

1 **Title: Factors influencing the production of the antioxidant hydroxytyrosol during alcoholic fermentation:**
2 **yeast strain, initial tyrosine concentration and initial must**

3

4 Inmaculada Rebollo-Romero^a, Edwin Fernández-Cruz^a, Fernando Carrasco-Galán^a, Eva Valero^b, Emma Cantos-
5 Villar^c, Ana B. Cerezo ^a, Ana M. Troncoso^a, M. Carmen Garcia-Parrilla^{a,*}

6 ^aDepartamento de Nutrición y Bromatología, Toxicología y Medicina Legal, Facultad de Farmacia, Universidad
7 de Sevilla, C/Profesor García González 2, 41012, Sevilla, España

8 ^bDepartamento de Biología Molecular e Ingeniería Bioquímica, Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Ctra. Utrera, Km
9 1, 41013, Sevilla, España

10 ^c Instituto de Investigación y Formación Agraria y Pesquera (IFAPA) Centro Rancho de la Merced, Consejería
11 de Agricultura, Pesca y Desarrollo Rural (CAPDR), Junta de Andalucía, Ctra. Trebujena, km 2.1, 11471 Jerez de
12 la Frontera, España

13 Corresponding Author:

14 Professor M. Carmen Garcia-Parrilla

15 Departamento de Nutrición y Bromatología, Toxicología y Medicina Legal, Facultad de Farmacia, Universidad
16 de Sevilla

17 E-mail address: mcparrilla@us.es

18 Phone +34954556759

19 Fax 954233765

20 Abbreviations: AF alcoholic fermentation; HT hydroxytyrosol; NCE Normalized Collision Energy; RF Red

21 Fruit; SM synthetic must; OD optical density; PRM Parallel Reaction Monitoring; YAN Yeast Assimilable

22 Nitrogen; YPD yeast extract peptone dextrose

23 **Abstract**

24 Hydroxytyrosol is well known for its potent antioxidant activity and anticarcinogenic,
25 antimicrobial, cardioprotective and neuroprotective properties. Main food sources are olive oil
26 (formed from the hydrolysis of oleuropein) and wine. One possible explanation to its origin in
27 wines is the synthesis from tyrosol, which in turn is produced from the Ehrlich pathway by
28 yeasts. This work aims to explore the factors that could increase the content as the strain of
29 yeast, the initial tyrosine concentrations as precursor and the effect of synthetic and sterilized
30 natural grape musts.

31 Alcoholic fermentations in synthetic must showed that hydroxytyrosol is
32 produced by all the yeast strains under study. Commercial *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* yeasts
33 were those which produced higher concentrations, being the Red Fruit strain the biggest
34 producer (6.12 ng/mL). Once the strain was selected, alcoholic fermentations were performed
35 in synthetic must, with different tyrosine concentrations. The amount of hydroxytyrosol did
36 not increase in a proportional way as tyrosine does. On the other hand, higher concentrations
37 of hydroxytyrosol were obtained in natural grape musts (10.46 ng/mL) than in synthetic must
38 (4.03 ng/mL). This work confirms the capacity of winemaking yeasts to produce the bioactive
39 hydroxytyrosol.

40

41 **Keywords:** bioactive, tyrosine, *S. cerevisiae*, wine, alcoholic fermentation

42 **1. Introduction**

43 Hydroxytyrosol (HT) 2-(3,4-Dihydroxyphenyl) ethanol is a phenylethylalcohol known for its
44 bioactivity (Fernández-Mar, Mateos, García-Parrilla, Puertas, & Cantos-Villar, 2012). Other
45 biological properties that have been described are: anticarcinogenic, antimicrobial,
46 cardioprotective (Yuri, Silvia, Giacomo, & Massimo, 2012) and neuroprotective (Hornedo-
47 Ortega et al., 2018). Specifically, in relation to the cardioprotection, it has antithrombotic and
48 anti-inflammatory properties (Robles-Almazan et al., 2018). In addition, HT avoids the
49 oxidation of LDL particles, it can decrease total cholesterol and it can also increase HDL
50 cholesterol (Robles-Almazan et al., 2018). Additionally, it presents a high bioavailability and
51 degree of absorption (Echeverría, Ortiz, Valenzuela, & Videla, 2017). Its degree of absorption
52 is around 99% in oil and 75% in aqueous solution since it depends on the delivery vehicle
53 (Vilaplana-Pérez, Auñón, García-Flores, & Gil-Izquierdo, 2014).

54 Extra Virgin olive oil is the main source of HT in the diet (Fernández-Mar et al., 2012). The
55 concentration of HT in extra virgin olive oil ranges between 50 mg/kg and 800 mg/kg
56 (Carluccio et al., 2003). It is formed during the hydrolysis of oleuropein which is present in
57 olives (Robles-Almazan et al., 2018). The content of HT in olive oil depends on certain
58 factors such as the variety of olive, the cultivar and origin and most importantly, the olive oil
59 elaboration process that results in the oil quality (Robles-Almazan et al., 2018). Furthermore,
60 it has been described in fermented beverages such as wine, although the concentrations are
61 lower (Piñeiro, Cantos-Villar, Palma, & Puertas, 2011; Fernandez-Mar et al., 2012). The
62 concentration of HT in wine is approximately higher than 5 mg/L (Echeverría et al., 2017).
63 Both red and white wines contain HT (Romboli, Mangani, Buscioni, Granchi, & Vincenzini,
64 2015). Some of the concentrations found in wines were: Tempranillo 1.84 ± 1.56 mg/L; Petit
65 Verdot 4.12 ± 0.63 mg/L and Syrah 1.11 ± 2.43 mg/L (Piñeiro et al., 2011); Blend 1.3 ± 0.9
66 mg/kg²; Chardonnay 2.3 ± 1.3 mg/kg² and Fiano 1.1 ± 0.3 mg/kg² (Ragusa et al., 2017).

67 It is well known that tyrosol is produced by yeasts during alcoholic fermentation (AF)
68 (Romboli et al., 2015) through the Ehrlich pathway, which includes the transamination of
69 tyrosine, the decarboxylation of p-hydroxyphenylpyruvate and the reduction of p-
70 hydroxyphenylaldehyde (Mas et al., 2014). Some factors that have been reported to influence
71 the AF are the pH, the temperature and the nature and composition of the medium.
72 Specifically, they can affect the rate of fermentation and the production of metabolites (Vilela,
73 2019). Moreover, our group have recently proved that
74 certain winemaking yeasts synthesize HT (M. Antonia Álvarez-Fernández, Fernández-
75 Cruz, Cantos-Villar, Troncoso, & García-Parrilla, 2018) as it was unequivocally determined
76 both in the extracellular and intracellular compartments.

