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1 **Effect of addition of overripe seeds from white grape by-products during red wine**  
2 **fermentation on wine colour and phenolic composition**

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24 **Abstract**

25 The effect of the fermentative addition of overripe seeds by-product (Pedro Ximénez  
26 white grapes, 3g/L) on the phenolic composition and colour of red wines was studied by  
27 rapid resolution liquid chromatography (RRLC-MS) and Differential Colorimetry.  
28 Overripe seeds submitted to postharvest dehydration by sun drying directly  
29 demonstrated were rich in phenolics such as gallic acid, epicatechin, and procyanidin  
30 B2 3-*O*-gallate, and hence a source of copigments capable to stabilize wine  
31 anthocyanins. The fermentative addition of overripe seeds led to Syrah wines with  
32 significant higher content of anthocyanins and procyanidins than traditional macerated  
33 wines, which had a positive effect on colour quality and stability. With respect to the  
34 colour quality, visually perceptible colour differences were found respect to the  
35 traditional macerated wines ( $\Delta E^*_{ab} > 3$ ), getting overripe seeds macerated wines with  
36 bluish hues and higher chroma values. Moreover, Differential Colorimetry  
37 demonstrated that the addition of overripe seeds induces lower colour modification in  
38 wines during stabilization and, in consequence, higher colour stability

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41 **Keywords:** Postharvest overripeness; copigmentation; phenolics; Differential  
42 Colorimetry; warm climate

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## 44 **1. Introduction**

45 Some places in Spain, especially the Southern areas (Andalusia), the high temperatures  
46 reached during grape maturation induce inadequate ripeness of red grapes.  
47 Climatological conditions cause time discrepancy between the technological ripeness  
48 (sugars/acids ratio) and the phenolic ripeness of grapes, leading to unbalanced ripening  
49 (Webb, Whetton, & Barlow, 2011) .

50 The climate change is increasing this effect and causing problems for the winemakers to  
51 elaborate high-quality wines. In particular, unbalanced quantities of phenols in red  
52 grapes coming from seeds and skins make the colour stabilization of red wines by  
53 copigmentation more difficult (Boulton, 2001) .

54 In red wine, copigmentation occurs from the first steps of vinification through of  
55 noncovalent associations between anthocyanins and colourless compounds  
56 (copigments), which protect the coloured forms of anthocyanins and ensure an adequate  
57 pigment polymerization during wine ageing (De Freitas & Mateus, 2010; Trouillas et  
58 al., 2016). Thus, increasing the concentration of copigments or modulating the  
59 pigment/copigments ratio is an interesting technological strategy to improve the colour  
60 stabilization of red wines, especially in warm climate regions.

61 According to Jara-Palacios et al., (2014a), by-products from white grapes (grape  
62 pomace or its individual components) still contain a great variety of phenolics that could  
63 improve the colour of anthocyanins. This study demonstrated that copigmentation  
64 effects vary depending on the type of by-product used as copigments source.  
65 Consequently, different effectiveness on colour stabilization can be achieved by means  
66 of multiple copigmentation processes.

67 Interestingly, technological applications for the red wine industry based on reusing  
68 white grape by-products is possible in warm climate winemaking regions because red

69 and white grape varieties have similar ripening periods due to climatological conditions  
70 (Gordillo et al., 2014). Thus, large amounts of skins and seeds from white grape are  
71 available to be used at the time of red winemaking. As white wines are elaborated by  
72 applying short maceration time, phenolics remain in skins and seeds, which increases  
73 their industrial value as agricultural by-product (Pedroza, Carmona, Alonso, Salinas, &  
74 Zalacain, 2013).

75 Therefore, the maceration of white-winemaking by-products during red wine  
76 vinification is being increasingly used in the areas that intend to elaborate red wines  
77 having stable colour over time. Thereby, Gordillo et al. (2014) evaluated how the  
78 maceration of white grape pomace with red grapes enhanced the phenolic potential and  
79 colour of young red wine. More recently, Cejudo-Bastante et al. (2016) showed the  
80 possibility of using an enzymatic hydrolysate of grape seed during Syrah wine  
81 fermentation to compensating both colour and phenolic degradation. In this case, it was  
82 confirmed that seed phenolics are natural components of grapes having interesting  
83 copigmentation properties, as found previously (González-Manzano, Mateus, de Freitas,  
84 & Santos-Buelga, 2008).

