



Oenococcus oeni: advances in molecular genetics

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Oenococcus oeni : ADVANCES IN MOLECULAR GENETICS

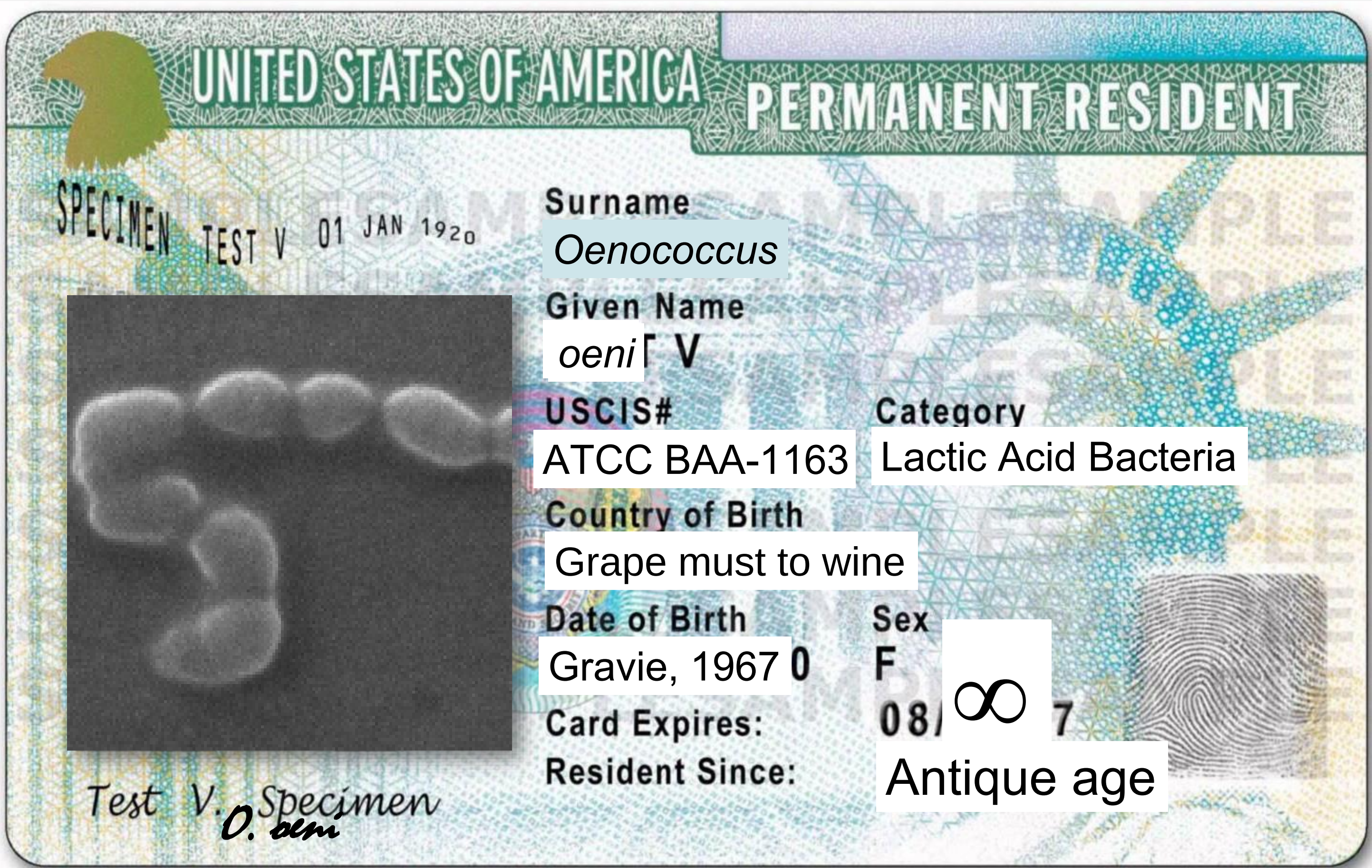
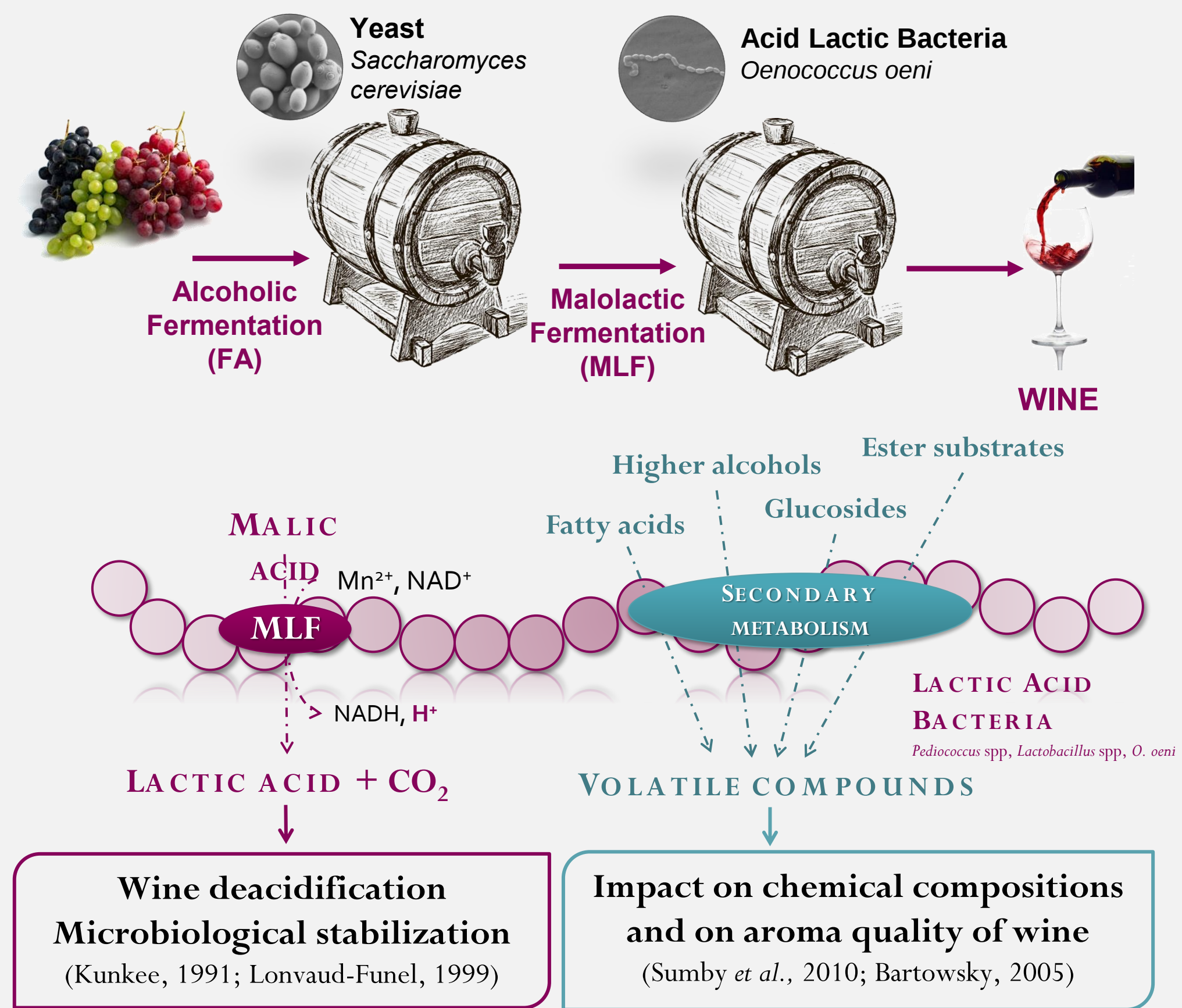


