

# Measures for healthy vines with special emphasis on downy mildew

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**BÖLN**

Bundesprogramm Ökologischer Landbau  
und andere Formen nachhaltiger  
Landwirtschaft

## Project Partners

Academic and research  
institutions



Organic growers' associations



Practice partners

**GEOsens** GmbH



**uv-technik** meyer gmbh

Demonstration wineries

Winery Galler  
Winery Kronenhof  
Winery Rummel  
Winery Zähringer  
Winery Zehnthof

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Cover image: Pathogen causing downy mildew (*Plasmopara viticola*), DLR Rheinland  
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## Research, Practice, Dialogue

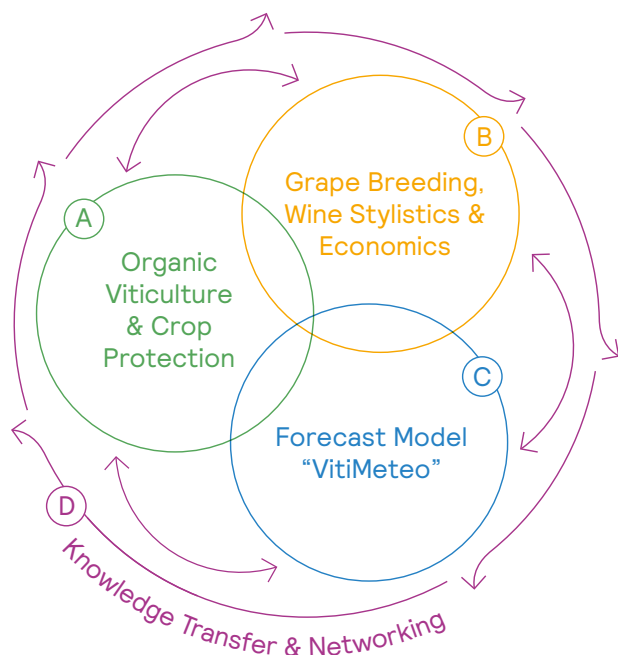


# Healthy Vines in Organic Viticulture

Wissenstransfer VITIFIT



## Applied Research Project



Since its inception in 2019, VITIFIT (*Vitis vinifera* durch Forschung, Innovation und Transfer) is the largest applied research project in the field of organic viticulture. For the first time, this joint project brings together all leading institutions of German viticultural research, organic growers' associations, as well as partners from industry and organic wine producers. This interdisciplinary network will be strengthened by a digital platform, which will help the founding partners and all those interested in the field to exchange information continuously. Participation in the research process and in technical insights is as much a priority as the communication and knowledge transfer between individual actors from practice, consulting and research.

## Project Priorities

### Area A

Development and optimization of crop protection strategies against downy mildew in organic cultivation of established and new grape varieties

### Area B

Breeding, wine stylistics, market acceptance and economic feasibility studies of new grape varieties

### Area C

Adaptation of the forecast model "VitiMeteo Rebenperonospora" to new grape varieties and organic viticulture

### Area D

Knowledge transfer, networking and communication between research and practice

## Project Objectives

VITIFIT's goal is to reduce and, in the long term, replace copper-containing crop protection agents when combatting downy mildew (*Plasmopara viticola*) in organic viticulture.

In pursuit of this goal, innovative crop protection strategies are being developed at various locations, with new active ingredients, improved formulations, physical technologies and viticultural measures being tested in various combinations. Furthermore, breeding activities and various strategies are promoted in order to maintain the most stable resistance possible in fungus-resistant grape varieties. In addition, oenological recommendations are developed for existing and new varieties, market acceptance is promoted, and economic indicators and sustainability effects are determined. At the same time, the forecast model "VitiMeteo Rebenperonospora" will be adapted to new grape varieties and organic viticulture.

Through improved network structures and an increased information flow, VITIFIT strives to optimize the transfer of knowledge and technology and aims to intensify the dialogue between researchers and producers. All these VITIFIT measures are designed to make crop protection more resource-efficient, to secure the existence of organic wineries in the long term and to promote the conversion to organic production methods.

Join the  
VITIFIT-network.  
For further information  
visit  
[vitifit.de](http://vitifit.de)