77 The purpose of this work is to explore the production of HT by a wider set of different
78 winemaking yeast strains, in the extracellular and intracellular compartments, in order to
79 select the one with a higher production capacity. Since there are a wide range of yeast strains
80 used for enology purpose, the main novelty of the present work is the demonstration, for the
81 first time, that certain yeast strains *S. cerevisiae* and non *S. cerevisiae*, commercial and
82 autochthonous yeasts (*S. cerevisiae* Enartis Ferm ES488, *S. cerevisiae* Lalvin ICV GRE, *S.*
83 *cerevisiae* Uvaferm, *S. cerevisiae* Yero 2.23, *S. cerevisiae* Yero 2.24, and *Metschnikowia*
84 *pulcherrima* Flavia MP 346) also produce HT. Additionally, there is a great interest on
85 increasing the concentration of these bioactive by means of the conditions on the fermentation
86 process. Since tyrosine is the precursor of HT, its initial concentration could be a key
87 point. Therefore, once the most productive yeast strain is selected, we aim to evaluate if
88 different initial tyrosine concentrations have an effect on the production of HT. As tyrosine is
89 the aromatic amino acid precursor of HT, the hypothesis of the present work is the more
90 content of tyrosine in must, the more production of HT. The last objective is to explore the

91 capacity of the selected yeast to produce HT in natural grape must to verify if the results are
92 reproducible from synthetic to natural grape musts.

93 **2. Materials and methods**

94 **2.1 Yeast strains**

95 Eight different commercial wine yeast strains, including *S. cerevisiae* and non *S. cerevisiae*,
96 were used in the fermentation of synthetic must (SM): *S. cerevisiae* Enartis Ferm Aroma
97 White (Enartis), *S. cerevisiae* Enartis Ferm ES488 (Enartis), *S. cerevisiae* Lalvin ICV GRE
98 (Lallemand), *S. cerevisiae* Lalvin YSEO QA23 (Lallemand), *S. cerevisiae* Enartis Ferm Red
99 Fruit (RF) (Enartis), *S. cerevisiae* Uvaferm (Lallemand), *Torulaspota delbrueckii* Biodiva
100 (Lallemand) and *Metschnikowia pulcherrima* Flavia MP 346 (Lallemand). Two *S. cerevisiae*
101 autochthonous yeasts, isolated from the experimental vineyard of the Rancho de la Merced
102 (IFAPA) in Jerez de la Frontera in 2016, were also tested: *S. cerevisiae* Yero 2.23 and *S.*
103 *cerevisiae* Yero 2.24.

104 **2.2 Synthetic Must**

105 SM was used in two experiments: the first one (A) aimed to screen the strain with higher
106 capacity to produce HT. The second experiment (B) was to test how different tyrosine
107 concentrations could affect the production of HT.

108 SM used for experiment A was based on Riou, Nicaud, Barre & Gaillardin (1997), slightly
109 modified. 3 L of SM were prepared, with the following composition: sugars (fructose 100 g/L
110 and glucose 100 g/L), acids (malic acid 5 g/L, citric acid 0.5 g/L and tartaric acid 3 g/L),
111 minerals (KH_2PO_4 0.75 g/L, K_2SO_4 0.5 g/L, $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ 0.25 g/L, NaCl 0.2 g/L and CaCl_2
112 0.155 g/L), 0.46 g/L of NH_4Cl , 1 mL of trace elements, 13.09 mL of an amino acids solution
113 (tyrosine 1.5 g/L, tryptophan 13.4 g/L, isoleucine 2.5 g/L, aspartic acid 3.4 g/L, glutamic acid
114 9.2 g/L, arginine 28.3 g/L, leucine 3.7 g/L, threonine 5.8 g/L, glycine 1.4 g/L, glutamine 38.4

115 g/L, alanine 11.2 g/L, valine 3.4 g/L, methionine 2.4 g/L, phenylalanine 2.9 g/L, serine 6 g/L,
116 histidine 2.6 g/L, lysine 1.3 g/L, cysteine 1.6 g/L and proline 46.1 g/L) and 10 mL of a
117 vitamins solution (myoinositol 2 g/L, calcium pantothenate 0.15 g/L, thiamine hydrochloride
118 0.025 g/L, nicotinic acid 0.2 g/L, pyridoxine 0.025 g/L and biotin 3 mL). The pH was
119 adjusted to 3.31 with NaOH.

120 5 L of two different SM were prepared for experiment B. In this case, tyrosine was the only
121 amino acid used as Yeast Assimilable Nitrogen (YAN) in order to force the yeast to use it. A
122 stock solution of this amino acid (1 g/L) was used to prepare the SM with a final tyrosine
123 concentration of 10 mg/L and 60 mg/L, respectively. The rest of the YAN was provided by
124 $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ to reach a final nitrogen concentration of 140 mg/L. The rest of the ingredients
125 such as sugars, acids, minerals and trace elements and vitamins solutions were identical as the
126 SM previously used for experiment A. The pH was adjusted to 3.25 with NaOH.

127 **2.3 Grape Must**

128 Palomino Fino and Chardonnay grape musts, belonged to the Rancho de la Merced (IFAPA)
129 in Jerez de la Frontera, Spain (longitude 06:00:58 W, latitude 36:45:29 N), were used in the
130 third part of the experimental process. Grapes were harvested, destemmed, crushed and
131 pressed. Subsequently, pectolytic enzymes (2.5 mL/hL Enartis ZYM; Enartis, Italy) and SO_2
132 (40 mg/L, Sulfosol, Sepsa-Enartis; Enartis) were added to the must for 24 h at 4°C. After that,
133 the dejuiced must was placed in a 100 L steel vessel.

134 **2.4 Inoculation**

135 Each yeast strain was rehydrated in a bath at 37 °C for 30 min and plated on -yeast extract
136 peptone dextrose (YPD) (1% yeast extract, 2% glucose and 2% peptone). For the third
137 experiment, the YPD was prepared with the difference of the addition of 2% of agar. Then,

138 they were incubated at 28°C for 48 h. Subsequently, they were transferred into flasks with
139 YPD to let the yeasts grow overnight before every experimental process.

140 For experiment A, flasks with 80 mL of SM were inoculated with 10⁶ cells/mL and capped
141 with plugs and syringes in order to release the carbon dioxide. AF were carried out in SM in
142 triplicate. The fermentation was monitored by weighing the flasks daily, before and after
143 sampling, from the first day of fermentation until a week, as well as the optical density (OD).

144 Regarding experiment B, flasks with 750 mL of SM at different tyrosine concentrations (10
145 mg/L, 60 mg/L) were inoculated in triplicate. The fermentation was monitored by weighing
146 the flasks daily, before and after sampling, for 6 days and then at day 8 and 10 as well as the
147 OD. Ethanol (Ethanol Assay Kit, Megazyme International, Ireland), residual sugars (D-
148 Fructose and D-Glucose Assay Kit, Megazyme International, Ireland) and nitrogen (Primary
149 Amino Nitrogen Assay Kit, Megazyme International, Ireland) were measured.

