

# Impact of training on beer flavour perception

CHOLLET<sup>1</sup> Sylvie and VALENTIN<sup>2</sup> Dominique

*ISA, Université Catholique de Lille*

<sup>1</sup>*Institut Supérieur d'Agriculture, 48 boulevard Vauban, 59046 Lille Cedex, France, [s.chollet@isa-lille.fr](mailto:s.chollet@isa-lille.fr).*

*CESG-ENSBANA, Université de Bourgogne*

<sup>2</sup>*CESG-ENSBANA, 15 rue Hugues Picardet, 21000 Dijon, France, [valentin@u-bourgogne.fr](mailto:valentin@u-bourgogne.fr)*

*Paper based on a lecture given at the Chair J. De Clerck XII, Leuven, September 11<sup>th</sup> 2006*

## ABSTRACT

This paper tends to clarify the influence of training and precisely the effect of the duration of training on beer flavour perception. In a first study we compared a group of 10 to 20 trained subjects with a group of novices (untrained subjects) after 11, 44, 61 and 72 hours of training. In a second study we measured the performance of trained subjects at different points during their training period (after 8, 15, 24 and 32 hours). In the two studies the performance of trained subjects was evaluated by a series of experiments including perceptual tasks (an aroma detection task, a discrimination task, a sorting task and a recognition task) and verbal tasks (an aroma identification task, a communication task and a matching task). This set of experiments show that subjects acquire the vocabulary and the capacity to communicate at the beginning of training. Perceptual abilities are acquired later. Moreover, it seems that, contrary to verbal abilities, perceptual abilities are not generalized to new beers. In the same way, trained subjects are not able to transfer memory knowledge to new beers.

*Cerevisia, 31(4) 2006*