

# FERMAID K™

## Complex yeast nutrient

### DESCRIPTION

FERMAID K™ is a blended complex yeast nutrient suitable for use in the alcoholic fermentation of grape must, fruit mashes or cereal mashes. Developed by Clayton Cone from Lallemand, proper use of FERMAID K™ reduces the occurrence of sluggish and stuck fermentations.



### BENEFITS & RESULTS

#### • Yeast reactivation

In all alcoholic fermentations, yeast growth must occur before the anaerobic or alcohol fermentation can begin. In most wine applications, the usual inoculation rate is 25 grams per hectoliter (250 ppm or 2 pounds per 1,000 gallons) which results in an initial cell concentration of 3 to 4 million viable yeast cells per milliliter of must. Under normal conditions, for virtually all types of fermentation media the cell population will increase to 100 to 150 million viable yeast cells per milliliter before growth stops and alcohol fermentation takes over.

FERMAID K™ helps this maximum cell density get through the stationary phase and complete alcohol fermentation as quickly and as efficiently as possible especially under limiting available nitrogen conditions. By neglecting to follow a proper nutrition and aeration strategy, the time for finishing fermentations can drag out over many take days and even weeks. Sluggish fermentations occupy much needed tank space for prolonged periods and, more importantly, they create conditions that allow the proliferation of wild yeasts and bacteria.

#### • Sluggish fermentations

As stated previously, sluggish fermentations are micro-biologically unstable and can lead to the growth of undesirable organisms, both yeast and bacteria, resulting in unwanted by-products such as acetic acid, acetaldehyde and di-acetyl to name a few. The reasons for sluggish fermentations are many. A few common examples are:

- Nutrient deficiencies or imbalances
- Excessively clarified musts
- Yeast inhibiting substances such as fungicides, fatty acids, volatile acidity (V.A.) and antibiotics
- High sugar content
- Temperature shock

Healthy yeast fermentation will take preferential priority over a bacterial fermentation and will have a reduced SO<sub>2</sub> requirement. To facilitate the efficient and rapid finish to the fermentation, FERMAID™ K supplements a series of important nutrients and bio-factors. They are:

- Di-ammonium phosphate
- Magnesium sulfate
- Inactivated yeast
- Thiamine, folic acid, niacin and calcium pantothenate

During the stationary phase of the fermentation, a yeast cell benefits from consuming nitrogen to maintain a healthy metabolism. Under limiting yeast assimilable nitrogen (YAN) conditions below 225 mgN/L, fermentation may become very sluggish and can even cease. In addition, nitrogen utilization at a lower pH in must may be only 70% efficient. Fermenting yeast readily use the balance of yeast assimilable nitrogen from the alpha amino acids contributed by the inactive yeast and from the di-ammonium phosphate (DAP). This balanced available nitrogen has been demonstrated to be more effective on fermentation kinetics than DAP supplements alone. The cell uses the phosphorus in the di-ammonium phosphate for ATP and phospho-lipids.

The magnesium is an important co-enzyme factor and helps yeast develop alcohol tolerance (G. Walker 2000). Thiamine, niacin, folic acid and calcium pantothenate (C. Edwards 2001) are important bio factors for good growth and fermentation. Thiamine deficiencies can result in poor growth, increased hydrogen sulfide, as well as higher levels of acetic and pyruvic acids. Pantothenate deficiencies result in increased levels of volatile acidity. Under the anaerobic environment of wine fermentations, the yeast cannot synthesize niacin.



Under conditions of restricted oxygen, ergosterol production by the yeast is virtually non-existent; yet, it is an important growth regulator. It also improves the alcohol tolerance of the yeast. In fermenting must, inactivated yeast absorb natural inhibitors and supply lipids and sterols. The cell wall portion of the yeast contains significant amounts of polysaccharides including chitin, which increases the surface area in the must and reduces the level of natural inhibitors.

• **FERMAID K™ sensory effect**

**On high quality wines**

The nutritional balance in FERMAID K™ provides optimal nutritional conditions for yeast during the stationary phase, allowing for the maximum aroma intensity and complexity from juice precursors. Note that grapes grown in warmer climate or of high maturity are the most nutrient deficient. DAP alone does not provide the best conditions for clean and healthy fermentations.

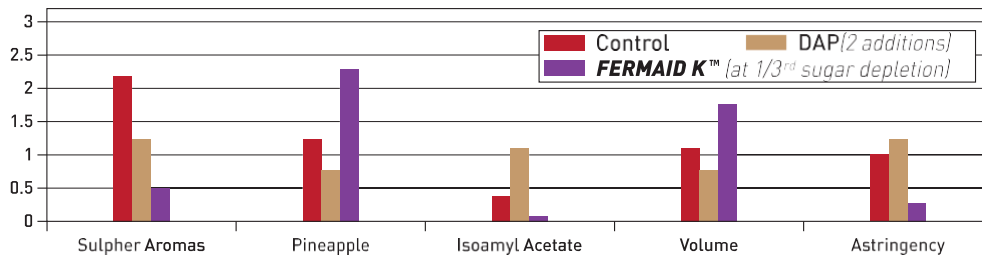


Figure 2: Grenache fermented with LALVIN CY3079™ (25 g/hL) with an addition of 30 g/hL of FERMAID K™.

In nutrient deficient juice or must, when YAN is below 125 mgN/L, optimal fermentation kinetics are obtained by supplementation of an additional 100 - 200 mgN/L YAN, which corresponds to 50 - 100 g / hL of DAP. Although fermentation kinetics are favorable, the wines are often bitter and harsh. In these cases, supplementation of DAP with 25g/hL of FERMAID K™ will result in improved mouthfeel, balance and wine quality.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR OENOLOGICAL USE

**Recommended dosage:** 35 to 40 g/hL.

**Maximum dosage (ECC):** 40 g/hL.

- Suspend in 10 times its weight of water or must and add to the must during alcoholic fermentation.
- For wine applications, the recommended dose is 2-4 lbs/1,000 gallons. It is recommended to split the FERMAID K™ addition at the end of lag phase and again at 1/3rd sugar depletion especially for must limited in available nitrogen and high sugars.
- Please refer to your distributors recommendations when treating a stuck fermentation, FERMAID K™ may be added to the yeast starter culture build-up and also to the must under certain conditions. Yeast Hull supplementation can be done simultaneously.
- For juice that has been highly clarified, or for poor fermentation media (corn syrup, honey, etc.), 4lbs/ 1,000 gallons FERMAID K™ can be supplemented with additional yeast hulls at 2 lbs/ 1,000 gallons and 6lbs/ 1,000 gallons DAP. For best results incrementally feed the total supplements starting at yeast inoculation until ½ sugar depletion.

**No UREA is used at any stage in the production of FERMAID K™.**

## PACKAGING AND STORAGE

- 2.5kg bag and 10kg box.
- Store in a cool dry place.
- To be used once opened.



The information in this document is correct to the best of our knowledge. However, this data sheet should not be considered to be an express guarantee, nor does it have implications as to the sales condition of this product. June 2022.



WINE YEASTS



WINE BACTERIA



NUTRIENTS /PROTECTORS



SPECIFIC YEAST DERIVATIVES



ENZYMES



CHITOSAN



VINEYARD SOLUTIONS



LALLEMAND OENOLOGY

Original by culture

www.lallemandwine.com

**Visionary biological solutions** - Being original is key to your success. At Lallemand Oenology, we apply our passion for innovation, maximize our skill in production and share our expertise, to select and develop natural microbiological solutions. Dedicated to the individuality of your wine, we support your originality, we cultivate our own.