

## My experience as an intern in Dos Hemisferios, Ecuador

The vineyard grows 12 different wine grape varieties.

The plant can produce 2 harvest per year, but with pruning methods they have change it to 1 per year, achiving higher quality and almost the same yield.



### **Principal pests, in order:**

1. Powdery Mildew
2. Downy Mildew
3. Spider Mite
4. Thrips

The high humidity and difussive light is favorous for the development of fungi. The spraying program is intensive, every 5 days.

### **Tropical winegrape vineyards are possible through the application of hydrogen cyanamide, commerically known as Dormex**



The lack of a dormant period in the tropics makes it impossible for the plant to have an uniform budbreak for a succesfull harvest. With the application of Dormex, the dormancy period is mimic and an even budbreak is achieved 15 days after application. The plant is pruned before the application and the leaves are manually removed.

Using this technology,

- Only 75% of the buds break
- Only 15% of those carry fruit

### **Winemaking with tropical grapes**

*Saigneé, or the bleed method, is a necessary step in every red grape processing to achieve a higher body and denser mouthfeel.*

*Grapes mature with very good flavos and aromas, but lack tannin development. Thisis corrected with fining agents.*

*Sour rot is the biggest issue when receiving grapes from the vineyard.*