

PINOT PEDIGREE DIAGRAM

No fewer than 156 western European grape varieties make up this huge pedigree of natural crosses, with SAVAGNIN, GOUAIS BLANC and PINOT playing the major roles. Given the number of varieties that are currently unknown (?), this pedigree is just one of the possible interpretations of all direct parent–offspring relationships that have been discovered by DNA parentage analyses (Pinot and TEROLDEGO, which have a grandparent–grandchild relationship, are included to illustrate the unexpected link between Pinot and SYRAH). It strongly challenges the commonly assumed independent origins of western European varieties and argues in favour of a small core set of founder varieties that have given birth through natural crosses to the significant biodiversity we know today. For the sake of clarity, TREBBIANO TOSCANO and FOLLE BLANCHE appear twice in the diagram.