150 On the other hand, grape musts were sterilized at 121°C for 20 min. Flasks with 750 mL of
151 natural grape must were inoculated. AF were carried out in two natural musts (Palomino Fino
152 and Chardonnay) in triplicate. The fermentation was monitored by weighing the flasks daily,
153 before and after sampling, from the first day of fermentation until a week, as well as the OD.

154 **2.5 Quenching and intracellular extraction**

155 Regarding experiment A, samples from the last day of fermentation (day 7) were collected in
156 tubes, once the AF was finished, in the required volume to have 10⁹ cells. They were
157 centrifuged at 3500 rpm, at room temperature for 3 min. Supernatants were filtered (syringes
158 filters, cellulose acetate membrane, 0.2 µm, VWR) and they were stored at -20 °C until the
159 analysis. On the other hand, intracellular samples were subjected to a cold glycerol solution
160 quenching according to the method conducted by Villas-Bôas and Bruheim (2007). Then,
161 intracellular metabolites were extracted following the procedure of Álvarez-Fernández et al.
162 (2019) with minor modifications. The resulting extracts were stored at -80 °C until samples

163 cleaning.

164 During experiment B, samples from days 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 were collected.

165 Supernatants were filtered (syringes filters, nylon, 0.2 μm , VWR) and they were stored at -20

166 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ until sample cleaning.

167 Regarding the experiment with grape musts, samples from days 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 were

168 collected. Supernatants were filtered (syringes filters, nylon, 0.2 μm , VWR) and they were

169 stored at -80 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ until samples cleaning.

170 **2.6 Samples treatment**

171 Extracellular samples were cleaned up using C18 SPE cartridges (Variant, Aligent)

172 conditioned with 2 mL of methanol and 2 mL of milliQ water. Then, 500 μL of sample were

173 loaded and cartridges were washed with 2 mL of a 10% v/v methanol/water solution.

174 Analytes were eluted with 1 mL of methanol. Samples were dried until total dryness, at 2000

175 rpm, at 30 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 8 h, with a vacuum concentrator (HyperVAC-LITE, Gyrozen, Korea).

176 Afterwards, samples were reconstituted with 167 μL of 0.1% v/v formic acid in 10% v/v

177 methanol/water and they were stored at -80 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ until the analysis.

178 On the other hand, the extracts of intracellular samples were cleaned up using phospholipid

179 removal cartridges (PhreeTM, Phenomenex) with the purpose of removing the possible

180 impurities that could affect the analysis. Then, 100 μL of the intracellular extracts described

181 in section 2.5 were loaded. This process was repeated twice. The elution was performed

182 according to manufacturer's instructions. Then, they were dried until total dryness, at 2000

183 rpm, at 30 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 8 h, with a vacuum concentrator (HyperVAC-LITE, GyrozenKorea) (María

184 Antonia Álvarez-Fernández et al., 2019). Afterwards, they were reconstituted with 167 μL of

185 0.1% v/v formic acid in 10% v/v methanol/water and they were stored at -80 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ until the

186 analysis.

187 **2.7 UHPLC/HRMS parameters**

188 The analysis was performed in a Thermo Scientific liquid chromatography system consisting
189 of a binary UHPLC Dionex Ultimate 3000 RS, connected to a quadrupole orbitrap Qexactive
190 hybrid mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Bremen, Germany), which was equipped
191 with a heated electrospray ionization probe (HESI-II). The column used was a ZORBAX SB-
192 C18 (2.1x 100 mm, 1.8- μ m particle size) with a guard column (2.1 x 5 mm, 1.8- μ m particle
193 size). Both of them were purchased from Agilent Technologies (USA). The temperature used
194 in this analysis was 40° C, the flow was 0.5 mL/min for HT and 0.4 mL/min for tyrosine and
195 the injection volume was 5 μ L. HT was analyzed following the described chromatographic
196 conditions which consisted of two phases (A) aqueous formic acid solution 0.1% and (B)
197 solution 0.1% of formic acid in methanol. The gradient was: 0-1 min (5% B); 1-7 min (100%
198 B); 7-8.5 min (100% B); 8.6-10 min (5% B). A target MS² in negative mode was performed.
199 Parallel Reaction Monitoring (PRM) of the [M+H]⁻ at 153.05572 and normalized collision
200 energy (NCE) was set at 25 eV. Xcalibur software and TraceFinder (version 3.3) software
201 were used for instrument control and data acquisition.

202 The analysis of tyrosine presents slight differences regarding the gradient as follows: 0-1 min
203 (5% B); 1-3 min (100% B); 3-4 min (100% B); 4.1-5 min (5% B). A target MS² in negative
204 mode was performed for HT and in positive mode for tyrosine using the same software for
205 data analysis. PRM of the [M+H]⁺ at 182.08117 and NCE was set at 40 eV.

206 **2.8 Statistical Analysis**

207 The data were subjected to ANOVA and Fisher's Least Significant Difference (LSD). The
208 results were reported as the mean \pm standard deviation (SD). Differences at $p < 0.05$ were
209 considered statistically significant. InfoStat version 2019 was used for data analysis.

210 **3. Results**

211 **3.1 HT occurrence in SM by different yeast strains**

212 Figure 1 shows HT is produced by all the yeast strains at the end of the fermentation of SM
213 (day 7). Commercial *S. cerevisiae* yeast strains produce more HT than the non *S. cerevisiae*
214 tested (*T. delbrueckii* and *M. pulcherrima*) and autochthonous one (*S. cerevisiae* Yero 2.23
215 and *S. cerevisiae* Yero 2.24), being the RF the biggest HT producer (6.12 ng/mL).
216 As RF synthesized the highest concentration, it was selected for further experiments.

217 **3.2 HT occurrence in SM with different tyrosine concentrations**

218 Figure 2 displays the production of HT in the extracellular compartment during AF of SM.
219 Musts contained 10 mg/L or 60 mg/L of tyrosine and the yeast used was RF strain. At the
220 beginning (t=0), HT is absent as expected and it was detected from the first day of AF in
221 every sample. Results at 10 mg/L of tyrosine concentration show that HT is present from the
222 very first day and no statistical differences are observed from day 2 to the following days.
223 Conversely, when tyrosine concentration is 60 mg/L, the higher concentration is determined
224 at day 3. Then it decreases slightly. Significant differences according to ANOVA are marked
225 in figure 2.

226 HT derives from tyrosol, which is formed from tyrosine by the Ehrlich pathway (Mas et al.,
227 2014). Therefore, the hypothesis of this work was that the more tyrosine concentration in the
228 media, the higher HT content could be produced. However, despite tyrosine concentration
229 was six times higher, HT was not determined in that proportion (Figure 2).

230 To confirm that yeast synthesizes HT, it was analyzed in the intracellular media.
231 Concentrations are lower in the intracellular media than in the extracellular compartment. The
232 highest concentrations detected were at day 6 and 5 when the must had 10 mg/L and 60 mg/L
233 of tyrosine concentration, respectively (data not shown).