85 Due to the promising results, the assessment of other white wine by-products has great  
86 interest, although other related research is still required to state their technological  
87 applications and optimize the potential benefits on red wine colour. This is the case of  
88 by-products from the elaboration of sweet sherry wines in southwestern of Spain. These  
89 wines are traditionally made with overripe grapes from white cultivars such as Pedro  
90 Ximénez (PX), which are submitted to postharvest dehydration. This process relies on  
91 exposing off-vine grape bunches during 7 to 10 days to direct sun drying on the *pasera*  
92 site (Dumitriu, Peinado, Peinado, & de Lerma, 2015). Thus, grape composition is  
93 strongly affected because the sunlight and the water stress induce physicochemical

94 changes in plant metabolism including the concentration of sugars and the biosynthesis  
95 and polymerization of phenolics (Dumitriu et al., 2015).

96 Due to the particular overripening process, the seeds from PX grape pomace are  
97 different in composition with respect to seeds from grapes harvested at technological  
98 ripeness (not overripe). For this reason, a new study of vinification based on using PX  
99 overripe seeds as an alternative source of copigments has been developed. The aim of  
100 this work is to study the effect of adding quantities of PX overripe seeds during red  
101 wine fermentation and assessing whether they could be a powerful source of  
102 copigments to improve the colour of the red wines made in warm climates zones. In  
103 addition of the chromatic effect in the wine, and therefore the consumer acceptance, the  
104 use of this agricultural waste should affect the economic and environmental profit for  
105 the wine industry.

## 106 **2. Material and methods**

### 107 *2.1. Winemaking protocols and samples*

108 Overripe seeds (OS) were used in the vinification experiments during the fermentation  
109 process with Syrah grapes. About 1350 g of OS were manually separated from Pedro  
110 **Ximénez** grape pomace (D.O. Montilla-Moriles, Southwest Spain, 2014 vintage). OS  
111 were stored frozen (-20 °C) until used in the 2015 vintage vinification, when wines were  
112 made using *V. vinifera* cv. Syrah grapes grown in D.O. Condado de Huelva  
113 (Southwestern Spain). About 900 kg of grapes were harvested at optimum technological  
114 maturity.

115 Grapes were destemmed and crushed, and the fermentation mash was distributed in six  
116 220 L stainless steel tanks to perform two types of experimental vinification:

117 (a) OSW (3 tanks) wines made by adding 3 g /L of OS: a total addition of 450 g of OS  
118 to 150 kg of grape mash per tank.

119 (b) CW (3 tanks) wines made by traditional winemaking (without OS addition), as  
120 control wine.

121 For all wines, alcoholic fermentation spontaneously occurred and skin maceration was  
122 developed manually punching down each tank once a day during 7 days. After this, the  
123 mash was drawn off to remove the solid parts, and the free run musts were left to finish  
124 the fermentation under the same conditions in 50 L stainless steel tanks. Selected  
125 *Oenococcus oeni* lactic acid bacteria (VINIFERM Oe 104, Agrovin, Ciudad Real,  
126 Spain) were inoculated (14 mL/hL) at the end of alcoholic fermentation. When the  
127 fermentative processes finished, the wines were again racked in 50 L stainless steel tank  
128 maintained for a stabilization period of 5 months. Then the wines were bottled and  
129 stored during 5 months.

130 Must and wine samples were taken at the beginning of fermentative maceration period  
131 (day 1), at the middle of the alcoholic fermentation (day 4), just after skin removal (day  
132 7), and at different moments along the stabilization and bottling process (20, 135, 225,  
133 and 315 days).

#### 134 *2.2. Phenolic extraction from overripe seeds*

135 OS were treated with methanol:water (750 /250 mL/mL) according to a modification of  
136 the methodology described by Jara-Palacios et al. (2013) to extract and assess the  
137 phenolic composition of this by-product. The extraction procedure was made in  
138 triplicate as follows: An amount of 50 g OS was homogenized in 250 mL of solvent,  
139 shaking for 1 h in a shaking apparatus (VWR Incubating minishaker, Barcelona, Spain)  
140 , and further centrifuged at 4190 g for 15 min; the supernatant was collected and the  
141 residue submitted to the same process twice. The supernatants were combined and the  
142 methanolic extract was concentrated to dryness and freeze dried until the analyses.

