



Reducing Sugars using Clinitest Tablets

The Clinitest tablet is a standardized self-heating method for quantitative determination of sugar by copper reduction. The Clinitest Reagent Tablets contain copper sulfate which reacts with reducing substances in wine converting cupric sulfate to cuprous oxide. This results in a color which varies with the amount of reducing substances present. Clinitest is a useful tool for monitoring fermentation progress but will react with phenolic content in wine from red pigmentation to barrel phenolics. Fermentable sugars, glucose and fructose, determined by enzymatic analysis will confirm dryness. Clinitest Reagent Tablets are the identical tablets previously sold as Dextrocheck for testing reducing sugar.

The following instructions adapt the Clinitest urine procedure to determine reducing sugar in wine. Please read the Clinitest information sheet for additional explanation of the chemistry and for hazard information before proceeding with the adapted procedure.

TEST FOR REDUCING SUGAR:

1. Place 0.5mL (10 drops) of wine in test tube.
2. Drop 1 reagent tablet into test tube. WATCH REACTION to see if the color development will "pass through" the orange shade of 1% and turn brownish.
3. If no color pass through is noted during boiling, shake tube gently and match to the color chart 15 seconds after boiling has stopped. If a pass through is noted, the sugar content is over 1% and sample must be diluted.

For samples of 1 -- 5% sugar, use 0.1mL (2drops) of wine and 0.4mL (8 drops) of water. Multiply % sugar reading from color chart x 5 to compensate for dilution.

Use color chart for 2-Drop Method with following % reducing sugar scale:

0	0.05%	0.10%	0.20%	0.40%	0.60%	1.00%
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