234 **3.3 Tyrosine occurrence in SM with different tyrosine concentrations**

235 Tyrosine was monitored along the fermentation to verify the yeast uses it. As it could be
236 expected, tyrosine decreases in the extracellular media from day zero. In the must with an
237 initial tyrosine concentration of 10 mg/L, the yeast consumes a 99.45% of tyrosine from day
238 zero to the second day of fermentation. Afterwards, the fourth day tyrosine could be
239 determined in noticeably quantities in the extracellular compartment (0.027 mg/L). On the
240 other hand, when the must had 60 mg/L, the yeast consumes a 74.06% of tyrosine from the
241 first day to the second day of fermentation. Afterwards, the eighth day the production
242 increases (0.009 mg/L).

243 Figure 3 shows the occurrence of tyrosine in the intracellular compartment during AF. There
244 are no significant differences regarding the initial tyrosine concentration, with the exception
245 of day 8. For both conditions, the highest intracellular tyrosine concentration was measured at
246 day 3.

247 **3.4 HT occurrence in grape must**

248 Figure 4 shows the production of HT in the extracellular compartment during AF of natural
249 musts (Palomino Fino and Chardonnay varieties). Grape musts were sterilized in order to
250 eliminate the microbial load and to observe the effects of the strain under study (RF).

251 Similarly to the experiments with SM, RF strain produces HT, excreting it in the extracellular
252 media during AF. Indeed, HT is detected at the beginning of the AF in every sample. We
253 observe higher HT concentrations with grape musts than SM. Specifically, grape musts
254 concentrations are 2.6-4.4 times higher. If we compare both grape musts, the highest values
255 are produced with the Chardonnay variety at the middle of the fermentation (days 3-4) as
256 figure 4 shows.

257 **3.5 Tyrosine occurrence in grape must**

258 Regarding tyrosine occurrence in the extracellular media, concentrations with Palomino Fino
259 must range between 0.004 mg/L (day 4) and 0.012 mg/L (day 2), while concentrations with

260 Chardonnay range between 0.005 mg/L (day 1) and 0.021 mg/mL (day 2) These values are
261 similar to those obtained in the SM with an initial tyrosine concentration of 10 mg/L. There
262 are no significant differences between the musts and neither between the days, with the
263 exception of days 0 (Palomino Fino 0.117 mg/L and Chardonnay 0.109 mg/L) and 1 in both
264 musts.

265 **4. Discussion**

266 Yeasts produce bioactive compounds such as HT deriving from tyrosine and melatonin
267 deriving from tryptophan (Hornedo-Ortega, Cerezo, Troncoso, Garcia-Parrilla, & Mas, 2016).
268 Melatonin follows a zig-zag pattern along the fermentation appearing and disappearing in SM
269 that could reflect a role as signaling molecule (Fernández-Cruz, Álvarez-Fernández, Valero,
270 Troncoso, & García-Parrilla, 2017); (Fernández-Cruz, Cerezo, Cantos-Villar, Troncoso, &
271 García-Parrilla, 2018). Conversely, HT pattern is more reproducible and consistent through
272 the different fermentations: it appears in all the cases and it remains almost constant from the
273 first days and along the AF. Therefore, our data do not support a signaling role for HT but it is
274 a metabolite produced from tyrosine, a nitrogen source. Some factors that have been reported
275 to influence the AF are the pH, the temperature and the nature and composition of the
276 medium. Specifically, they can affect the rate of fermentation and the production of
277 metabolites (Vilela, 2019).

278 It is important that yeasts have available nitrogen in order to carry out the fermentation
279 (Crepin, Nidelet, Sanchez, Dequin, & Camarasa, 2012). Specifically, 140 mg/L is the minimal
280 concentration of YAN necessary for the fermentation (Vendramini et al, 2017). If the
281 nitrogen available is insufficient, the fermentation becomes slower and there is a high risk of
282 stucking (Bell & Henschke, 2005). Thus, this was the selected YAN for our experiments with
283 SM in order to force the yeast to use tyrosine, a non-preferred source. However, no higher

284 intracellular concentrations were determined as tyrosine increased, showing that the capacity
285 of using tyrosine seems to be limited.

286 Some factors that can affect the YAN and amino acid profile, including tyrosine produced by
287 the must, are grape variety, grape berry ripening, grape processing, geographical origin and
288 climate (Tesnière, Brice, & Blondin, 2015). Henschke et al. (1993) observed that tyrosine
289 values in some white wines were: Chardonnay 6 mg/L; Riesling 3 mg/L; Sauvignon Blanc 24
290 mg/L and Traminer 5 mg/L (Henschke & Jiranek, 1993). Moreover, in another study the
291 average value of tyrosine in 9 white musts was 36.7 mg/L (Cabrita, Ratola, Laureano, &
292 Alves, 2007). Ünal et al. (2015) reported for white wines the following values: Emir
293 56.15±16 mg/L; Narince 28.85±2 mg/L and Sultaniye 35.16±11 mg/L (Ünal, Şener, Şen, &
294 Yilmaztekin, 2015). In our study, tyrosine values selected for SM fermentations are similar to
295 those described and results show that tyrosine initial concentration does not have an impact on
296 HT concentration. Therefore, it is advisable to study the yeast involved in winemaking.

297 Álvarez-Fernández et al. (2018) reported that yeast can synthesize HT as it was detected in the
298 intracellular medium. As it is well known that yeast synthesizes tyrosol through the Ehrlich
299 pathway, a possible way to explain HT synthesis is the hydroxylation of tyrosol which has
300 been recently evidence by Muñoz-Calvo et al. (2020). Our data shows that different strains
301 present varied capacities for the synthesis and their selection could have an impact on the
302 final concentration of this bioactive. In this paper, RF outstands among others strains. Table 1
303 shows a comparison of HT synthesis by different yeast strains. Furthermore, the must has also
304 a role as higher concentrations are achieved in natural grape musts if compared to SM. A
305 possible explanation could be that endogenous enzymes of grapes could catalyze the
306 hydroxylation of tyrosol to HT (Gerrini et al, 2018). Although olive oil and fermented
307 beverages are the main food sources of HT, its production has been investigated in other food
308 matrices. For instance, HT was the most abundant phenolic compound in sunflower-stalks

309 (3.79 mg/L) (Martínez-Cartas, Olivares, & Sánchez, 2019), in olive oil vinegar (1,019 mg/L)
310 (De Leonardis et al., 2018) and in green cracked table olives the concentrations were between
311 100-800 mg/L (Anagnostopoulos et al., 2020). Moreover, the values obtained in fermented
312 white musts (21.78 µg/L at maximum) are remarkably lower than those reported for red must,
313 specifically Tempranillo with higher concentrations of HT at day 2 (235 µg/L) (M. Antonia
314 Álvarez-Fernández et al., 2018). These results are consistent with already published data that
315 describe higher HT in red wines (3.66-4.20 mg/L) than in white ones (1.72-1.92 mg/L)
316 (Fernández-Mar et al., 2012). In the present work, we sterilized the must to ensure the
317 production of HT was due to the strain inoculated. Remarkably, lower values were obtained
318 after the elimination of the autochthonous flora; HT concentration after the fermentation of
319 sterilized must was 167 µg/L in Chardonnay and 89 µg/L in Palomino Fino. Grape microflora
320 could be responsible for the difference between reported values and those we obtained as we
321 sterilized grape musts. Indeed, tyrosine concentration does not seem to be a relevant factor
322 showing to be produced at a constant rate. Apparently, the presence of different strains could
323 be more important to achieve higher amounts.