143 *2.3. Colorimetric analysis*

144 The whole visible spectra (380-770 nm) of the samples was measured in triplicate at  
145 constant intervals ( $\Delta\lambda=2$  nm) with an Agilent 8453 UV-Vis spectrophotometer (Palo  
146 Alto, USA), using 2 mm path length glass cells and distilled water as white reference.  
147 The CIELAB colour parameters ( $L^*$ ,  $a^*$ ,  $b^*$ ,  $C^*_{ab}$  and  $h_{ab}$ ) were calculated for from  
148 transmittance spectra by using the original software CromaLab® (Heredia, Alvarez,  
149 González-Miret & Ramírez, 2004), following the recommendations of the Commission  
150 Internationale de l'Eclairage (CIE, 2004): 10° Standard Observer and D65 Standard  
151 Illuminant as references. Colour differences ( $\Delta E^*_{ab}$ ) were calculate by the Euclidean  
152 distance between two points in the three-dimensional space:  $\Delta E^*_{ab} = [(\Delta L^*)^2 + (\Delta a^*)^2 +$   
153  $(\Delta b^*)^2]^{1/2}$ .

154 *2.4. Copigmentation determination*

155 The contribution of copigmented anthocyanins (% copigmentation) to the total wine  
156 colour at pH 3.6 were determined in triplicate following the method proposed by  
157 Boulton (1996). Wine samples were first adjusted to pH 3.6.

158 *2.5. HPLC-DAD analysis of phenolic compounds*

159 The determination of monomeric anthocyanins and flavonols of the samples measured  
160 in triplicate was made according to the method reported by Cejudo-Bastante et al.  
161 (2016); which performs identification based on the retention times and HPLC-DAD-  
162 ESI-MS<sup>n</sup>. An Agilent 1200 chromatographic system, equipped with quaternary pump,  
163 UV-VIS diode-array detector, automatic injector, and ChemStation software (Palo Alto,  
164 USA) was used to perform the HPLC separation and quantification. Prior to direct  
165 injection, the samples were filtered through a 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  Nylon filter. A volume of 50  $\mu\text{L}$   
166 of sample was injected onto a Zorbax C<sub>18</sub> column (250 x 4.6 mm, 5  $\mu\text{m}$  particle size),  
167 setting temperature at 40 °C and flow rate of 0.63 mL/min. Acetonitrile, formic acid,



168 and water (3 mL:10 mL:87mL solvent A, and 50 mL:10 mL:40 mL, solvent B) were  
169 used, with the following elution profile: 0-10 min with 6% B; 10-15 min with 11% B;  
170 15-20 min with 20% B; 20-25 min with 23% B; 25-30 min with 26% B; 30-35 min with  
171 40% B; 35-38 min with 50% B; 38-46 min with 60% B; and 46-47 min with 6% B. All  
172 UV-vis spectra were recorded from 200 to 800 nm with a bandwidth of 2.0 nm. The  
173 external calibration method was used for the quantification of anthocyanins (520 nm)  
174 and flavonols (360 nm) by comparing the areas with the standards malvidin 3-*O*-  
175 glucoside and quercetin, respectively. The concentration of phenolic compounds was  
176 expressed as mg/L for wine samples.

