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Genetic characterization of grapevine varieties from Emilia-Romagna (Northern Italy) discloses unexplored genetic resources

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1 **Genetic Characterization of Grapevine Varieties from Emilia-Romagna (northern Italy) discloses**  
2 **unexplored genetic resources**

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11

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16

17 **Short version of title:** Characterization of Grapes from Emilia-Romagna

18

19 **Abstract**

20 A set of 178 grape accessions collected in Emilia Romagna, from widely cultivated to nearly extinct and thus  
21 maintained in *ex-situ* regional repositories, were analyzed at ten microsatellite (SSR) markers with the aim of  
22 their correct identification. Ampelographic and local historical information were also gathered. Varietal identity  
23 was established through the comparison with reference SSR profiles often supported by vine morphology. The  
24 work demonstrated the presence in the region, under local (often confusing) names, of varieties in common with  
25 other regions/countries, but also identified a large amount of local, unique genotypes highly worthy of being  
26 preserved. Forty-nine percent of the investigated varieties corresponded to cultivars included in the Italian  
27 National Catalogue of Grape Varieties or were of likely foreign origin, while 62 out of the 122 unique genotypes  
28 are not reported or described in the literature, unless mentioned in historical documents. Yet they likely belong  
29 to local germplasm, possibly native to the area. Some of these neglected grapes, like Pellegrina, Biondello and

30 Rossiola, are prospective candidates for market exploitation of varietal wines. The approach applied, based on  
31 varietal identification by markers supported by ampelography and historical evidence, represents one of the key  
32 steps in local cultivated grapevine studies and development.

33

34 **Key words:** *Vitis vinifera*, DNA, microsatellite, genetic diversity, genetic resources, germplasm analysis.

35

## 36 **Introduction**

37 Italy is one of the top wine producers in the world ( $49.2 \times 10^6$  hL of wine produced on average in the three years  
38 2015-2017) with 652,000 ha of area under vines and €  $5.98 \times 10^8$  of wine export values according to the  
39 Ismeamercati website ([www.ismeamercati.it](http://www.ismeamercati.it)). Emilia-Romagna is a traditional wine grape growing region  
40 located in northern Italy (Fig. 1) and characterized by great soil diversity and climatic variability due to its  
41 geographical position between the Po river in the north, the Apennine mountains in the south and Adriatic Sea in  
42 the east. Viticulture in the area dates back to Roman times as reported by Columella (Calzecchi Onesti 1977) if  
43 not before, so there is a long wine-making tradition. Emilia-Romagna is today the third largest wine-producing  
44 region in Italy (ISTAT 2018, [www.istat.it/it/agricoltura](http://www.istat.it/it/agricoltura)), being suitable for the growth of 99 currently authorized  
45 wine-grape cultivars. Numerous minor varieties moderately cultivated, neglected or nearly extinct are also  
46 present in the region as residues of the long grape growing tradition. This source of genetic diversity has been  
47 collected thanks to regional funding, which has allowed the *ex-situ* conservation of many of these accessions,  
48 preventing them from disappearing. In addition, several varieties have been maintained on farms by generations  
49 of families.

50 It is widely recognized that local grape diversity is a valuable resource to be protected and maintained both for  
51 breeding programs and for marketing of original wines related to unique *terroirs*, bringing local economic  
52 benefit (see WineMosaic project: <http://www.winemosaic.org/en/>; Maul et al. 2018).

53 Moreover, in the current climate warming context the promotion of local grapevines naturally adapted and  
54 resilient to environmental constraints may further improve the recovery, evaluation and use of varietal diversity  
55 (Gisbert et al. 2018).

56 One of the first steps towards grape variety study and use lies in the correct identification of the recovered  
57 accessions, a difficult task due to the vast number of synonyms, homonyms and mistaken names involving both  
58 local and important grape varieties spread across Italy and Europe.

59 Grape morphological descriptions, usually applied to the characterization of species and varieties of the *Vitis*  
60 genus, have been associated to Simple Sequence Repeats (SSR) markers since the 1990s, when they were  
61 applied to varietal fingerprint (Thomas et al. 1993), becoming increasingly widely used for vine identification.  
62 Nine SSR were selected (This et al. 2004, Maul et al. 2012) and recommended that they be shared and used by  
63 the scientific community to allow the comparison of published variety profiles within molecular databases or  
64 publications focused on local germplasm from various areas (to name a few examples, Sefc et al. 2009; Ghaffari  
65 et al. 2013, Žulj Mihaljević et al. 2013, Schneider et al. 2014). All this information is merged in the periodically  
66 updated and highly useful International Vitis Database (VIVC) (Maul and Töpfer 2015).

67 This study aims at the first comprehensive molecular characterization of Emilia-Romagna grapevine diversity,  
68 providing the SSR profiles of 178 accessions and their correct identification via comparison with reference  
69 genotypes. This allowed to demonstrate the presence of unique, never reported genotypes, as well as the  
70 introduction of materials from abroad, currently cultivated in the region under different names. Historical and  
71 ampelographic clues help to establish a clear, unambiguous classification when local names, synonyms,  
72 homonyms or mistaken designations occur. We also briefly speculate on the potential opportunity for  
73 commercial exploitation of some rarer local varieties.

74

## 75 **Material and methods**

76 The genetic profiles of 178 accessions (Table 1) rescued in Emilia-Romagna and known as local traditional  
77 varieties were examined. The accessions were retrieved from five grapevine collections recognized by Emilia-  
78 Romagna Regional Administration (Det. n. 8396, 21/06/2012): Astra Innovazione e Sviluppo (Tebano di Faenza,  
79 RA), Mossi Aziende Agricole Vitivinicole (Ziano Piacentino, PC), A.U.B. Azienda Agraria Alma Mater  
80 Studiorum - Università di Bologna (Bologna), Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore "A. Zanelli" and Azienda Agricola  
81 Bargello di Rinaldi Aldo (Reggio Emilia) that were formed in the last years during ampelographic scouting.