324 HT concentrations obtained in this study are lower than those observed in a study conducted
325 by Piñeiro et al. (2011). In that paper, 15 red wine varieties were analyzed and concentrations
326 ranged between 0.28 mg/L and 5.02 mg/L. This fact leads out to think in other alternatives
327 pathways involving polyphenols as red wines are richer in HT than rosé and white ones
328 (Ragusa et al., 2017). In this paper, HT concentration in Chardonnay was 2.3 ± 1.3 mg/kg².

329 As discussed before, tyrosine concentration does not seem to have a role in HT production
330 because, HT concentrations obtained were the same in both conditions (10 mg/L and 60
331 mg/L). Therefore, there might be other factors that affect HT production. On one hand,
332 different microorganism belonging to the autochthonous flora could also have the capacity to
333 produce HT increasing final concentration. Additionally, different metabolic pathways, apart

334 from the hydroxylation of tyrosol could be possible. For instance, the excision of
335 macromolecules of polyphenolic nature in a similar way as HT derives from oleuropein in the
336 olive. Further research is needed to explore these facts.

337 **5. Conclusion**

338 In conclusion, this study aimed to explore those factors related to the AF process influencing
339 the production of HT. Yeast strain was the first one selected. HT was produced by all the
340 yeast strains under study. Commercial *S. cerevisiae* yeast strains were those which produced
341 higher concentrations, being the RF the most producer. The second one was the initial
342 tyrosine concentration of the must. Our results reveal that distinct from what might be
expected tyrosine initial concentration does not seem to have a role in HT production because,
although we increased it six times in the SM, in general HT concentrations obtained were the
same in both conditions. Thirdly, the must nature through the differences in synthetic and
natural grape musts. HT was produced in higher amount in grape musts than in synthetic must,
specifically, in Chardonnay.

343 Therefore, our results point out that efforts in other strategies should be to unravel
those factors that might increase the production of HT in order to obtain wines richer in this
bioactive compound.

344 **Funding**

345 This work was supported by the National Programme of Research (Spanish Ministry of
346 Economy and Competitiveness AGL2016-77505-C3-2-R) and Marco Programa Operativo
347 Feder Andalucía 2014-2020. Project number US-1263469.

348 **Conflicts of interest**

349 Inmaculada Rebollo-Romero, Edwin Fernández-Cruz, Fernando Carrasco-Galán, Eva Valero,
350 Emma Cantos-Villar, Ana Belén Cerezo Ana M. Troncoso and M. Carmen Garcia-Parrilla
351 declare they have no conflicts of interest.

352 **Acknowledgements**

353 The authors acknowledge the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (AGL2016-
354 77505-C3-2-R) and Universidad de Sevilla (Programa Operativo Feder Andalucía 2014-2020.
355 Project number US-1263469).. Professor Fernando Govantes from the CABD (Centro
356 Andaluz de Biología del Desarrollo) and Rocío Valderrama from the CITIUS, Universidad de
357 Sevilla.

358 **References**

359 Álvarez-Fernández, M.A., Fernández-Cruz, E., Cantos-Villar, E., Troncoso, A.M., García-
360 Parrilla, M.C. (2018). Determination of hydroxytyrosol produced by winemaking yeasts
361 during alcoholic fermentation using a validated UHPLC-HRMS method. *Food*
362 *Chemistry*, 242, 345-351. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2017.09.072>.

363 Álvarez-Fernández, M. A., Fernández-Cruz, E., Cantos-Villar, E., Troncoso, A. M., &
364 García-Parrilla, M. C. (2018). Determination of hydroxytyrosol produced by
365 winemaking yeasts during alcoholic fermentation using a validated UHPLC–HRMS
366 method. *Food Chemistry*, 242(September 2017), 345–351.
367 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2017.09.072>

368 Álvarez-Fernández, M. A., Fernandez-Cruz, E., García Parrilla, M. C., Troncoso, A. M.,
369 Mattivi, F., Vrhovsek, U., & Arapitsas, P. (2019). *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and

370 Torulaspora delbrueckii intra- and extra-cellular aromatic amino acids metabolism.
371 *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, acs.jafc.9b01844.
372 <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jafc.9b01844>

373 Anagnostopoulos, D. A., Goulas, V., Xenofontos, E., Vouras, C., Nikoloudakis, N., &
374 Tsaltas, D. (2020). Benefits of the use of lactic acid bacteria starter in green cracked
375 cypriot table olives fermentation. *Foods*, 9(1). <https://doi.org/10.3390/foods9010017>

376 Bell, S. J., & Henschke, P. A. (2005). Implications of nitrogen nutrition for grapes,
377 fermentation and wine. *Australian Journal of Grape and Wine Research*, 11(3), 242–
378 295. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1755-0238.2005.tb00028.x>

379 Cabrita, M. J., Ratola, N., Laureano, O., & Alves, A. (2007). Relationship Between Biogenic
380 Amines and Free Amino Acid Contents of Wines and Musts from Relationship Between
381 Biogenic Amines and Free Amino Acid Contents of Wines and Musts from Alentejo (
382 Portugal), 1234. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03601230600856967>

383 Carluccio, M. A., Siculella, L., Ancora, M. A., Massaro, M., Scoditti, E., Storelli, C., ... De
384 Caterina, R. (2003). Olive oil and red wine antioxidant polyphenols inhibit endothelial
385 activation: Antiatherogenic properties of Mediterranean diet phytochemicals.
386 *Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology*, 23(4), 622–629.
387 <https://doi.org/10.1161/01.ATV.0000062884.69432.A0>

388 Crepin, L., Nidelet, T., Sanchez, I., Dequin, S., & Camarasa, C. (2012). Sequential Use of
389 Nitrogen Compounds by *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* during Wine Fermentation: a Model
390 Based on Kinetic and Regulation Characteristics of Nitrogen Permeases. *Applied and*
391 *Environmental Microbiology*, 78(22), 8102–8111. <https://doi.org/10.1128/AEM.02294->
392 12

393 De Leonardis, A., Macciola, V., Iorizzo, M., Lombardi, S.J., Lopez, F., & Marconi, E. (2018).
394 Effective assay for olive vinegar production from olive oil mill wastewaters. *Food*
395 *Chemistry*, 240, 437-440. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2017.07.159>