177 The analyses of flavan-3-ols (monomeric and procyanidins), as well as the  
178 hydroxycinnamic and benzoic acids of each sample were performed in triplicate  
179 according to Jara-Palacios et al. (2014b) using RRLC after filtration through a 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$   
180 Nylon filter. The chromatographic system was an Agilent 1290, equipped with  
181 quaternary pump, UV-VIS diode-array detector, automatic injector, and ChemStation  
182 software (Palo Alto, USA). A  $\text{C}_{18}$  Poroshell 120 column (2.7  $\mu\text{m}$ , 5 cm x 4.6 mm), with  
183 an injection volume of 0.5  $\mu\text{L}$ , was used. The solvents were formic acid:water (1 mL  
184 /999 mL) as solvent A, and acetonitrile as solvent B at the following gradients: 0-5 min  
185 of 5% B linear; 5-20 min of 50% B linear; and 20-25 min of washing, which was  
186 followed by re-equilibration of the column. The flow-rate was 1.5 mL/min, and the  
187 column temperature was set to 25 °C. Identification of colourless phenolics was  
188 performed according to the retention times of the standards (when available), UV-vis  
189 spectra and mass spectra, as described by JaraPalacios et al. (2014b). The quantification  
190 was made at 280 nm (flavan-3-ols, procyanidins and benzoic acids) and 320 nm  
191 (hydroxycinnamic acid acids) by external calibration comparing the areas with the gallic

192 acid, *p*-coumaric acid, and catechin standards. The concentration was expressed as mg/L  
193 for wine samples and mg/100 g of dry seeds for PXOS samples.

194 In addition, the total anthocyanin, flavonol, benzoic acid, hydroxycinnamic acid  
195 derivatives, monomeric flavan-3-ol and procyanidin contents were calculated as the sum  
196 of individual phenolic compounds identified by HPLC.

197 The Total phenolic content of each sample was determined in triplicate using the Folin-  
198 Ciocalteau method (Singleton & Rossi, 1965) using an Agilent 8453 UV-Vis  
199 spectrophotometer.

## 200 *2.6. Statistical analysis*

201 Statistica version 8.0 software (Statistica, 2007) was used for statistical analysis.  
202 Univariate analysis of variance (ANOVA) was applied using the general linear model  
203 program (Tukey test,  $p < 0.05$ ) to establish significant differences among wines and for  
204 each variable.

## 205 **3. Results and discussion**

### 206 *3.1. Phenolic composition of overripe seed (Pedro Ximénez white grapes)*

207 The phenolic composition of OS is summarized in Table 1. Quantitatively, the mean  
208 value of total phenolic content was 5535 mg/100 g dry extract, which agrees the results  
209 reported in other not overripe seeds (Cejudo-Bastante et al., 2016; Jara-Palacios et al.,  
210 2014b) .

211 Regarding the qualitative profile, 20 compounds belonging to different phenolic  
212 families were identified. The major corresponded to monomeric flavanols (40%  
213 including catechin, epicatechin and EC-gallate) procyanidins (38% including B2,B3, B4  
214 and B7 procyanidins as well as galloylated dimmers, trimers and tetramers), and  
215 benzoic acids (20% including gallic and protocatechuic acids).

216 In comparison to the composition reported for not overripe seeds, some differences for  
217 the most aforementioned compounds were observed in relation to the type of grape,  
218 variety, or extraction conditions. OS stated for having higher amount of procyanidin B2  
219 and the tetramer 2 with respect to not overripe seeds from Zalema, grown in warm  
220 climate, as reported by Jara-Palacios et al. (2014b) . Moreover, OS was also richer in  
221 gallic acid, protocatechuic acid and catechin.

222 Considering the phenolic composition of the enzymatic hydrolysate of the seeds  
223 described by Cejudo-Bastante et al. (2016), differences were found in the content of all  
224 the compounds being higher in OS, except for procyanidin B1. These differences could  
225 be due to the technological conditions of the enzymatic hydrolysis applied. Regarding  
226 the results reported for red grapes seeds (González-Manzano et al., 2008), the  
227 qualitative profile of OS (proportions of monomeric flavanols and procyanidins) is  
228 similar to the Tempranillo variety seeds. This is interesting from a chemical point of  
229 view because some of the phenolics identified are present in high quantities in OS,  
230 among them, gallic acid (52 mg/100 g), catechin (97 mg/100 g), epicatechin (45.8  
231 mg/100 g), EC gallate (20.4 mg/100 g), procyanidin B2 (29.4 mg/100 g) and  
232 procyanidin B2-3-*O*-gallate (40 mg/100 g). These compounds have been described to  
233 act as effective copigments due to their structural complexity (Teixeira et al., 2013;;  
234 Berké & de Freitas, 2007; Liu, Zhang, He, Duan, & Shi, 2016)

### 235 3.2. *Phenolic composition of wines*

236 Figure 1 shows the evolution of the total levels of anthocyanins (1a) and, procyanidins  
237 (1b) during the whole process of vinification. Results indicate that the dose of OS  
238 applied (3 g/L) during fermentative maceration cause an important effect on the  
239 phenolic stabilization of Syrah wines.