82 DNA was extracted from young leaves sampled in the field and then lyophilized, following the procedure  
83 described by Mercado et al. 1999. Samples were genotyped using a set of 10 nuclear SSR loci, nine of them  
84 developed as common markers for international use (Maul et al. 2012). The 10 markers were VvS2, VvMD5,  
85 VvMD7, VvMD25, VvMD27, VvMD28, VvMD32, VrZAG62, VrZAG79 and VvMD6 (for detailed information  
86 on markers see [www.eu-vitis.de/index.php](http://www.eu-vitis.de/index.php) and [www.vitisdb.it/descriptors/microsatellites](http://www.vitisdb.it/descriptors/microsatellites)). PCR products were  
87 then analyzed on an ABI 3730 DNA Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, USA). Data were  
88 processed using Peak Scanner Software (ver. 1.0; Applied Biosystems), and alleles were defined by their size in  
89 base pairs, by comparison with the standard size (GeneScan™ 500 LIZ™ dye Size Standard, Applied  
90 Biosystems).

91 To evaluate the markers used, the following statistical parameters were calculated for every locus on genotypes  
92 with unique profiles using CERVUS (ver. 3.0.7; Field Genetics Ltd; [www.fieldgenetics.com](http://www.fieldgenetics.com)): numbers of  
93 alleles, observed (Hearne et al. 1992) and expected heterozygosity (Nei 1987), estimated frequency of null  
94 alleles (Pemberton et al. 1995), polymorphic information content (PIC) and probability of identity (PI) for  
95 overall loci. The PIC of each marker was calculated from allele frequency in the population and provides a  
96 measure of informativeness based on expected heterozygosity (Hearne et al. 1992). The PI is the probability that  
97 two individuals drawn at random from a population will have the same genotype at multiple loci (Waits et al.  
98 2001).

99 For varietal identification, the obtained SSR profiles were compared with an internal nSSR database (CNR –  
100 IPSP that includes more than 900 unique grapevine genotypes, unpublished), as well as other national and  
101 international on-line sources: the Italian *Vitis* Database (IVD, [www.vitisdb.it](http://www.vitisdb.it)), the European *Vitis* Database  
102 (EVD, [www.eu-vitis.de](http://www.eu-vitis.de)), the National Clonal Germplasm Repository (NCGR–Davis,  
103 [www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docid=13743](http://www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docid=13743)), PI@nt Grape (from France, [plantgrape.plantnet-project.org](http://plantgrape.plantnet-project.org)),  
104 the Swiss *Vitis* Microsatellite Database (SVMD, <http://www1.unine.ch/svmd/>) and the *Vitis* International Variety  
105 Catalogue (VIVC, <http://www.vivc.de/>). Grapevine nSSR published genotypes from other literature sources  
106 were also included. Before comparison, the allele size of each marker in our dataset was adjusted to that of each  
107 source through common genotypes, usually international varieties used as standards. Because of possible

108 genotyping errors, a maximum threshold of two discrepancies on the total 20 alleles was accepted (two in the  
109 case of 9 common markers, and one when there were 6 common nSSR loci), providing also the good matching  
110 with vine morphological profile (through photos or notations) when available (see below).  
111 When not yet included in the Regional Inventory of genetic resources for food and agriculture (available on line  
112 at: [https://agricoltura.regione.emilia-romagna.it/agriturismo-agricoltura/temi/agrobiodiversita/schede-specie-vegetali/vite\\_](https://agricoltura.regione.emilia-romagna.it/agriturismo-agricoltura/temi/agrobiodiversita/schede-specie-vegetali/vite_)), the morphological profiles of the investigated grapevines were detected (including photos)  
113 following the list of primary descriptors in the European *Vitis* Database ([http://www.eu-vitis.de/docs/descriptors/mcpd/Descriptors\\_EUVitisDB\\_11Jan12.pdf](http://www.eu-vitis.de/docs/descriptors/mcpd/Descriptors_EUVitisDB_11Jan12.pdf)), or the OIV Priority descriptor list  
114 (<http://www.oiv.int/en/technical-standards-and-documents/description-of-grape-varieties/oiv-descriptor-list-for-grape-varieties-and-vitis-species-2nd-edition>). Plant morphological features corroborated the varietal identity  
115 suggested by DNA profiling. They also played a key role in understanding historical documents.  
116  
117  
118

119

## 120 **Results**

121 The SSR analyses performed on the 178 grapevine accessions (Table 1) revealed the presence of 122 unique  
122 genotypes (Supplemental Table 1), so that internal synonyms (i.e. synonyms within the analyzed dataset)  
123 accounted for 30% of the total.

124 Statistics on these unique profiles indicated 105 total alleles, ranging from 7 (VVMD6) to 14 (VVMD32), with  
125 an average of 10.5 alleles per locus (Supplemental Table 2). The expected heterozygosity varied between 69.1%  
126 and 85.2%, while observed heterozygosity was between 74.6% and 90.2%, with averages of 81% and 80%  
127 respectively. The probability of null alleles was very close to 0, mean polymorphic information content was 0.77  
128 and the total combined non-exclusion probability of identity was  $1.133 \times 10^{-12}$ . Therefore, exactly matching  
129 accessions were considered mutants or synonyms, in turn identified by vine morphology observations.

