

## Product Description

The blue fining of wines is carried through with Ferrozin, a potassium ferrocyanide, also called potassium hexacyanoferrate-II or yellow prussiate of potash. Ferrozin reduces increased heavy metal contents to innocuous quantities. Ferrozin is available in crystalline form or as pellets for smaller dosages.

Permitted according to the laws and regulations currently in force. Purity and quality are proved by specialized laboratories.

## Aim of Treatment

Precipitation of heavy metals, particularly iron, as well as copper, zinc, manganese, etc.

## Product and Effect

Increased metal contents can affect the wine by causing haze, bitter taste and increased oxidizability. The sources for metal pick-up - with the exception of the natural iron uptake of the roots (approximately 2-5 mg/L) - are all the tools, processing aggregates, lines, fittings, pumps, storage containers, etc. which come into contact with grapes, mash/crushed grapes, must or wine. Especially the fruit acids liberate metal components. The consequence of an increased contamination with metals, particularly with iron, is a persistent metal haze which is formed by combinations of metals and proteins, tannins (dark blue to black casse) or phosphates (white casse, phosphatic casse, ferric casse). Moreover increased metal contents can negatively affect taste. The wine ages quicker, because the catalyst effect of the metals leads to oxidation. In addition, increased metal contents can inhibit fermentation. For this reason, especially when making sparkling wine, great importance has to be attached to the correct Ferrozin demand. Furthermore high metal contents reduce the efficiency of ascorbic acid. Ferrozin also considerably improves the clarifying effect as well as filtrability.

## Application

Dependent on operational conditions, the blue fining is carried through in the young wine before the second racking, or in the finished wine before bottling. As a rule, the dosage comes up to 1-5 g Ferrozin/100 L wine, at a temperature of 15-20 °C. Higher dosages are applied only in exceptional cases. The required Ferrozin quantities are determined in pretests by a special laboratory. According to EU regulation, pretests, treatment and subsequent control have to be carried out or supervised by a trained oenologist. Already sampling must be effected very carefully; it has to be attended to that a real average sample is taken from the center of the cask/tank, preferably after stirring in advance. Sampling from fittings is carried through after draining the first 10 L. The required quantity of Ferrozin is dissolved in an approximately 5-10 fold portion of warm water and immediately added to the wine under permanent stirring. Excessive concentration in places must absolutely be avoided. After addition, the sediment turns blue (Berlin blue). These blue lees persistently adhere to rough surfaces. For this reason, the fining must be carried through in vessels with smooth surface. Dependent on the degree of clarification, the blue sediment should be separated after approximately 8 days, after 14 days at the latest. A subsequent control by a special laboratory is indispensable. To be on the safe side, a gelatin/silica sol fining, for instance with 50 ml/100 L Gelita-Klar<sup>®</sup> and 100 ml/100 L Blankasit<sup>®</sup>, has to be performed after the Ferrozin treatment. In case of wines, where a delayed clarification can be expected, due to low temperatures, high pH-values and high extracts, an additional IsingClair-Hausenpaste clarification/fining must be integrated. 2-3 hours after effected blue fining, 50 ml/100 L Blankasit and 100 ml/100 L IsingClair-Hausenpaste are added. This fining even precipitates stuck blue finings. If Ferrozin and other fining agents are applied at the same time, a bentonite fining is principally performed before, and a fining with silica sol and gelatin respectively IsingClair-Hausenpaste always afterwards. With regard to sediment disposal, the presently valid regulations have to be adhered to.

## Storage

Store in a dry and light-protected place. Keep tightly closed. Keep out of the reach of children.