240 Quantitatively, the wine with overripe seeds (OSW) had a high total amount of  
241 anthocyanins and procyanidins than traditional macerated wine (CW) at the end of the  
242 maceration stage (12% and 50% higher, respectively).

243 These results confirm that the fermentative addition of OS positively influenced the  
244 extraction of pigments and some copigments too. On the contrary, the extraction of  
245 other types of copigments such as benzoic and hydroxycinnamic acids was similar for  
246 the CW and OSW.

247 In general, regarding the stabilization and bottling period (135 and 315 days,  
248 respectively), the degradation of anthocyanin pigments was slightly higher in CW than  
249 in OSW (36% vs 33% of total anthocyanin loss, respectively), being increasingly lower  
250 these differences during the bottle aging. Nevertheless, wines with additional amounts  
251 of OS had higher amount of anthocyanin at the end of aging stage.

252 This behaviour is in accordance with the greater quantity of the total procyanidins  
253 (Figure 1b) in OSW wines during most of the stabilization period. Therefore, these  
254 copigments could act preventing higher pigment losses in wines, consistently with  
255 previous studies (Cejudo-Bastante et al., 2016). On the other hand, a reduction of  
256 procyanidins is observed at the end of bottling stage (from 225 to 315 days). This could  
257 be due to the different reactions that simultaneously occur at the advanced stages of  
258 vinification. Among others, the formation of tannin-anthocyanin or tannin-tannin  
259 condensation products as has been reported by Monagas, Gómez-Cordovés, &  
260 Bartolomé (2006). This fact could explain the lower difference of anthocyanins contents  
261 between CW and OSW during the bottle aging.

262 With the aim of assessing the significant differences of the individual pigments and  
263 copigments between CW and OSW wines, the mean value of all parameters was  
264 compared during the stabilization and bottling stages (mean±SD, n=12 for each

265 maceration treatment; Tukey test,  $p < 0.05$ ). The results as well as the percentage of  
266 copigmentation (%) and the total phenolics (mg GAE/L) are shown in Table 2.

267 According to the Tukey test ( $p < 0.05$ ), significant global differences were found among  
268 the maceration treatments for some phenolic families. In particular, higher contents of  
269 Total Anthocyanins (OSW=171 mg/L vs CW=140 mg/L) and Total Procyanidins  
270 (OSW=55 mg/L vs CW=47 mg/L) characterized the OSW. Moreover, the amount of  
271 total flavan-3-ols was also higher in OSW, although these differences were not  
272 significant (OSW=106 mg/L vs CW=93 mg/L).

273 Regarding the individual phenolics, 25 of the 30 identified compounds were found in  
274 higher contents in OSW wines, which represent the 83% of the phenolic composition of  
275 wines. Among them, the differences for malvidin 3-glucoside, malvidin 3-acetyl-  
276 glucoside and all the coumaroylated derivatives were significant, as well as for  
277 epicatechin and procyanidin B2 3-*O*-gallate. Important quantities of such colourless  
278 phenolics, described as good copigments, were found in OS (Table 1), so the results  
279 confirm their effective diffusion to the wines (Mirabel, Saucier, Guerra, & Glories,  
280 1999).

281 Similar behaviour was observed for other individual phenolics that represent major  
282 compounds of OS (catechin, procyanidin B2 and procyanidin B7), although the  
283 differences were not significant between CW and OSW wines. Previous studies  
284 reported that the extraction of monomeric flavan-3-ols and procyanidins mainly occurs  
285 during the first stages of fermentative maceration (Busse-Valverde, Gómez-Plaza,  
286 López-Roca, Gil-Muñoz, & Bautista-Ortín, 2011) which could explain the results.