396 Echeverría, F., Ortiz, M., Valenzuela, R., & Videla, L. A. (2017). Hydroxytyrosol and
397 cytoprotection: A projection for clinical interventions. *International Journal of*
398 *Molecular Sciences*, 18(5). <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms18050930>

399 Fernández-Cruz, E., Álvarez-Fernández, M. A., Valero, E., Troncoso, A. M., & García-
400 Parrilla, M. C. (2017). Melatonin and derived L-tryptophan metabolites produced during
401 alcoholic fermentation by different wine yeast strains. *Food Chemistry*, 217, 431-437.
402 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2016.08.020>

403 Fernández-Cruz, E., Cerezo, A. B., Cantos-Villar, E., Troncoso, A. M., & García-Parrilla, M.
404 C. (2018). Time course of l-tryptophan metabolites when fermenting natural grape
405 musts: effect of inoculation treatments and cultivar on the occurrence of melatonin and
406 related indolic compounds. *Australian Journal of Grape and Wine Research*, 92-100.
407 <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajgw.12369>

408 Fernández-Mar, M. I., Mateos, R., García-Parrilla, M. C., Puertas, B., & Cantos-Villar, E.
409 (2012). Bioactive compounds in wine: Resveratrol, hydroxytyrosol and melatonin: A
410 review. *Food Chemistry*, 130(4), 797-813.
411 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2011.08.023>

412 Guerrini, S., Mangani, S., Romboli, Y., Luti, S., Pazzagli, L., & Granchi, L. (2018). Impact of
413 *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strains on health-promoting compounds in wine.
414 *Fermentation*, 4(2), 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.3390/fermentation4020026>

415 Henschke, P. A., & Jiranek, V. (1993). Yeast: Metabolism of nitrogen compounds. In: *Wine*

416 Microbiology and Biotechnology. *Research Gate*, (August), 77–164.
417 <https://doi.org/10.1089/end.2014.0018>

418 Hornedo-Ortega, R., Cerezo, A. B., de Pablos, R. M., Krisa, S., Richard, T., García-Parrilla,
419 M. C., & Troncoso, A. M. (2018). Phenolic Compounds Characteristic of the
420 Mediterranean Diet in Mitigating Microglia-Mediated Neuroinflammation. *Frontiers in*
421 *Cellular Neuroscience*, 12(October), 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fncel.2018.00373>

422 Hornedo-Ortega, R., Cerezo, A. B., Troncoso, A. M., Garcia-Parrilla, M. C., & Mas, A.
423 (2016). Melatonin and other tryptophan metabolites produced by yeasts: Implications in
424 cardiovascular and neurodegenerative diseases. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 6(JAN), 1–7.
425 <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2015.01565>

426 Martínez-Cartas, M. L., Olivares, M. I., & Sánchez, S. (2019). Production of bioalcohols and
427 antioxidant compounds by acid hydrolysis of lignocellulosic wastes and fermentation of
428 hydrolysates with *Hansenula polymorpha*. *Engineering in Life Sciences*, 19(7), 522–536.
429 <https://doi.org/10.1002/elsc.201900011>

430 Mas, A., Guillamon, J. M., Torija, M. J., Beltran, G., Cerezo, A. B., Troncoso, A. M., &
431 Garcia-Parrilla, M. C. (2014). Bioactive Compounds Derived from the Yeast Metabolism
432 of Aromatic Amino Acids during Alcoholic Fermentation. *BioMed Research*
433 *International*, 2014, 1–7. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2014/898045>

434 Piñeiro, Z., Cantos-Villar, E., Palma, M., & Puertas, B. (2011). Direct liquid chromatography
435 method for the simultaneous quantification of hydroxytyrosol and tyrosol in red wines.
436 *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, 59(21), 11683–11689.
437 <https://doi.org/10.1021/jf202254t>

438 Ragusa, A., Centonze, C., Grasso, M., Latronico, M., Mastrangelo, P., Sparascio, F., ...

- 439 Maffia, M. (2017). A Comparative Study of Phenols in Apulian Italian Wines. *Foods*,
440 6(4), 24. <https://doi.org/10.3390/foods6040024>
- 441 Robles-Almazan, M., Pulido-Moran, M., Moreno-Fernandez, J., Ramirez-Tortosa, C.,
442 Rodriguez-Garcia, C., Quiles, J. L., & Ramirez-Tortosa, Mc. (2018). Hydroxytyrosol:
443 Bioavailability, toxicity, and clinical applications. *Food Research International*,
444 105(July 2017), 654–667. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodres.2017.11.053>
- 445 Romboli, Y., Mangani, S., Buscioni, G., Granchi, L., & Vincenzini, M. (2015). Effect of
446 *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Candida zemplinina* on quercetin, vitisin A and
447 hydroxytyrosol contents in Sangiovese wines. *World Journal of Microbiology and*
448 *Biotechnology*, 31(7), 1137–1145. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11274-015-1863-9>
- 449 Tesnière, C., Brice, C., & Blondin, B. (2015). Responses of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* to
450 nitrogen starvation in wine alcoholic fermentation. *Applied Microbiology and*
451 *Biotechnology*, 99(17), 7025–7034. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00253-015-6810-z>
- 452 Ünal, M. Ü., Şener, A., Şen, K., & Yilmaztekin, M. (2015). Seasonal variation in amino acid
453 and phenolic compound profiles of three Turkish white wine grapes. *Turkish Journal of*
454 *Agriculture and Forestry*, 39(6), 984–991. <https://doi.org/10.3906/tar-1412-82>
- 455 Vendramini, C., Beltran, G., Nadai, C., Giacomini, A., Mas, A., & Corich, V. (2017). The
456 role of nitrogen uptake on the competition ability of three vineyard *Saccharomyces*
457 *cerevisiae* strains. *International Journal of Food Microbiology*, 258(June), 1–11.
458 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijfoodmicro.2017.07.006>
- 459 Vilaplana-Pérez, C., Auñón, D., García-Flores, L. A., & Gil-Izquierdo, A. (2014).
460 Hydroxytyrosol and Potential Uses in Cardiovascular Diseases, Cancer, and AIDS.
461 *Frontiers in Nutrition*, 1(October), 1–11. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnut.2014.00018>

462 Vilela, A. (2019). The importance of yeasts on fermentation quality and human health-
463 promoting compounds. *Fermentation*, 5(2). <https://doi.org/10.3390/fermentation5020046>

464 Yuri, R., Silvia, M., Giacomo, B., & Massimo, V. (2012). Variability of Tyrosol ,
465 Hydroxytyrosol and Tryptophol contents in Sangiovese wines produced by a single
466 strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Conclusions The contents of tyrosol and
467 hydroxytyrosol in wines fermented by a single strain of, (2006), 11689.