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WINE MAKING PROCESS



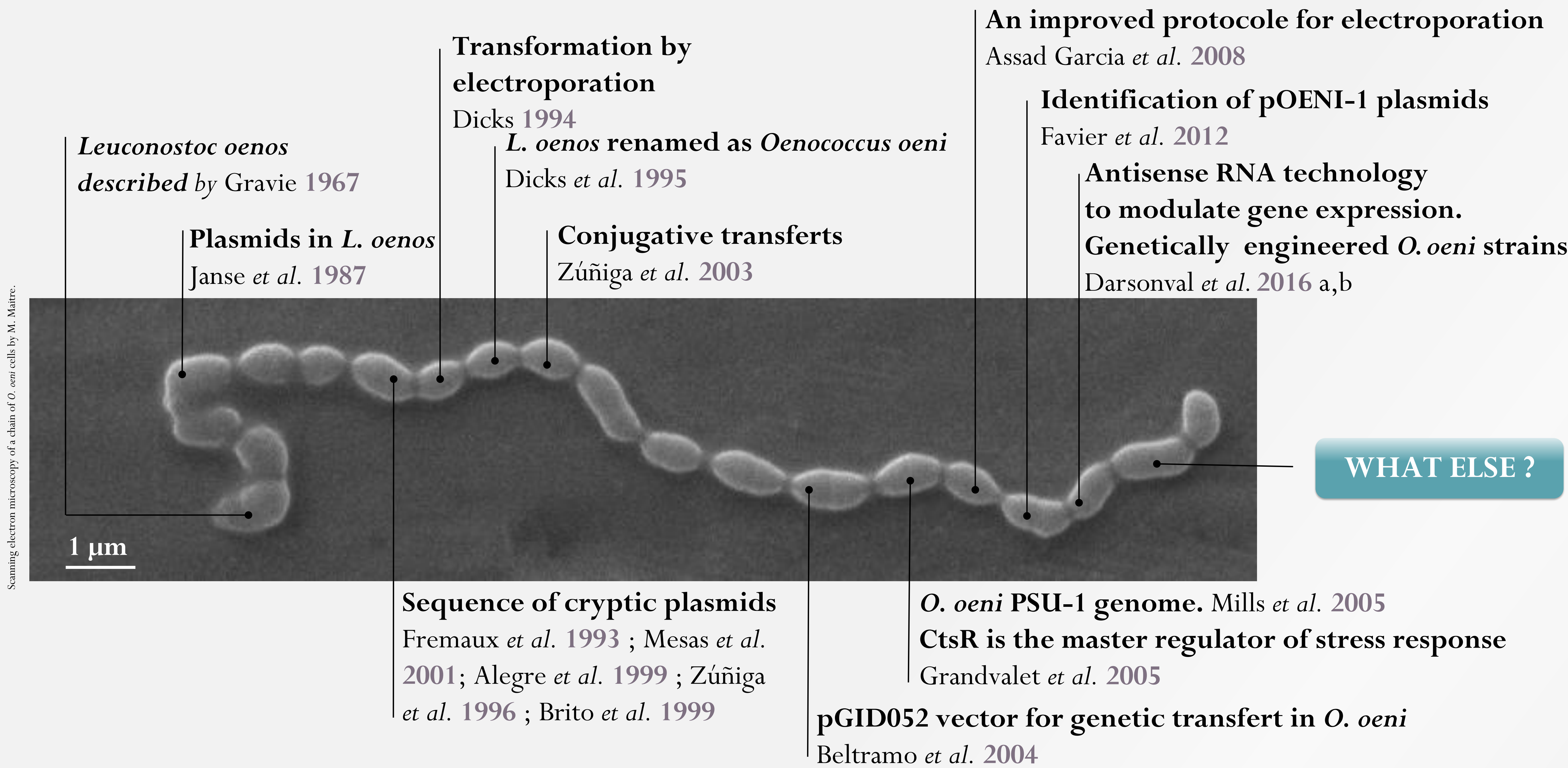
IMPEDIMENTS

- Not easily manipulable bacterium
- Few reliable tools and weak transformation efficiency
- Mutation not possible to investigate gene function