287 However, the content of some phenolic compounds being in high quantities in OS were  
288 quite similar in CW and OSW: gallic acid (CW=36 mg/L vs OSW=35 mg/L) and  
289 protocatechuic acid (CW=18.3 mg/L vs OSW=18.7 mg/L). Probably, their lower kinetic

290 of extraction determined that they could not be adequately extracted because of the  
291 short maceration time (Zou, Kilmartin, Inglis, & Frost, 2002). Thus, increasing the  
292 maceration time or the dose of overripe seeds could be interesting practices to optimize  
293 the effects of this kind of grape by-product in red wine vinifications.

### 294 *3.3. Colour evolution during vinification*

295 The evolution of the CIELAB colour parameters, lightness ( $L^*$ ) chroma ( $C^*_{ab}$ ) and hue  
296 ( $h_{ab}$ ), of control wine (CW) and wine with overripe seeds (OSW) during the vinification  
297 is shown in Figure 2.

298 The trend of both wines along the fermentative maceration and stabilization stages was  
299 quite similar. At the beginning,  $L^*$  decreased around 20% during the fermentative  
300 maceration due to the extraction of pigments, and later remains stable over time (Figure  
301 2a). In the case of chroma,  $C^*_{ab}$  values increased during fermentative maceration, from  
302 17 to 37 CIELAB units, and later decreased approximately 15-20% during the  
303 stabilization and bottling stages (Figure 2b). However, the behaviour of hue angle was  
304 slightly different for CW and OSW wines (Figure 2c): values remained balanced during  
305 the fermentative maceration in OSW while increased for CW. From that moment  $h_{ab}$   
306 values progressively increased in both wines, achieving less bluish hues. This is mainly  
307 due to the gradual transformation of monomeric anthocyanins into polymeric pigments  
308 (Gutierrez, Lorenzo, & Espinosa, 2005). This process could be also responsible for the  
309 loss of  $C^*_{ab}$  values observed along the final steps.

310 In general, during the stabilization and bottle aging stages, OSW showed higher  $C^*_{ab}$   
311 values and lower increase of  $h_{ab}$  than CW; therefore, OSW maintained more bluish and  
312 vivid colours than CW. These differences could be due to the higher effect of  
313 copigmentation existing in OSW wine from the first stage of vinification with respect to

314 CW (Table 2), which indicates a better pigment/copigment ratio in wines macerated  
315 with OS.

316 Along the most part of winemaking process OSW wines showed slightly lower L\*  
317 values than CW, although quite constant for both wines, being around 65 and 70  
318 CIELAB units. The highest L\* values were reached in the last steps of vinification  
319 (Heras-Roger et al., 2014). At final stage of bottling, L\* values maintained stable in  
320 OSW while increased in CW, which can be due to the achievement of higher  
321 stabilization level by copigmentation. In the same way, at the end of bottling, the more  
322 copigmented wine OSW wines had higher chroma values than CW, as previously  
323 indicated (González-Manzano et al., 2008)

324 The bottling stage was the most interesting period. Important differences started in this  
325 step, and trends in the CIELAB colour parameters due to the phenolic composition were  
326 observed. The most important differences between wines were regarding the hue angle,  
327 being high the increases in CW while OSW remained quite stable.

328 The colour differences ( $\Delta E^*_{ab}$ ) were calculated at the end of each vinification stage  
329 between CW and OSW. These differences tended to be bigger at the last steps of  
330 vinification.  $\Delta E^*_{ab}$  was around 2 CIELAB units at the end of fermentation, slightly  
331 similar to the final of stabilization, while at the final of bottling stage this difference  
332 increased to 3.5 CIELAB units approximately. The OSW and CW wines could be  
333 considered visually different, mainly at the bottle aging stage since  $\Delta E^*_{ab}$  was higher  
334 than 2.7 CIELAB units, which involves chromatic changes that can be perceived by the  
335 human eye (Martínez, Melgosa, Pérez, Hita, & Negueruela, 2001).