468 **Figure Captions**

469 Figure. 1. Hydroxytyrosol occurrence. Hydroxytyrosol occurrence in synthetic must by ten
470 wine yeast strains, expressed in ng/mL

471 Figure. 2. Hydroxytyrosol occurrence in extracellular media in synthetic musts. Evolution of
472 hydroxytyrosol concentration during alcoholic fermentation in synthetic musts with
473 different tyrosine contents, by Red Fruit yeast strain, expressed in ng/mL. Significant
474 differences with $p < 0.05$ are displayed with *, $p < 0.01$ with ** and $p < 0.001$ with ***

475 Figure. 3. Tyrosine occurrence in intracellular media in synthetic musts. Evolution of tyrosine
476 concentration during alcoholic fermentation in synthetic musts with different tyrosine
477 contents, by Red Fruit yeast strain, expressed in ng/mL. Significant differences between
478 the two tyrosine concentrations -are displayed with * for $p < 0.05$.

479 Figure. 4. Hydroxytyrosol occurrence in extracellular media in grape musts. Evolution of
480 hydroxytyrosol concentration during alcoholic fermentation in natural grape musts
481 (Palomino Fino and Chardonnay), by Red Fruit yeast strain, expressed in ng/mL.
482 Significant differences with $p < 0.05$ are displayed with *, $p < 0.01$ with ** and $p < 0.001$
483 with ***

Table 1

Yeast strain	HT in SM (ng/mL)	HT in white must (ng/mL)	HT in red must (ng/mL)	Reference
<i>T. delbrueckii</i>	0.25			
Yero 2.23	0.32			
<i>M. pulcherrima</i>	0.55			
Yero 2.24	0.64			
QA23	1.19			
Aroma White	1.31			
Uvaferm	1.36			
ICV GRE	1.44			
ES 488	2.97			
Red Fruit	6.12 (screening), 3.31 (10 mg/L of tyrosine) and 4.74 (60 mg/L of tyrosine)	7.82 (Palomino Fino) and 13.09 (Chardonnay)		
Aroma White		89, 159, 173, 185, 238 and 288 (max)		Álvarez-Fernández et al., 2018
Red Fruit			235 (max)	Álvarez-Fernández et al., 2018
QA23			400 (max)	Álvarez-Fernández et al., 2018
U.C.L.M. S325			175	Bordiga et al., 2016

Table 1. Hydroxytyrosol concentration in musts fermented with different yeast strains