CHALLENGES

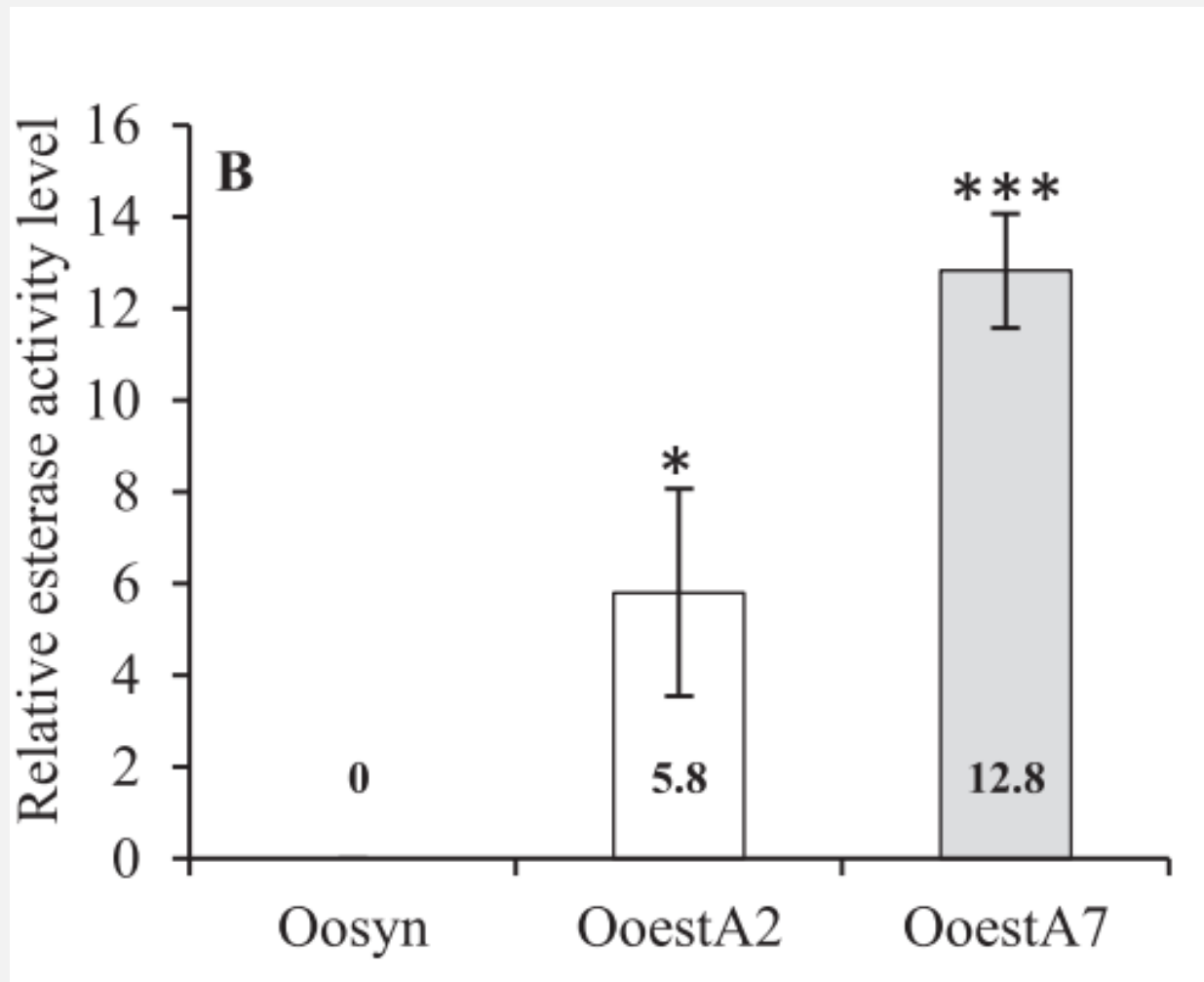
- To overcome the difficulties of manipulation of the genome of *O. oeni* due to the lack of genetic tools for gene replacement.
- To overexpress gene *in vivo*
- To modulate gene expression in *O. oeni* and understand their function *in vivo*.