336 In order to evaluate the colour attribute that most influence the change of colour the  
337 relative contributions of lightness (% $\Delta L$ ), chroma (% $\Delta C$ ) and hue (% $\Delta H$ ) at the  
338 different vinification stages were compared. Considering the step with the highest

339 perceptible colour changes (bottle stage), it can be observed that the addition of overripe  
340 seeds induced a greater change on lightness. Thus,  $L^*$  was the colour parameter most  
341 affected by the OS addition, followed by chroma and hue ( $\% \Delta L=50$ ,  $\% \Delta C=33$  and  
342  $\% \Delta H=17$ ).

343 Table 3 shows the colour differences ( $\Delta E^*_{ab}$ ) between the skin removal (day 7) and the  
344 end of bottle aging stage (day 315) for CW and OSW, to assess the colour stability of  
345 both wines along the time. Therefore, it is possible to know whether the addition of  
346 overripe seeds at the beginning of the vinification is able to stabilize the colour of  
347 wines. Results show the lowest colour difference for overripe seed wines ( $\Delta E^*_{ab}=10.1$   
348 for OSW and 11.3 for CW). These values indicate that the addition of OS induces lower  
349 colour modification and, in consequence, higher colour stability.

350 The chromatic modifications were less intense in OSW wines ( $\Delta C^*_{ab}=-6$  vs  $-7$  u.;  
351  $\Delta L^*=+2$  vs  $+3.1$  in OSW and CW, respectively). Nevertheless, the hue showed the  
352 highest chromatic modification, with significant differences ( $p<0.05$ ) ( $\Delta h_{ab}=+16.0^\circ$  vs  
353  $+180^\circ$ , in OSW and CW, respectively). This is in accordance with Figure 2c, where it is  
354 observed that OSW had lower increase of  $h_{ab}$  than CW during the stabilization and  
355 bottle aging stages. The lower increase of  $h_{ab}$  values in OSW indicates slightly bluish  
356 hues that can be due to the presence of higher amounts of bluish forms of anthocyanins  
357 (3-acetyl-glucosides and glucosides) (Heredia, Francia-Aricha, Rivas-Gonzalo, Vicario,  
358 & Santos-Buelga, 1998). Moreover, bluish tones are considered indicative of  
359 intermolecular copigmentation (Casassa, Keirse, Mireles, & Harbertson, 2012). Table  
360 2 shown the results, with significant differences ( $p<0.05$ ) between CW and OSW  
361 regarding these anthocyanins.



#### 362 **4. Conclusions**

363 Overripe seeds from white grapes were a rich natural source of copigments with large  
364 quantities of gallic acid, epicatechin and procyanidin B2 3-*O*-gallate. Macerating OS  
365 during the fermentative stage of vinification at 3 g/L led to Syrah wines with better  
366 phenolic composition than traditional macerated wines. The improvement of phenolic  
367 composition included higher pigment extraction and effectiveness of copigments  
368 diffusion from OS to wine, from the first stage of vinification, and a higher chemical  
369 stabilization during the last steps of the winemaking process. This stabilization had a  
370 positive effect on the wine colour, mostly reflected on the chroma and hue. Thus, darker  
371 colours with more bluish tones were achieved in the whole process of vinification.

372 Therefore, it is possible to conclude that the use of OS by-product as natural source of  
373 copigments could be an alternative to overcome the lack of phenolics in red wines,  
374 besides having environmental beneficial repercussion on winemaking regions.  
375 Notwithstanding, further studies focused on the maceration time or OS dose applied are  
376 still necessary to optimize the potential benefits of this by-products in red wine  
377 attributes.

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### Figure captions

**Fig. 1.** Evolution of the main phenolic families in control wines and wines fermented with overripe seeds along the vinification process. (a) Total Anthocyanins, (b) Total Procyanidins. Results are presented as means (mg/L)  $\pm$  standard deviations (n=3).

Symbols: Control wine ( $\blacklozenge$ ); Overripe seed wine ( $\blacklozenge$ )

**Fig. 2.** Changes in the CIELAB colour parameters for control wines and wines fermented with overripe seeds along the vinification process. (a)  $L^*$ , lightness; (b)  $C^*_{ab}$ , chroma; (c)  $h_{ab}$ , hue angle. Results are presented as means  $\pm$  standard deviations (n=3).

Symbols: Control wine ( $\blacklozenge$ ); Overripe seed wine ( $\blacklozenge$ )