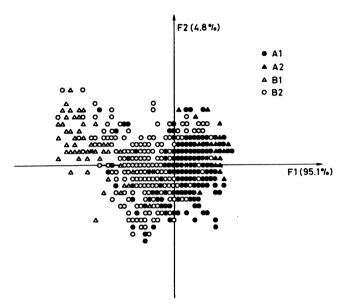


Fig. 5: Diagram of the discriminant analysis relative to lobature characteristics of the wild vine leaves.

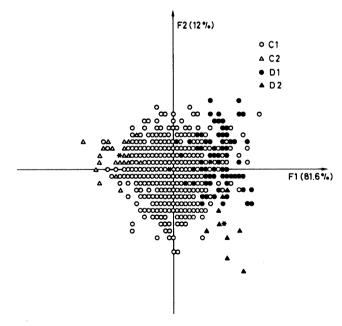


Fig. 6: Diagram of the discriminant analysis relative to shape characteristics of the wild vine leaves.

Table 7: Discriminant analysis about lobature cluster groups

FUNCTION	EIGENUALUE	% OF VARIANCE	CANONICAL CORRELATION	AFTER FUNCTION	D.F.	WILKS' LAMBDA
	! 	1		I I 0	l 19	! ! 0.38**
1	1.44	95.1	0.77	1	4	0.93**
2 .	0.07	4.8	0.26		! !	İ
	STANDARDIZED	CANONICAL DISCRI	IMINANT FUNCTIO	NS CORFFICI	ENTS	
		FUNC. 1	FUNC. 2	ļ		
SUPERIOR I	LOBATURE COEFF	. 0.71	0.87	i !		
	OBATURE COEFF		-1.13	i		
MEDIAN I	JODAL JAE COEFF					
INFERIOR I	LOBATURE COEFF	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION	0.36	MINATING VA	ARIABLES	S AND
INFERIOR I	OBATURE COEFF	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION	0.36	 	ARIABLES	S AND
POOLI CANON	LOBATURE COEFF	OUPS CORRELATION NANT FUNCTIONS FUNC. 1	0.36 BETWEEN DISCRI	 	ARIABLES	S AND
INFERIOR I POOLE CANON SUPERIOR I	OBATURE COEFF ED WITHIN - GRO NICAL DISCRIMIN	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION NANT FUNCTIONS FUNC. 1	0.36 BETWEEN DISCRI	 	ARIABLES	S AND
POOLE CANON SUPERIOR I	OBATURE COEFF	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION NANT FUNCTIONS FUNC. 1 0.92 0.79	0.36 BETWEEN DISCRI	 	ARIABLES	S AND
POOLE CANON SUPERIOR I MEDIAN I	OBATURE COEFF. OBATURE COEFF.	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION NANT FUNCTIONS FUNC. 1 0.92 0.79	0.36 BETWEEN DISCRIFUNC. 2 0.35 -0.59	 	ARIABLES	S AND
POOLE CANON SUPERIOR I MEDIAN I INFERIOR I	OBATURE COEFF. OBATURE COEFF. OBATURE COEFF.	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION NANT FUNCTIONS FUNC. 1 O.92 O.79 O.25	0.36 BETWEEN DISCRIF	MINATING VA	ARIABLES	S AND
POOLE CANON SUPERIOR I MEDIAN I INFERIOR I	COBATURE COEFF	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION NANT FUNCTIONS FUNC. 1 O.92 O.79 O.25	0.36 BETWEEN DISCRIF	 	ARIABLES	S AND
POOLE CANON SUPERIOR I MEDIAN I INFERIOR I CLASSIFICA ACTUAL GROUP	COBATURE COEFF	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION NANT FUNCTIONS FUNC. 1 O.92 O.79 O.25 PREDICTED GROU	0.36 BETWEEN DISCRIF	(%)	ARIABLES	A1
POOLE CANON SUPERIOR I MEDIAN I INFERIOR I CLASSIFICA ACTUAL GROUP B2	COBATURE COEFF	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION NANT FUNCTIONS FUNC. 1 O.92 O.79 O.25 PREDICTED GROU A2	0.36 BETWEEN DISCRIF FUNC. 2 0.35 -0.59 0.07 P MEMBERSHIP B1 29.7	(%) A2 0.9	ARIABLES	A1 13.6
POOLE CANON SUPERIOR I MEDIAN I INFERIOR I CLASSIFICA ACTUAL GROUP	COBATURE COEFF	O.07 DUPS CORRELATION NANT FUNCTIONS FUNC. 1 O.92 O.79 O.25 PREDICTED GROU	0.36 BETWEEN DISCRIF	(%)	ARIABLES	A1

Seed morphology

Seed characteristics and variability are shown in Table 11. Cluster and discriminant analyses were used in the same way as in the leaf morphology study.