130 Comparison of the 122 unique molecular profiles with the molecular data in the national and international  
131 databases and/or in the literature gave rise to the detection of several external synonymies, leading to the true  
132 varietal identity being established for many accessions. Table 2 reports the 52 accessions identified with  
133 cultivars registered in the Italian Grape Variety Catalogue (Table 2A), mostly corresponding to varieties

134 authorized to be grown in Emilia-Romagna (36 profiles), while 8 matched non-Italian cultivars (Table 2B). The  
135 remaining 62 genotypes were thus ascribed to local, not officially registered grapes. These profiles were  
136 therefore compared with molecular data in the literature examining local, neglected varieties of the area. A  
137 genetic correspondence was found for 20 out of the 62 (Table 3A), while 42 profiles were accessions never  
138 reported in previous studies (Table 3B), so were unique genetic material. Most of this local germplasm is grown  
139 locally, but often highly threatened.

140

## 141 **Discussion**

142 Although the proportion of internal synonyms was moderate, accounting for 30% of the nearly 200 investigated  
143 accessions, the amount of presumed novel, original material was greatly reduced by the recognition of many  
144 accessions as cultivars already reported/described, or even included in the national Catalogue. The screening of  
145 the collected materials by DNA profiling, thanks to available true to type references, is therefore a key step in  
146 local grapevine germplasm studies. It is thus essential to perform reliable genotyping. In this work, the nSSR  
147 profile matching with references was mostly 100%. The comparison of photos or notations on the major plant  
148 organs (leaves and bunches) of both questionable accession and reference, usefully supports genetics.

149

### 150 Homonym varieties

151 The accession Cor d'usel, identified as Grechetto gentile B. (a variety also known in other Italian regions as  
152 Grechetto di Todi), resulted spread under the synonyms of Pignolo, Pignoletto or Ribolla in as many as nine  
153 areas of eastern Romagna, from Bologna to Forlì, Ravenna and Rimini (Table 2A and Table 1). Since the 1960s  
154 this grape has been widely planted on the Bologna hills as Pignoletto, but the denomination Rebola/Ribolla was  
155 documented in the region from the 14<sup>th</sup> century by the statute of Savignano (Delucca and Carli 1994). In our  
156 dataset, however, the name Ribolla is in common with two other distinct accessions, Ribolla R17 and Ribolla  
157 R24 (Table 3B), matching neither Grechetto gentile B. nor Ribolla gialla B. included in the Italian Grape Variety  
158 Catalogue. In addition, Rebula stara (old Rebula) from the Balkans was identified according to VIVC as  
159 Heunisch Weiss (alias Gouais blanc), thereby adding another homonym to the group. Many distinct varieties

160 named Rebola/Ribolla attest to the great appeal that the homonym wine had in the past in north-eastern Italy as  
161 well as in the nearby Balkan regions. Moreover, they suggest prudence in the interpretation of historical reports  
162 of grapes as homonyms, due to the uncertain attribution of the true varietal identity. The same is true for the  
163 homonyms Malvasia and Lambrusco.

164 The three accessions sharing the name Lambrusco (Table 2A and Table 3B), showed different molecular  
165 profiles. Lambrusco di Fiorano (Table 2A) was registered in the Italian Catalogue in 2016 as Lambrusco del  
166 Pellegrino N.; Lambrusco picol ross (Table 2A) and Lambrusco di Corbelli (Table 3A) did not match any of the  
167 twelve different cultivars sharing the name Lambrusco in the Catalogue. The former, a traditional grapevine  
168 from Reggio Emilia province, was confirmed as being a synonym of Terrano N. (Meglioraldi et al. 2013),  
169 locally named Cagnina, while Lambrusco di Corbelli was likely a unique, unreported genotype. Instead, two  
170 other accessions included in our study, Gialmona and Scorzamara recovered in Reggio Emilia province (where  
171 Lambruscos are widely cultivated) were identified as the very common Lambrusco Marani N. and Lambrusco  
172 Grasarossa N. respectively (Table 2A). The names Gialmona and Scorzamara were likely mistaken, as  
173 according to historical reports they should refer to different varieties.

174

#### 175 Varieties imported or present elsewhere

176 Many investigated accessions corresponded to cultivars typical of regions bordering Emilia-Romagna, like  
177 Tuscany (Vernaccia di San Gimignano B., Bonamico N., Ciliegiole N.), Lombardy (Schiava N., Mornasca N.),  
178 Veneto (Moscato giallo B., Marzemina bianca B., Verdicchio bianco B. known as Trebbiano di Soave B.,  
179 Verduzzo trevigiano B.) and Marche (Verdicchio bianco B., Mostosa B.). Their presence in Emilia-Romagna  
180 could derive from a former introduction or a wider spread in the past. They are currently known in the region  
181 under local names or misnomers, so their true identity is of interest to local growers and the wine industry.

182 Foreign grapes too, casually introduced sometimes from distant areas, were discovered under local and often  
183 confusing or incorrect names. Two Colorino accessions (Colorino meaning “deeply colored grapes”), Colorino  
184 (Ricci) and Colorino (Siba Ladino) both flesh-colored, were found to correspond to the interspecific hybrid



185 Seibel 1077 and to a grape grown in Piedmont under the name of Teinturier ad acino rotondo respectively (Table  
186 2B and Table 3A).

187 We also found grapes in common with the varietal assortment of other neighboring countries. Rossa di Monte  
188 Castello corresponds to Glacière once cultivated in Provence, while Sticiucaera bianca is the synonym of Blanc  
189 des Hombes, a little-known variety mentioned in Switzerland (Table 2B). These findings confirm a flow of  
190 varieties across the Alps, probably occurring on several occasions in the past. A truly imported cultivar is  
191 Jacquez (a *Vitis aestivalis* hybrid originating in the USA), that spread from France to Italy in 19<sup>th</sup> century and is  
192 grown in Emilia Romagna as Fogarina or Nibiol, both obviously incorrect names. Furthermore, genotypes from  
193 North Africa (Sbebbi nero synonym of Bezoul El Khadem d'Algerie), Eastern Europe (Uva picciona, synonym  
194 of Coarna alba from Moldova) and Southern Europe (Uva di S. Andrea alias Palomino fino from Spain, and  
195 Malvasia di Rimini identical to Thrapsathiri from Greece) attest to the wide circulation of materials in the  
196 Mediterranean basin during former times.