HT: hydroxytyrosol; SM: synthetic must

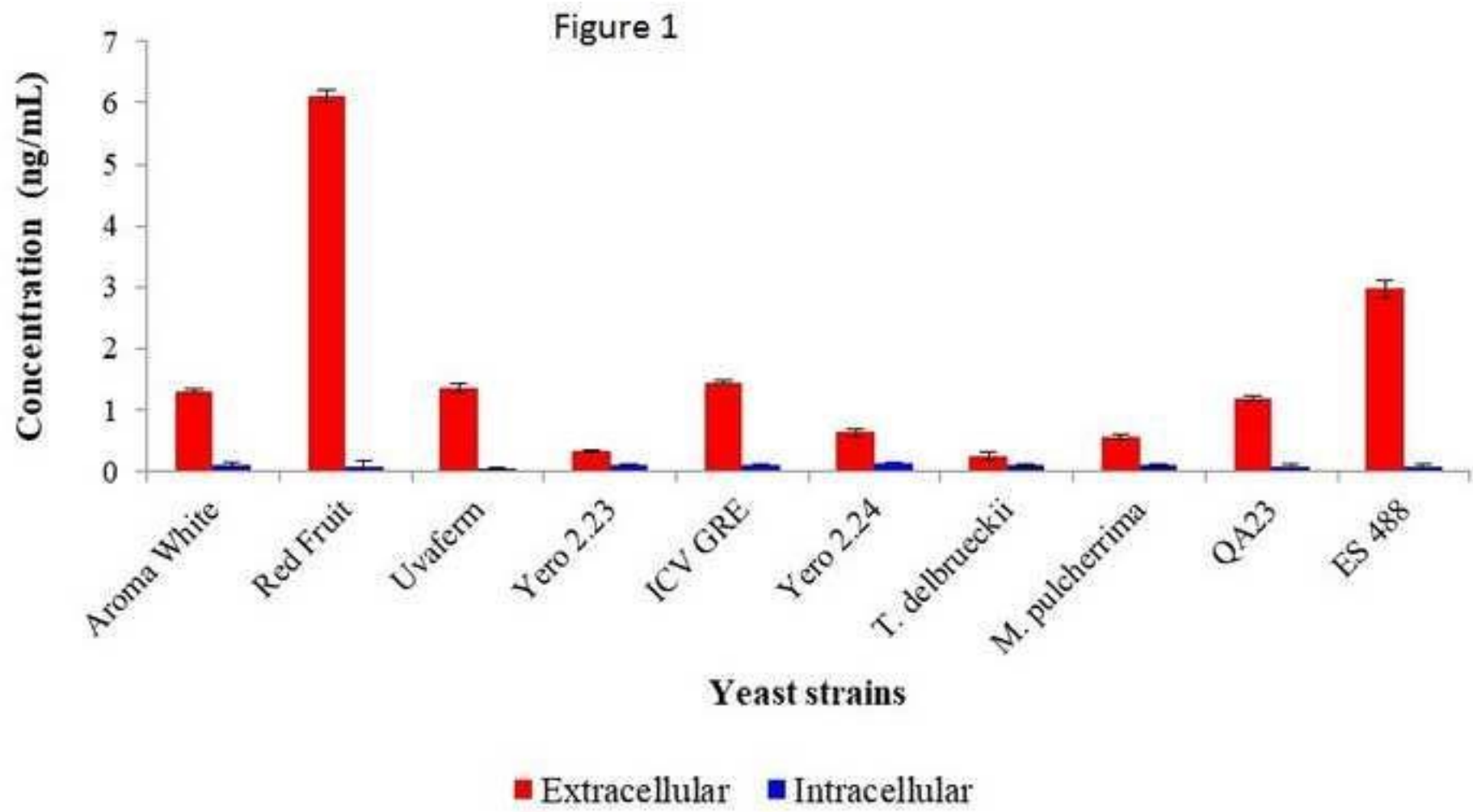


Figure 2

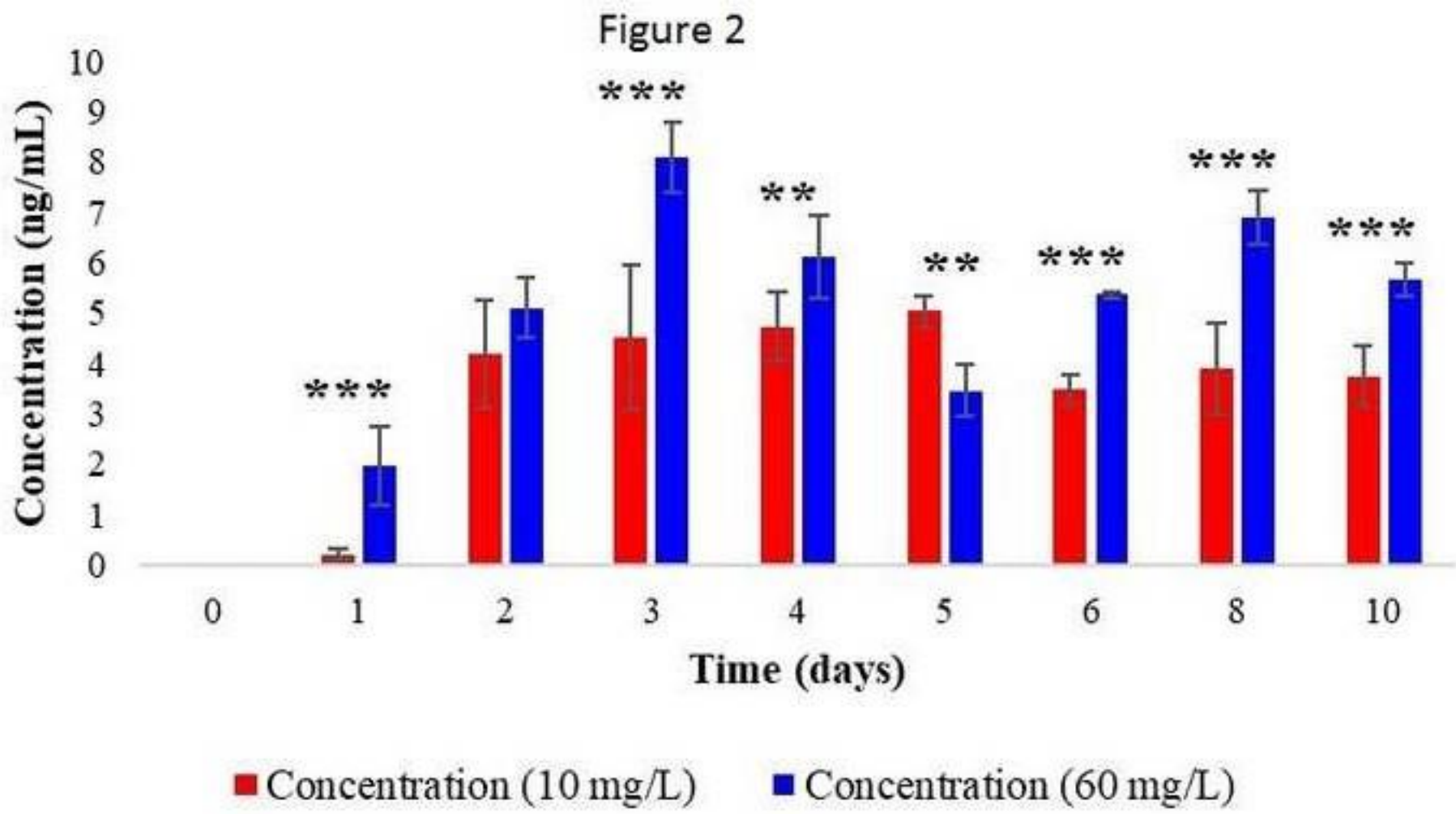


Figure 3

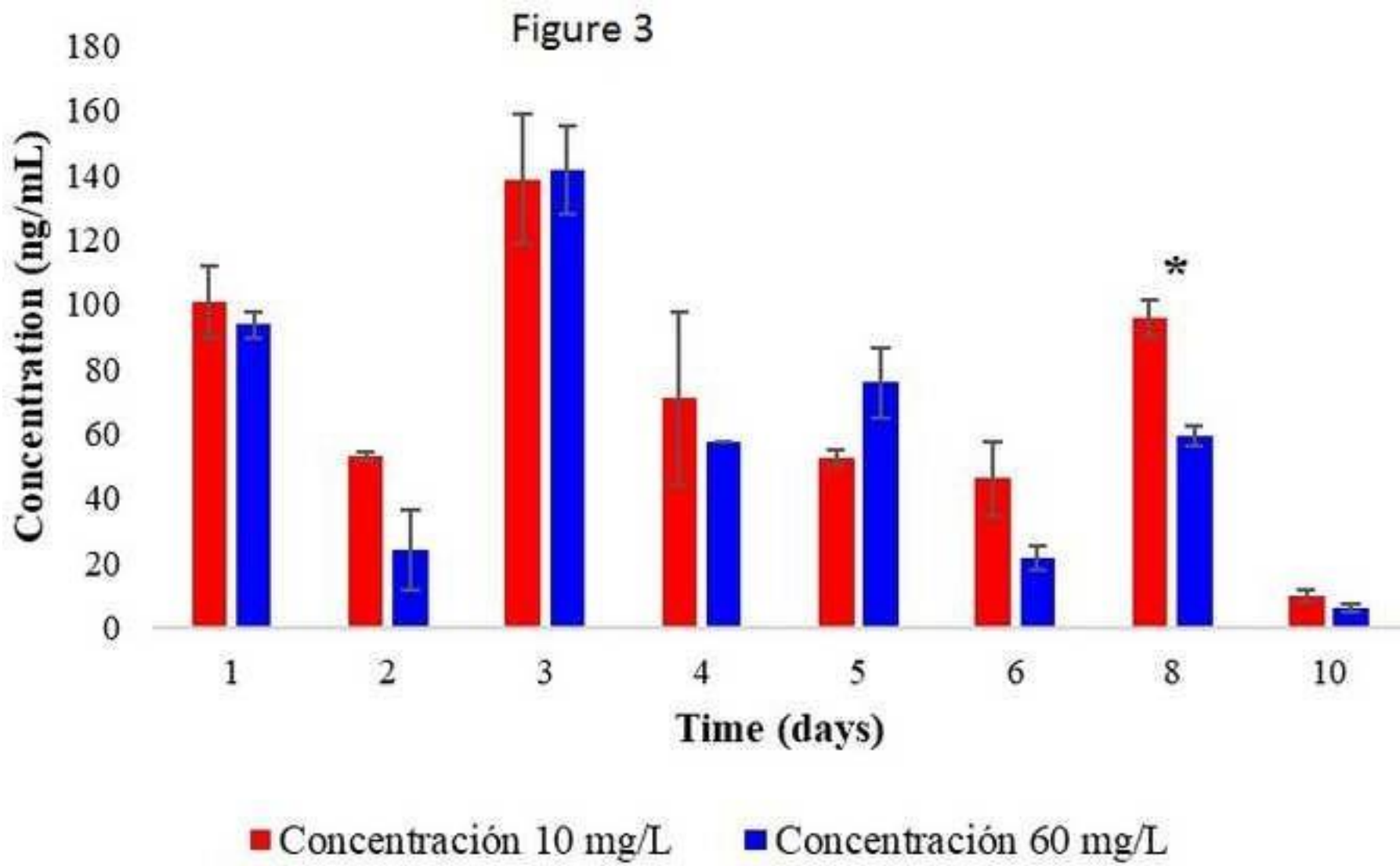


Figure 4