Cluster analysis carried out on length, width and length/width ratio of the average seed of each of the 30 vines of which the seeds could be measured classified the wild grapevines in three groups (Fig. 7, Table 12): A (25 individuals) average seed type, B (2 individuals) small and round seeds; C (3 individuals) large and long seeds.

Table 8: Discriminant analysis about shape cluster groups

FUNCTION	EIGENUALUE	% OF VARIANCE	CANONICAL CORRELATIION			WILK'S LAMBDA
				0	27	0.59**
1	0.55	81.6	0.60	1	16	0.89**
2	0.08	12.0	0.27	į .	İ	İ
					<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	STANDARDIZED	CANONICAL DISCR		COEFFICIE	NTS	
•			FUNC. 2			
	ERIOR VEIN	-0.18	-0.08			
	IAN VEIN	0.14	1.64			
STAND. INF	ERIOR VEIN	-0.62	0.00			
α ANG	LE	0.47	0.10			
β ANG	LE	0.43	0.15			
γ ANG	LE	0.18	0.44			
SUPERIOR L	OBE EXTENSION	COEFF0.08	-0.37			
INFERIOR L	OBE EXTENSION	COEFF0.49	-0.30			
R COEFF.		0.03	1.60			
DISCRIMINA	NT FUNCTIONS		FUNC. 2	: VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
				VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
DISCRIMINA α ANG	LE	FUNC. 1 0.75	FUNC. 2 -0.26	VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
DISCRIMINA α ANG β ANG	ILE	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22	: VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{DISCRIMINA} \\ \alpha & \mathbf{ANG} \\ \beta & \mathbf{ANG} \\ \gamma & \mathbf{ANG} \end{array}$	LE LE LE	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40	: VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
DISCRIMINA $ \begin{array}{ccc} \alpha & \text{ANG} \\ \beta & \text{ANG} \\ \gamma & \text{ANG} \\ \text{SUPERIOR L} \end{array} $	LE LE LE OBE EXTENSION	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66	: VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
$\begin{array}{ccc} \alpha & \text{ANG} \\ \beta & \text{ANG} \\ \gamma & \text{ANG} \\ \text{SUPERIOR L} \\ \text{INFERIOR L} \end{array}$	LE LE OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48 COEFF0.57	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66 0.02	: VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
$\begin{array}{ccc} \alpha & \text{ANG} \\ \beta & \text{ANG} \\ \gamma & \text{ANG} \\ \text{SUPERIOR L} \\ \text{INFERIOR L} \\ \text{STAND. INF} \end{array}$	LE LE LE OBE EXTENSION	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48 COEFF0.57	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66 0.02 0.32	: VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
DISCRIMINA $\begin{array}{ccc} \alpha & \text{ANG} \\ \beta & \text{ANG} \\ \gamma & \text{ANG} \\ \text{SUPERIOR L} \\ \text{INFERIOR L} \\ \text{STAND. INF} \\ \text{R. COEFF.} \end{array}$	LE LE LE OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION ERIOR VEIN	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48 COEFF0.57 -0.10	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66 0.02 0.32 0.05	: VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
α ANG β ANG γ ANG γ ANG SUPERIOR L INFERIOR L STAND. INF R. COEFF.	LE LE LE OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION ERIOR VEIN IAN VEIN	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48 COEFF0.57 -0.10 -0.10 -0.15	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66 0.02 0.32 0.05 0.12	: VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
α ANG β ANG γ ANG γ ANG SUPERIOR L INFERIOR L STAND. INF R. COEFF.	LE LE LE OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION ERIOR VEIN	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48 COEFF0.57 -0.10	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66 0.02 0.32 0.05	VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
DISCRIMINA α ANG β ANG γ ANG SUPERIOR L INFERIOR L STAND. INF R. COEFF. STAND. MED STAND. SUP	LE LE LE OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION ERIOR VEIN IAN VEIN	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48 COEFF0.57 -0.10 -0.10 -0.15	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66 0.02 0.32 0.05 0.12	: VARIABLES	S AND CA	ANONICAL
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ANG β ANG γ ANG γ ANG SUPERIOR L INFERIOR L STAND. INF R. COEFF. STAND. MED STAND. SUP CLASSIFICA ACTUAL GRO	LE LE LE OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION ERIOR VEIN IAN VEIN ERIOR VEIN TION RESULTS UP N° OF CASES 1179	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48 COEFF0.57 -0.10 -0.15 -0.14 PREDICTED GROUP D2 74.7	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66 0.02 0.32 0.05 0.12 0.31	C2 14.3	C1 2.4	ANONICAL
ANG β ANG γ ANG γ ANG γ ANG SUPERIOR L INFERIOR L STAND. INF R. COEFF. STAND. MED STAND. SUP CLASSIFICA ACTUAL GRO D2 D1	LE LE LE OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION ERIOR VEIN IAN VEIN ERIOR VEIN TION RESULTS UP N° OF CASES 1179 30	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48 COEFF0.57 -0.10 -0.15 -0.14 PREDICTED GROUP D2 74.7 3.3	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66 0.02 0.32 0.05 0.12 0.31 P MEMBERSHIP (%) D1 8.6 96.7	C2 14.3 0.0	C1 2.4 0.0	ANONICAL
α ANG β ANG γ ANG SUPERIOR L INFERIOR L STAND. INF R. COEFF. STAND. MED STAND. SUP CLASSIFICA ACTUAL GRO	LE LE LE OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION OBE EXTENSION ERIOR VEIN IAN VEIN ERIOR VEIN TION RESULTS UP N° OF CASES 1179	FUNC. 1 0.75 0.69 0.44 COEFF. 0.48 COEFF0.57 -0.10 -0.15 -0.14 PREDICTED GROUP D2 74.7	FUNC. 2 -0.26 0.22 0.40 -0.66 0.02 0.32 0.05 0.12 0.31	C2 14.3 0.0 78.8	C1 2.4	ANONICAL