197 As to the last example, Thrapsathiri alias Malvasia di Rimini, one of the seven homonym Malvasia included in  
198 this work (Table 1), this is probably the most northern accession of this cultivar, typical of the Aegean islands  
199 and currently part of the Malvasia wine blend from Crete. Yet the question remains whether this variety was  
200 spread across the Adriatic Sea by none other than the ancient Greeks, as previously reported for Malvasia delle  
201 Lipari (Crespan et al. 2006), or was a more recent arrival. Regarding this, it is worth mentioning that the  
202 promontory of Focara located at the Romagna border was often visited in ancient times by Greek merchants  
203 going to the renowned emporium of Spina (Braccesi 1969).

204

#### 205 Regional varieties not listed in the National Catalogue

206 Sixty-two accessions analyzed in this study corresponded to varieties typical of Emilia Romagna. As already  
207 mentioned, many local synonyms were found within this regional germplasm, indicating a rather intense  
208 cultivation of local varieties in the past, and their spread under different names (Table 3).

209 Besides the internal synonyms, 20 out of the 62 regional varieties showed the same profile as cultivars already  
210 reported as typical of the region (Table 3A). As many as 42 were genotypes not matching with any reference,

211 nor previously described (Table 3B). Most of them are threatened with extinction. Their conservation in regional  
212 repositories is thus highly recommended.

213 Among these lesser known local varieties (Table 3B), some show merit for potential exploitation. Pellegrina, for  
214 example, was wrongly reported as a synonym of Spergola and Sauvignon blanc (Cosmo and Polsinelli, 1961).  
215 Our findings clearly showed the two genotypes called Pellegrina, although distinct from one another, do not  
216 correspond to either Spergola or to Sauvignon blanc. Pellegrina (Bonfatti), currently grown in a small area  
217 although not officially authorized, is ideal for producing sparkling wines thanks to its high acidity (Fontana et al.  
218 2014).

219 Biondello is another local variety not listed in the Catalogue that preliminary tests show has remarkable  
220 agronomic traits (good vigor and yield, high basal bud fertility, low sensitivity to downy and powdery mildew)  
221 and juice quality (appropriate sugar content, high acidic levels), making it suitable to produce sparkling wines  
222 even in warm climate conditions.

223 The red berry Rossiola, also known as Uva rosa or Uva tosca, was shown to be a different genotype from the two  
224 almost homonym white varieties Rossola (Tebano) and Rossola di Bertinoro, thus excluding a possible common  
225 origin by mutation (Table 3B). The red Rossiola, recovered in an old vineyard on the sandy coastal area of  
226 Ferrara province and in the past confused with the better known cv Fortana N. (Casazza, 1845), maintains a good  
227 level of acidity in the grapes even if grown in one of the hottest areas of Emilia-Romagna. It gives fine varietal  
228 rosé wines of distinctive aroma, or could go into the blend of typical wines from coastal sandy soils.

229 The last three mentioned cultivars deserve to be considered for their addition in the Catalogue, and admitted to  
230 cultivation according to the European rules.

231

### 232 Correct accession naming

233 Forty-nine percent of the accessions investigated proved identical to grape varieties included in the National  
234 Catalogue or were of foreign origin, therefore already known and described. As the study was addressed to local,  
235 often neglected or threatened resources, identification with known varieties (though of minor importance) was  
236 highly relevant either for conservation policy or commercial exploitation. Indeed, the study revealed that major

237 Italian cultivars such as Trebbiano toscano (alias Ugni blanc), Vernaccia di San Gimignano, Ciliegiolo and  
238 others, are grown in the region under local names like Albanella, Bianchino, Santa Maria nera, etc., therefore  
239 should not be considered endangered resources, but rather a source of intra-varietal diversity.

240 Looking at the accession denominations, it is worth underlining that 22% were correctly named (true names),  
241 55% were synonyms, either local (used by farmers – 27%) or historical (i.e. reported in historical documents –  
242 28%), while wrong designations (mistaken names because referring to different already-described and known  
243 cultivars) accounted for as much as 23% of the identified accessions (Table 2).

244 Examples of historical synonyms were Barbesino and Spergola B. (Filippetti et al. 2001), Cor d’Ussel and  
245 Grechetto gentile B. (Silvestroni et al. 1985), Uva d’oro and Fortana N. (Rossi 2017), while Negretta, Bianca  
246 toscana and Lambrusco picol ross were local synonyms of Negretto N., Malvasia di Candia aromatica B. and  
247 Terrano N. respectively (Table 2A).

248 To distinguish variety homonyms is another key point of identification. The names of the five accessions Albana  
249 del paniere, Albana nera (Montanari), Albana nera (Monte Trebbio), Albana nera (Tebano) and Albana rossa  
250 (Table 1) refer to white Albana B., one of the most traditional grapes in Romagna used for Albana appellation  
251 wines. Thus, although sharing large-sized and long clusters with Albana B., none of these accessions matched  
252 with Albana B.: two were misnomers (Table 2A) and three were actually unknown (Table 3B). Similarly,  
253 Malvasia di Rimini, Malvasia profumata di Parma 1, Moscatellone nero, Moscato nero, Moscatello nero and  
254 Moscatone (Table 1) mostly sharing an aromatic profile similar to Malvasias and Moscatos, were erroneously  
255 assimilated to these cultivars, while instead all were misnomers or local synonyms of known flavored grapes,  
256 like Aleatico N. and Moscato giallo B. (Table 2A and 2B). Thus, following the process of varietal identification,  
257 understanding if an accession name is an acceptable local synonym or a mistaken, ambiguous or confusing  
258 denomination, is crucial for the further use and exploitation of that resource.

