# CHALMERS





## Greco

**Synonym:** Greco di Napoli, Greco della Torre, Greco di tufo, Grecula, Greco del Vesuvio, Grieco.

Commonly mistaken for: Lacrima, Riesling Italico

**Origin:** The original vines were probably brought into Italy by Hellenic farmers in the VII-VIII century b.C. In his 1909 book "*Viala-Vermorel*" Italian writer Michele Carlucci states that Greco di Tufo was derived from the Aminea Gemella (Twins) traditionally known to have been cultivated on the slopes of Vesuvius in Latin times. It was dubbed "twins" because of the presence of double clusters, a constant character in the bunch formations of this vine. In the recent past this vine was considered to be identical to the Italian Riesling (Riesling Italico), but with after more detailed observation the difference it was noted.

**Agronomic and environmental aspects:** a productive vine, it has a preference for deep grounds, friable, fresh and of volcanic origin. In soils deriving from the breakdown of sandstone and rich in calcium carbonate (similar to that of Tufo a town in southern Italy which was named for its abundance of Limestone), the resulting wine is more perfumed, finer and showing greater balance. Being a rustic vine and of good vigour it has a preference for long pruning leaving a good quantity of buds.

**Diseases, pests and disorders:** it is susceptible to botrytis, especially in the case of rain during its last phase of maturation, however it has good tolerance to downy and powdery mildew. Good resistance to extreme weather conditions.

**Description:** 

Growing Tip: globular, cottony, of whitish green colour with yellowish edges.

Leaf: of medium dimensions, orbicular, 3-lobed or 5-lobed. Has an open, U-shaped

petiolar sinus, superior side sinuses shaped like a closed lyre with overlapped edges, while inferior are like an open lyre but shallower. The upper surface is

hairless, while that underside is furry with tufted hairs.

Cluster: small-medium, compact, of conical form with a very developed wing that in some

cases forms a double bunch.

Berry: of small dimensions, spherical, with waxy bloom, thin and tender skin, of grey-

yellowish colour covered by brownish spots. [1,107g 10/03/2005]

Vegetation Growth Habit: erect Vigour: medium

Average bunch weight: low (80-150 g. Italy), medium-large [220g – Heathcote, 270g – Merbein]

Average Bunches per shoot: 2, rarely 3

#### **Growth Stages:**

Time of budburst: early
Time of flowering: medium
Time of veraison: medium
Time of harvest: late

#### Wine characteristics:

Wine is straw-yellow in colour, fresh, dry, acid, with a remarkable aromatic taste. Can make very aristocratic wines that with ageing acquire metallic notes. Greco can be made with a sparkling wine method to get a dessert wine. The wine made from the grapes of this variety is usually blended with grape of Fiano, Coda di Volpe or Trebbiano in the DOC *Cilento* or this variety can also be used to make a varietal wine.

#### Australian Experience:

Super high in natural acidity Greco has fantastic potential in warm climates as a stand-alone or a blender. It has thin skins and very compact bunches so it can be botrytis prone but in sites with good ventilation and open canopies this should not be too much of an issue. Italian information says cane pruning is preferred but spurcordon is very effective in both Chalmers sites which are both VSP single cordon systems. Wines can eventuate at high alcohol if you wait for the acid to drop before harvest but at Chalmers we have found that a significant amount of acid drops out in the winemaking so we have been harvesting at quite high TA with no problematic effects in the finished wine.

#### **Available Clone:**



## Greco (di Tufo) VCR 5

- The vine has medium vigour, with a good and constant yield.
- This clone has bunch of medium-large dimension, of cylindrical-conical form
- Bunch has a very developed wing that in some cases forms a double bunch.
- The berry has small size.
- Good resistance to botrytis.

## **Maturity Data: Chalmers Merbein Vineyard**

	29/1/18	5/2/18	12/2/18	19/2/18	2/3/18	8/3/18
Greco VCR 5						
Baume	9.3	9.8	10.6	11.3	11.8	12.7
рН	3.08	3.19	3.23	3.17	3.4	3.47
TA	13.7	12.0	9.2	10.3	8.2	7.5

### **Maturity Data: Chalmers Heathcote Vineyard**

	7/2/18	12/2/18	20/2/18	25/2/18	27/2/18	4/2/18
Greco VCR 5						
Baume	9.2	10.4	11.6	12.0	12.1	12.5
рН	3.01	3.00	3.13	3.13	3.21	3.30
TA	17.5	13.3	11.8	9.8	11.1	9.4