Discriminant analysis (Fig. 8, Table 13) indicates the great importance of seed length in grouping the vines. 72 % of grouped cases correctly classified show a satisfactory difference between the groups.

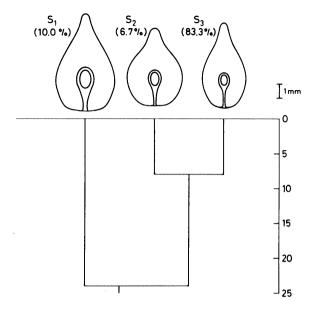


Fig. 7: Dendrogram and average leaf types of the cluster analysis relative to seed morphology of the wild vines.

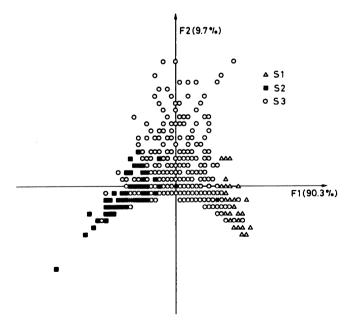


Fig.~8: Diagram~of~the~discriminant~analysis~relative~to~seed~morphology~of~the~wild~vines.

Table 9: Distribution of the four lobature cluster groups in relation to grographical location of the wild vines

LOCATION	N° OF	 LOBATURE	CLUSTER	GR	OUP [
i	VINES	A1	A2	B1	B2
NORTH	 16 	62 .4	 18.8 	 0.0 	 18.8
CENTER	93	29.0	4.3	111.8	54.9
 SOUTH 	 6 	 16.7 	 0.0	0.0	83.3

Table 10: Leaf characteristics in relation to plant sex

	ANGI	LES		INFERIOR	 MAIN
]	α	β	γ	EXTENSION COEFFICIENT	VEIN LENGTH
 MALES	45.1a	47.6a	 46.9a	 1.11a	 70a
 FEMALES	 45.5a	 48.0a	47.0a	1 1.03b	! 76b
HERMAPHRODITES	! 51.8b 	 55.8b 	 49.9b 	0.79c	95c