259

## 260 **Conclusions**

261 The study presents the results of varietal identification of a large set of minors, neglected and threatened  
262 grapevine accessions collected in Emilia-Romagna during 20 years of germplasm recovery and gathering

263 projects, which also led to the constitution of the grapevine collections. The work was based on DNA profiling  
264 supported by vine morphology observations and historical research. Out of the total 178 investigated accessions  
265 122 unique genotypes were found, 62 of which corresponded to little known grapes, never described, and  
266 possibly native to Emilia-Romagna. These resources should be considered unique, therefore highly worthy of  
267 preservation. Their management as original genetic resources should be improved, increasing the number of  
268 maintained vine for each genotype or establishing duplicates in different places to avoid the threat of extinction.  
269 Some of them with peculiar traits deserve future evaluations aimed at commercial exploitation of varietal wines,  
270 also due to their resilience to the ongoing climate change conditions. Moreover, since SSR data of local and  
271 unique genotypes have been carefully checked, their profiles will soon be included in National and International  
272 databases, thus available to the scientific community.

273 The approach followed in this work allows the varietal diversity to be estimated correctly, unraveling erroneous  
274 denominations (often handed down from the past), and revealing the presence of genotypes that, despite  
275 belonging to already known cultivars, could be an important genetic resource in terms of intra-varietal  
276 variability, being cultivated and well-adapted to Emilia-Romagna climatic and environmental conditions.  
277 Varietal identification and correct naming indeed represent one of the key steps in local cultivated grapevine  
278 germplasm investigations, safeguard and exploitation.

279

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357 Figure 1. Location of the Emilia-Romagna region in the Italian peninsula and its administrative division in 9  
358 provinces.

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360 Table 1. The 178 grape cultivars/accessions examined in this study: berry color, use, cultural area.

Sample code	Accession name <sup>a</sup>	Berry color <sup>b</sup>	Use <sup>c</sup>	Cultural Area (Province or Region) <sup>d</sup>
1	Albana del paniere	B	W	FC
2	Albana nera (Montanari)	N	W	RA
3	Albana nera (Monte Trebbio)	N	W	FC
4	Albana nera (Tebano)	N	W	RA
5	Albana rossa	N	W	RA
6	Albanella (Cadriano)	B	W	BO
7	Albanella (Tellarini)	B	W	RA
8	Albanina nera	N	W	RA
9	Aleatico (Tebano)	N	W	BO
10	Aleatico (Zauli)	N	W	RA
11	Aleatico di S. Valentino	N	W	RE
12	Angela	B	W	BO
13	Balsamina	N	W	RA
14	Balzamino	N	W	RA
15	Barbesino	B	W	PC
16	Basgana	N	T-W	FE
17	Basoleina	N	W	RE
18	Bermestone	N	T	FE
19	Bertinora	B	T-W	FC
20	Berzemino capolico	N	W	RE
21	Besgano bianco	B	T	PC
22	Besgano rosso	N	T	PC
23	Bianca toscana	B	W	FC
24	Bianchetta di Bacedasco	B	W	PC
25	Bianchetta di Diolo	B	W	PC
26	Bianchino	B	W	FC
27	Bianchino (Vignoli)	B	W	RA
28	Biondello	B	W	FC
29	Bottona	B	W	BO
30	Brumesta	N	T-W	FE
31	Bsolla	B	W	RA
32	Bucalò	B	W	PC
33	Burghisana	N	T	RA
34	Calora	B	W	PC
35	Canino	B	W	RN
36	Cargarello	B	W	RN
37	Cavazzina	N	W	RE
38	Caveccia	B	W	RA
39	Caveccia (Sant'Andrea)	B	W	RA
40	Cavecia (Bordone)	B	W	RA
41	Ciocca (Plessi)	B	W	MO
42	Ciocca (Tebano)	B	W	BO
43	Cioccherella	B	W	MO
44	Ciurlese	B	W	RN
45	Colombina	B	W	PC
46	Colorino (Ricci)	N	W	RN
47	Colorino (Siba Ladino)	N	W	FC
48	Cor d'Usel	B	W	RA
49	Cornacchia (Ercolani)	N	W	RA
50	Cornacchia (Tebano)	N	W	RA
51	Cornona	V	T	RE
52	Covra	N	W	RE
53	Covretto	N	W	RE
54	Crova	N	W	PC
55	Crovarina	N	W	PC
56	Dorata di Fontevivo	B	T-W	PR
57	Duraguzza	N	W	PC



