Control of Vine Powdery Mildew by Use of EM Preparations

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Abstract : The possibility of controlling the vine powdery mildew caused by the fungus Unicinula necator (Schw.). Burr. was studied by the use of EM preparations acceptable in organic vineyard for grape protection. The experiment was conducted during the cultivation period, in the year 2000, and Riesling Italian vine cultivar was used. In all 7 treatments were used. The first spraying was conduced at the vegetative shoots stage 15 (EL stage scale). Preparations EM-1 and EM-5 were used in 5.0 % and 0.2 % concentration respectively. Combinations of these two products were also tested. *Conventional fungicide combinations (propiconazole 0.15% + sulphur 0.2% + mankozeb* 0.2%) and plant extract preparation Urticum in combination with Humisin (1.0% + 1.0%) were used as the reference products. The efficiency of spraying EM-1, EM-5 and with combination of both products were 98.91%, 97.64% and 98.28% respectively. The efficacy of spraying by combination of fungicides was higher, while there was no statistical significance, compared to the EM products and plant extract preparation. The wines were produced from the grape from experimental plots. The wine produced from the grape protected with EM-1 prepration had the best sensory characteristic, specially aroma and taste. The results of this one year study shows that EM preparations can be used for the control of vine powdery mildew with positive effect on grape and wine quality.