Table 11: Main characteristics of wild grapevine seeds

 	AVERAGE	 s.D. 	MIN.	MAX.
LENGTH mm	6.05	0.57	3.70	 7.80
WIDTH mm	4.12	0.36	3.00	5.30
 LENGTH/WIDTH 	 1.48 	0.16	1.04	2.06

 N° OF CASES	LENGTH mm	WIDTH mm	 Length/Width
158	 6 .9 6	4 ,3 2	1.61
1 177	5;06	3 .9 3	1.29
2206	6.06	4.42	 1.48
	CASES 158 177	CASES mm	CASES mm mm

Table 12: Average dimension and shape of the three seed cluster groups

Table 13: Discriminant analysis about seed cluster groups

CANONICAL DISCRIMINANT FUNCTIONS								
 Function 	EIGENUALUE	 % OF VARIANCE 	 CANONICAL CORRELATIION	 AFTER FUNCTION	 D.F. 	 WILK'S LAMBDA		
		 	t	 1	 6	 0.59***		
1 1	0.59	ı I 90 . 3	! 0.61	l 0	0	0.94***		
1 2	0.06	1 9.7	0.24	,	1 ~	1 1		
		1	1	: 	! 	, , 		
STANDARDIZED CANONICAL DISCRIMINANT FUNCTION COEFFICIENTS								
1	FUNC. 1	FUNC.2	l					
LENGTH	0.05	-7.13				1		
WIDTH 1.12		7.97	1			1		
LENGTH/WIT	TH 1.26	9.49	1			1		

POOLED WITHIN - GROUPS CORRELATION BETWEEN DISCRIMINATING VARIABLES AND CANONICAL DISCRIMINANT FUNCTIONS								
	FUNC, 1	FUNC, 2	1			ļ		
LENGTH	0.99	-0.13	1			ļ		
LENGTH/WIDTH 0.52		0.08				!		
WIDTH 0.26		-0.09						
1		1	<u> </u>					
CLASSIFIC	CLASSIFICATION RESULTS							
ACTUAL GROUP		N° OF	PREDICTED GROUP MEMBERSHIP (%)					
1		CASES	S3	S2	S1	• !		
			!	ļ	!			
S3		158	88.0	0.0	12.0			
\$2		177	0.0	92.0	7.9			
S1		2206	17.5	12.8	69.7			
PERCENT OF "GROUPED" CASES CORRECTLY CLASSIFIED : 72.37								

Germplasm conservation

Germplasm collections are being established by multiplying scions from wild plants. Thanks to the collaboration of European institutes, in these collections wild grapevines of different European, North-African and Asiatic regions are being gathered in addition to Italian wild grapevines (Table 14).

COLLECTION	 GENOTYPES 	 Vines	
SIENA	1	 	
ITALIAN	33	106	
OTHER	36	160	
	1		
TRENTO	1		
ITALIAN	48	90	
OTHER	32	85	

Table 14: Number of genotypes and vines gathered in the germplasm collection

Conclusion

The research studies are helping to precisely define the distribution and characteristics of wild grapevines in Italy.

From the data obtained and the recent information from the Italian Forestry Service, we can assert that wild vines grow all over the country from 0 to 800 m a.s.l.

This population is dioecious (male/female = 1.8) with few (2.0%) hermaphrodite examples.

The leaves generally have 3 lobes (57 %) but 5 to 7-lobe (36 %) and non-lobed (8.9 %) plants exist. Lower variability exists with regard to leaf shape: 86.1 % of the vines were classified in the same cluster group.

Due to the increase in sampled vines, the differences between the leaves of male and female plants have become less important with respect to our previous observations (Scienza et al. 1988); instead, the differences between the leaves of hermaphrodite and unisexual plants have been confirmed.

The study of seed morphology has classified the plants into three groups, one of which is very numerous (83.3 %).

Investigations on the unvisited sites should confirm these results.

Furthering leaf and seed morphology studies will compare wild and cultivated plants. The germplasm collection will be useful for the comparison.

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