58	Durella	B	W	RE
59	Famoso (Bragagni)	B	W	RA
60	Famoso (Conventino)	B	W	Marche region
61	Festasio	N	W	MO
62	Fogarina (Tebano)	N	W	RA
63	Fogarina di Gualtieri	N	W	RE
64	Fogliona	B	W-T	MO
65	Forcella (Bordone)	B	W	BO
66	Forcella (Tebano)	B	W	BO
67	Forcella (Tedeschini)	B	W	BO
68	Forcella (centenaria di Imola)	B	W	BO
69	Fortana CAB1	N	W	FE
70	Frattini	N	W	RA
71	Fruttano	N	W	PC
72	Gialmona	N	W	RE
73	Giotina	B	W	RE
74	Graplen	B	W	RA
75	Grattacoppa	N	W	RA
76	Gravarena	N	W	PC
77	Grillone	N	T	RA
78	Lambrusco di Corbelli	N	W	RE
79	Lambrusco di Fiorano	N	W	MO
80	Lambrusco picol ross	N	W	RE
81	Lanzesa	B	W-T	RA
82	Leck	B	W	PC
83	Liedga (centenaria "La Palazza")	B	T	FC
84	Lisora	B	W	PC
85	Madalona	N	W	RA
86	Maligia (Monari)	B	W	BO
87	Maligia (Tebano)	B	W	BO
88	Malvasia aromatica di Parma (Casalini)	B	W	PR
89	Malvasia bianca	B	W	RA
90	Malvasia bolognese	B	W	BO
91	Malvasia di Rimini	B	W	RN
92	Malvasia parmense	B	W	PR
93	Malvasia profumata di Parma 1	B	W	RE
94	Malvasia profumata di Parma 2	B	W	RE
95	Melara	B	W	PC
96	Molinelli	B	W	PC
97	Mollona	B	T	RE
98	Moscato	B	W	FC
99	Moscato nero	N	W	RA
100	Moscattellone nero	N	T	FC
101	Moscato nero	N	T	FC
102	Moscato	B	W-T	RN
103	Mostarino	N	W	PC
104	Negretta 1	N	W	MO
105	Negretta 2	N	W	MO
106	Negrettino (Converselle)	N	W	FC
107	Negrettino (Sbarzalia)	N	W	RA
108	Negrettino (Torretta)	N	W	RA
109	Nero di Gonzaga	N	W	RA
110	Nibiol	N	W	RE
111	Paradisà	B	W	BO
112	Pargulona	N	T	FC
113	Pellegrina (Bonfatti)	B	W	MO
114	Pellegrina (Cadriano)	B	W	MO
115	Pignoletto (Rubini)	B	W	BO
116	Pignoletto (Tersi)	B	W	FC
117	Pignoletto (Zola)	B	W	BO

118	Pignolo	B	W	FC
119	Pignolo di Forlì	B	W	FC
120	Plissona	N	W	PC
121	Prunella	N	W	RA
122	Redga	B	W	RE
123	Ribolla 30	B	W	RN
124	Ribolla 31	B	W	RN
125	Ribolla R17	B	W	RN
126	Ribolla R23	B	W	RN
127	Ribolla R24	B	W	RN
128	Ribolla R3	B	W	RN
129	Rossa di Monte Castello	R	W-T	FC
130	Rossara	N	W	RE
131	Rossiola	R	W	FE
133	Rossola (Tebano)	B	W-T	FC
132	Rossola di Bertinoro	B	W-T	RA
134	Santa Maria	B	W	PC
135	Santa Maria nera	N	W	FC
136	Sauvignon rosso	N	W	RA
137	Sbebbi nero	N	T	FC
138	Scacco	B	W	FC
139	Scarsafoglia	B	W	RE
140	Sconosciuta di Castellarano	N	W	RE
141	Scorzamara (Neviani)	N	W	RE
142	Scorzamara (Rinaldi)	N	W	RE
143	Scorzamara val d'Enza	N	W	RE
144	Sgavetta	N	W	PC
145	Simonina (Cadriano)	N	W	MO
146	Simonina (Rinaldi)	N	W	RE
147	Spaltarina	N	W	RE
148	Squarciafoglia	B	W	MO
149	Stiucera bianca	B	W	PC
150	Stiucera rossa	B	W	PC
151	Termarina bianca	B	T-W	PR
152	Termarina rossa	N	T-W	PR
153	Tonda di S. Secondo	N	T-W	PR
154	Tosca	N	W	RE
155	Trasforini	B	W-T	FE
156	Trebbiano di Spagna	B	W	MO
157	Uva aceto	B	W	FE
158	Uva ciocca	B	W	MO
159	Uva d'oro 1	N	W	FE
160	Uva d'oro 2	N	W	MO
161	Uva d'oro raspo rosso	N	W	RA
162	Uva del prato	N	W	MO
163	Uva di S. Andrea	B	T-W	FC
164	Uva morta	G	W	RA
165	Uva nebbia	B	W	FC
166	Uva picciona	B	T	PR
167	Uva rosa	N	W	RA
168	Uva rosa (Agnoletti)	Rs	T	PR
169	Uva toscana (Tebano)	N	W	RE
170	Uva vacca	B	W	RN-FC
171	Varon	N	W	FE
172	Verdea	B	T-W	PC
173	Verdetto	B	W	RN
174	Verdicchio	B	W	MO
175	Vernaccia	B	W	FC
176	Vernaccina	B	W	RN
177	Verrucchiese	N	W	RN
178	Vite badia S. Andrea	N	W	FC

<sup>a</sup> Geographic or farmer's names are in brackets, useful to discriminate homonym accessions.

<sup>b</sup> According to OIV descriptor 225: B = white, R = red, Rs = rose, V = dark red-violet, G= Grey, N= blue-black.

<sup>c</sup> W, wine grape; T, table grape.

<sup>d</sup> Emilia-Romagna provinces: Bologna (BO), Ferrara (FE), Forlì-Cesena (FC), Modena (MO), Parma (PR), Piacenza (PC), Ravenna (RA), Rimini (RN), Reggio Emilia (RE).

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364 Table 2. Matching genetic profiles within the sample set (internal synonyms) and/or with cultivars  
 365 authorized to be grown in Italy listed in the Italian Grape Variety Catalogue (A) (followed by berry  
 366 color B = white, N= blue-black) and with non-Italian cultivars (B).  
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368 **A**

