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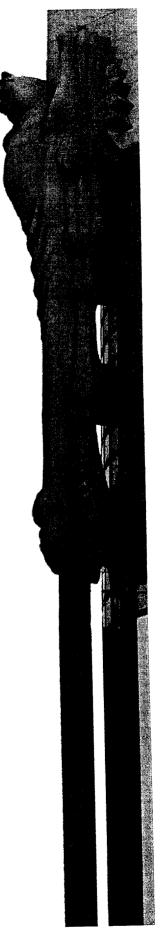


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Transposon elements and mycelial compatibility groups of Botrytis cinerea in the Eger and Tokaj wine regions

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The development of grey mould on the grape berries is among the most striking viticultural phenomena with complex preconditions and implications. The ascomycete *Botryotinia fuckeliana* (anamorph: *Botrytis cinerea*) is the causal agent of both the destructive grey mould (pourriture grise) as well as the noble rot (pourriture noble), an infection that results in wines with a special quality and most pleasant bouquet. In Hungary, the Tokaj wine district has a reputation for the production of these great sweet pourriture noble wines, called "aszú". On the other hand, in the nearby Eger wine district it is the pourriture grise that usually causes serious losses.

B. cinerea has been shown to possess two types of transposons: class I (called Boty) and class II (called Flipper). Studies on French and Chilean isolates revealed three types of isolates: (1) having both transposable elements (2) having no transposable elements, and (3) containing transposable element Boty alone. Isolates containing only the Flipper transposon element showed the highest ratio both in the Eger an in the Tokaj wine district. This genotype is extremely rare or absent in France and Chile.

Characterization of groups of vegetatively (somatically) compatible individuals provides a powerful approach to subdividing a species into discrete populations in filamentous ascomycetous fungi. Mycelial incompatibility test was used to define mycelial compatibility groups (MCGs) of *B. cinerea*. Classifying all strains into distinct groups was difficult, and both dark interaction line and mycelial-free space were observed in interactions. The existance of multiply MCGs indicates that hyphal fusions are not common in the *B. cinerea* populations cinerea in the Eger and Tokaj wine regions.

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