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## ORGANIC VITICULTURE IS GAINING TERRAIN

New OIV publication on the rising biological vineyards unveils that nearly half-million hectares worldwide are today dedicated to organic vines.

# The evolution of organic vineyards

With the rising interest in the viticultural sector to find environmentally-friendly production methods, the upcoming thematic focus on the World Organic Vineyard, sheds light on the evolution of organic viticulture, which is a rising trend since the end of the  $20^{\rm th}$  century. This development can be explained in large part by societal issues, particularly in relation to consumer health and environmental protection.

# There has been a surge in organic vine surface areas across the world, combined with a strong trend towards certification.

The rate of conversion of vineyards to organic production has increased considerably since the beginning of the 21st century. Over the entire period analysed for this report (2005–2019), the certified organic vineyard surface area increased by an average of 13% per year, while the 'non-organic' vineyard area decreased by an average of 0.4% per year within the same timeframe. One of the factors explaining this intense growth rate is the fact that certified organic viticulture is still a recent phenomenon.

# Distribution and evolution of the world's organic vineyards

In 2019, a total of 63 countries across all continents were involved in organic viticulture (Figure 4) and the certified organic vineyard surface area was estimated at 454 kha, representing 6.2% of the world's total area under vines. Although the map in Figure 4 clearly shows the high concentration of organic vineyards in Europe, this production method is also gaining ground in numerous countries across the other continents.



# Spain, France and Italy together account for the 75% of organic vineyards in the world total distribution.

In terms of the weight of organic vineyards as a share of the country's total area under vines, the ranking1 is dominated by European countries. Italy devotes 15% of its vineyards to organic viticulture, followed by France (14%) and Austria (14%). The only non-European country inside the top 10 is Mexico, with 8% of its vineyard area certified organic.

Read the document here.

OIV



### **Note for editors**

The OIV is the intergovernmental organisation of a scientific and technical nature of recognised competence for its work concerning vines, wine, wine-based beverages, table grapes, raisins and other vine-based products.

It is composed of 48 Member States. In the framework of its competence, the objectives of the OIV are as follows:

- to inform its members of measures whereby the concerns of producers, consumers and other players in the vine and wine products sector may be taken into consideration;
- to assist other international organisations, both intergovernmental and non-governmental, especially those that carry out standardisation activities;
- to contribute to international harmonisation of existing practices and standards and, as necessary, to the preparation of new international standards in order to improve the conditions for producing and marketing vine and wine products, and to help ensure that the interests of consumers are taken into account.

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