Sample code	Accession names <sup>a</sup>	Internal synonyms <sup>a</sup>	Matching cultivars listed in the Italian Grape Variety Catalogue
2	Albana nera (Montanari) (mis)	Fruttano (syn), Uva d'oro 2 (syn), Uva d'oro raspo rosso (syn)	<b>Fortana N.*</b>
3	Albana nera (Monte Trebbio) (mis)	Negretta 2 (loc syn), Negrettino (Torretta) (syn)	<b>Negretto N.*</b>
6	Albanella (Cadriano) (mis)		<b>Trebbiano toscano B.*</b>
7	Albanella (Tellarini) (syn)	Colombina (syn)	<b>Marzemina bianca B.</b>
9	Aleatico (Tebano) (true)	Aleatico (Zauli) (true), Moscatello nero (loc syn), Negrettino (Converselle) (mis), Vite badia S. Andrea (loc syn)	<b>Aleatico N.</b>
15	Barbesino (syn)		<b>Spergola B.*</b>
23	Bianca toscana (loc syn)	Malvasia parmense (loc syn), Malvasia profumata di Parma 2 (loc syn)	<b>Malvasia di Candia aromatica B.*</b>
26	Bianchino (mis)		<b>Vernaccia di S. Gimignano B.</b>
27	Bianchino (Vignoli) (mis)		<b>Tocai friulano B.*</b>
34	Calora (loc syn)		<b>Cortese B.</b>
48	Cor d'Ussel (loc syn)	Pignoletto (Tersi) (true), Pignoletto (Zola) (true), Pignolo (syn), Pignolo di Forlì (syn), Ribolla 30 (syn), Ribolla 31 (syn), Ribolla R23 (syn), Ribolla R3 (syn)	<b>Grechetto gentile B.*</b>
50	Cornacchia (Tebano) (true)	Cornacchia (Ercolani) (true), Varon (loc syn)	<b>Cornacchia N.*</b>
56	Dorata di Fontevivo (loc syn)		<b>Dorona B.</b>
57	Duraguzza (loc syn)		<b>Mornasca N.</b>
59	Famoso (Bragagni) (true)	Famoso (Conventino) (true)	<b>Famoso B.*</b>
61	Festasio (true)		<b>Festasio N.*</b>
63	Fogarina di Gualtieri (true)		<b>Fogarina N.*</b>
70	Frattini (loc syn)		<b>Piedirosso N.</b>
72	Gialmona (mis)		<b>Lambrusco Marani N.*</b>
75	Grattacoppa (loc syn)		<b>Uva del Tundè N.*</b>
76	Gravarena (loc syn)	Stciucaera rossa (loc syn)	<b>Erbanno N., Rossara N., Schiava N.</b>
79	Lambrusco di Fiorano (syn)		<b>Lambrusco del Pellegrino N.*</b>
80	Lambrusco picol ross (loc syn)		<b>Terrano N.*</b>
81	Lanzesa (true)		<b>Lanzesa B.*</b>
83	Liedga (centenaria "La Palazza") (syn)		<b>S. Anna di Lipsia B.</b>

84	Lisora (syn)		Liseiret B. (Heunisch weiss, Gouais blanc)
88	Malvasia aromatica di Parma (Casalini) (true)		Malvasia Casalini B.*
89	Malvasia Bianca (syn)		Malvasia bianca di Candia B.*
93	Malvasia profumata di Parma 1 (mis)	Moscato (loc syn)	Moscato giallo B.
97	Mollona (loc syn)		Invernenga B.
98	Moscato (syn)		Moscato bianco B.*
100	Moscato nero (mis)		Cardinal N.
101	Moscato nero (mis)		Moscato d'Amburgo N.
104	Negretta 1 (mis)	Negrettino (Sbarzalia) (mis)	Marzemino N.*
111	Paradisa (syn)	Verdea (true)	Verdea B.*
114	Pellegrina (Cadriano) (mis)		Verduzzo trevigiano B.
134	Santa Maria (true)		Santa Maria B.*
135	Santa Maria nera (mis)		Ciliegiole N.*
136	Sauvignon rosso (syn)		Centesimino N.*
139	Scarsafoglia (true)	Squarciafoglia (syn)	Scarsafoglia B.*, Scimiscià B.*
142	Scorzamara (Rinaldi) (mis)		Lambrusco grasparossa N.*
144	Sgavetta (true)		Sgavetta N.*
151	Termarina bianca (syn)		Passeretta B.*
152	Termarina rossa (true)		Termarina N.*
153	Tonda di S. Secondo (loc syn)		Bonamico N.
154	Tosca (true)		Uva toscana N.*
155	Trasforini (loc syn)		Angela B.*
156	Trebbiano di Spagna (syn)		Trebbianina B.*
170	Uva vacca (syn)		Mostosa B.*
174	Verdicchio (true)		Verdicchio bianco B.*
176	Vernaccina (syn)		Vernaccina B.*
177	Verrucchiese (syn)		Veruccese B.*

## B

	Accession names <sup>a</sup>	Internal synonyms <sup>a</sup>	Matching non-Italian cultivars <sup>b</sup>
46	Colorino (Ricci) (mis)		Seibel 1077 (Jaeger 70 x Aramon) (VIVC)
62	Fogarina (Tebano) (mis)	Nibiol (mis)	Jacquez (EVD)
91	Malvasia di Rimini (mis)		Thrapsathiri (EVD)
129	Rossa di Monte Castello (mis)		Glacière (Lacombe et al. 2012)
137	Sbebbi nero (loc syn)		Bezoul El Khadem de Tunisie (VIVC)
149	Stiucera bianca (loc syn)		Blanc des Hombes (SVMD)
163	Uva di S. Andrea (loc syn)		Palomino fino (EVD) – Listan (VIVC)
166	Uva picciona (loc syn)		Coarna Alba (EVD)

369 <sup>a</sup> In brackets after accession names remarks to the accession names: syn = synonym, loc syn = local synonym, true = true  
370 name, mis = misnomer.

371 \*Cultivar authorized to be cultivated in Emilia Romagna.

372 <sup>b</sup> Reference databases: VIVC = Vitis International Variety Catalogue, EVD = European Vitis Database, SVMD = Swiss  
373 Vitis Microsatellite Database.

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384 Table 3. Local grape accessions from Emilia Romagna not officially registered (not included in Italian  
 385 Grape Variety Catalogue), their internal synonyms, their varietal correspondence with local genetic  
 386 resources reported in databases or literature (A) and unique, unreported genetic profiles (B).

387 A

Sample code	Accession names	Internal synonyms	Matching profiles in databases or literature <sup>a</sup>	Cultural relevance in Emilia Romagna <sup>b</sup>
8	Albanina nera		Negretta (Meghioraldi et al. 2013)	HT
11	Aleatico di S. Valentino		Aleatico di San Valentino (Meghioraldi et al. 2013)	LD
17	Basoleina	Scorzamara (Neviani)	Basoleina (Meghioraldi et al. 2013)	HT
20	Berzemino capolico	Nero di Gonzaga, Scorzamara val d'Enza	Scorzamara (Meghioraldi et al. 2013)	LD
22	Besgano rosso	Burghisana, Grillone	Besgano Nero (VIVC)	RD
29	Bottona		Tognona (VIVC)	HT
32	Bucalò		Vernassa Bianca (VIVC)	HT
36	Cargarello		Drupeggio (VIVC)	LD
37	Cavazzina		Cavazzina (Meghioraldi et al. 2013)	HT
47	Colorino (Siba Ladino)		Teinturier ad acino rotondo (IVD)	HT
52	Covra		Uva Crova (VIVC)	HT
53	Covretto	Crova, Crovarina, Plissona	Brugnera (VIVC) - Rossara (Meghioraldi et al. 2013)	HT
58	Durella		Durella (Meghioraldi et al. 2013)	HT
68	Forcella (centenaria di Imola)		Forcella (VIVC)	LD
78	Lambrusco di Corbelli		Lambrusco di Corbelli (Meghioraldi et al. 2013)	HT
82	Leck	Melara	Salamandola (EVD)	LD
96	Molinelli		Obi (EVD)	LD
122	Redga		Retica (VIVC)	HT
140	Sconosciuta di Castellarano		Sconosciuta di Castellarano (Meghioraldi et al. 2013)	HT
168	Uva rosa (Agnoletti)		Angelo Pirovano (I.P. 2) (EVD)	HT

B

	Accession names	Internal synonyms	Matching profiles in national and international databases or the literature <sup>a</sup>	Cultural relevance in Emilia Romagna <sup>b</sup>
1	Albana del paniere	Caveccia, Caveccia (Sant'Andrea), Caveccia (Bordone)	no match	LD
4	Albana nera (Tebano)		no match	HT
5	Albana rossa		no match	HT
12	Angela		no match	LD
13	Balsamina		no match	LD
14	Balzamino		no match	HT
16	Basgana		no match	HT
18	Bermestone	Brumesta, Cornona, Pargulona	no match	RD
19	Bertinora	Rossola di Bertinoro	no match	LD
21	Besgano bianco		no match	LD
24	Bianchetta di Bacedasco		no match	LD
25	Bianchetta di Diolo		no match	LD
28	Biondello		no match	HT
31	Bsolla		no match	HT
35	Canino	Verdetto	no match	LD

41	Ciocca (Plessi)	Uva ciocca	no match	HT
42	Ciocca (Tebano)		no match	HT
43	Cioccherella	Uva aceto	no match	HT
44	Ciurlese		no match	HT
64	Fogliana		no match	HT
65	Forcella (Bordone)		no match	LD
67	Forcella (Tedeschini)	Forcella (Tebano)	no match	LD
69	Fortana CAB1	Uva d'oro 1	no match	LD
73	Giottina		no match	HT
74	Graplen		no match	HT
85	Madalona		no match	HT
86	Maligia (Monari)	Maligia (Tebano)	no match	LD
90	Malvasia Bolognese		no match	HT
103	Mostarino		no match	HT
113	Pellegrina (Bonfatti)		no match	LD
115	Pignoletto (Rubini)		no match	HT
121	Prunella		no match	LD
125	Ribolla R17	Vernaccia	no match	HT
127	Ribolla R24		no match	HT
130	Rossara		no match	HT
131	Rossiola	Uva rosa, Uva tosca (Tebano)	no match	LD
133	Rossola	Scacco	no match	HT
145	Simonina (Cadriano)	Simonina (Rinaldi)	no match	LD
147	Spaltarina		no match	HT
162	Uva del prato		no match	HT
164	Uva morta		no match	HT
165	Uva nebbia		no match	HT

388 <sup>a</sup>Reference database: VIVC = Vitis International Variety Catalogue, EVD = European Vitis Database, IVD =  
389 Italian Vitis Database.

390 <sup>b</sup>HT, highly threatened (on farm or *ex situ* conservation); LD, local diffusion; RD, regional diffusion.

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405 Supplemental data Captions

406 Supplemental Table 1. Genetic profiles at 10 nSSR loci (alleles size in bp) of the 122 unique genotypes.





Supplemental Table 2. Genetic diversity statistics obtained from evaluating 122 unique genotypes with 10 nSSR markers.

SSR marker	Number of alleles	H <sub>obs</sub> <sup>a</sup>	H <sub>exp</sub> <sup>b</sup>	PIC <sup>c</sup>	F(Null) <sup>d</sup>
VVMD5	11	0.779	0.795	0.766	0.01
VVMD7	11	0.803	0.830	0.804	0.0118
VVMD25	11	0.787	0.746	0.702	-0.0286
VVMD27	9	0.811	0.815	0.789	0.0026
VVMD28	13	0.869	0.852	0.831	-0.0115
VVMD32	14	0.902	0.839	0.817	-0.0432
VVS2	9	0.746	0.751	0.722	0.0073
ZAG62	10	0.861	0.851	0.830	-0.0093
ZAG79	10	0.828	0.819	0.799	-0.013
VVMD6	7	0.746	0.691	0.642	-0.0383
Average	10.5	0.8132	0.7989	0.7702	-0.01122

<sup>a</sup>Heterozygosity observed; <sup>b</sup>Heterozygosity expected; <sup>c</sup>Polymorphic information content; <sup>d</sup>Null allele frequencies.