ADVANCES IN MOLECULAR GENETICS

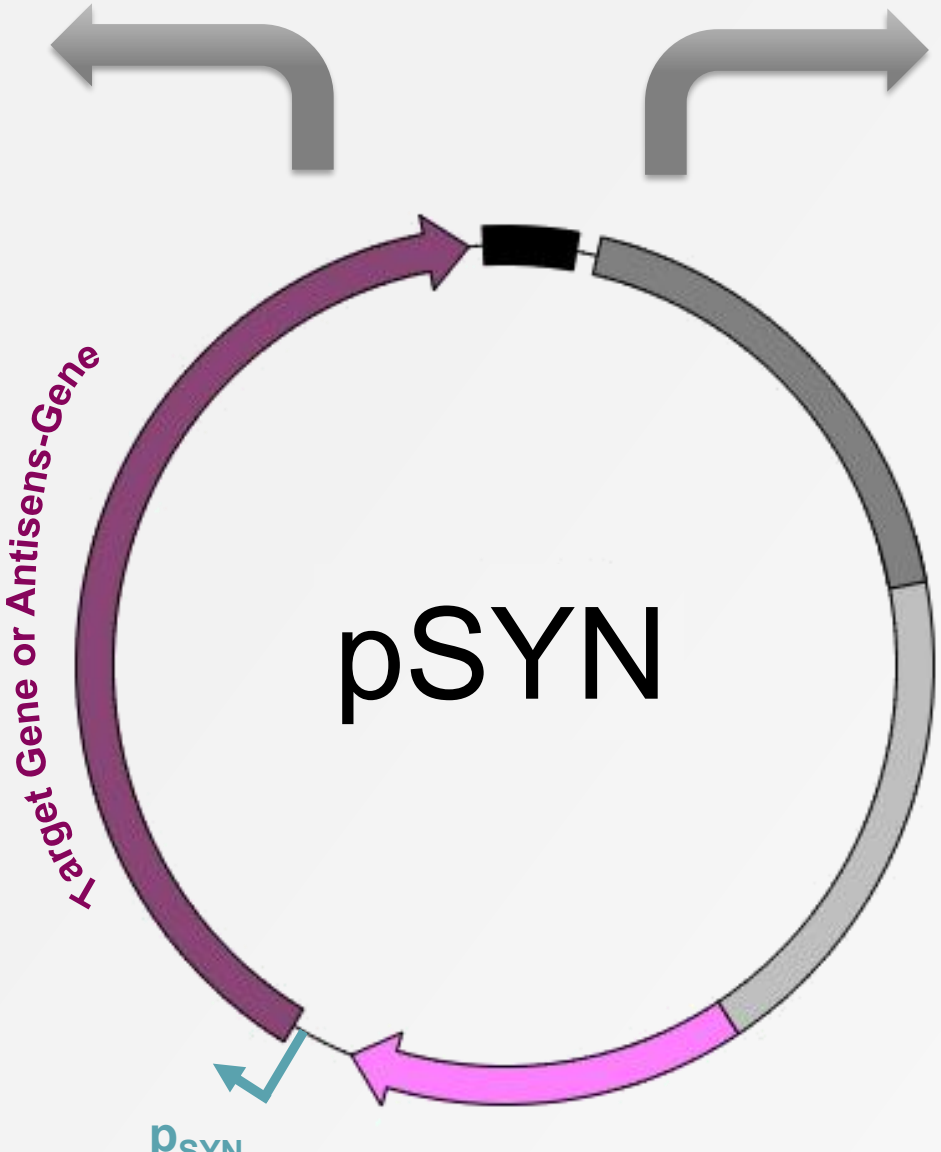


New shuttle vector to express genes of interest

1. Expression of esterase genes (estA2 and estA7) in O. oeni

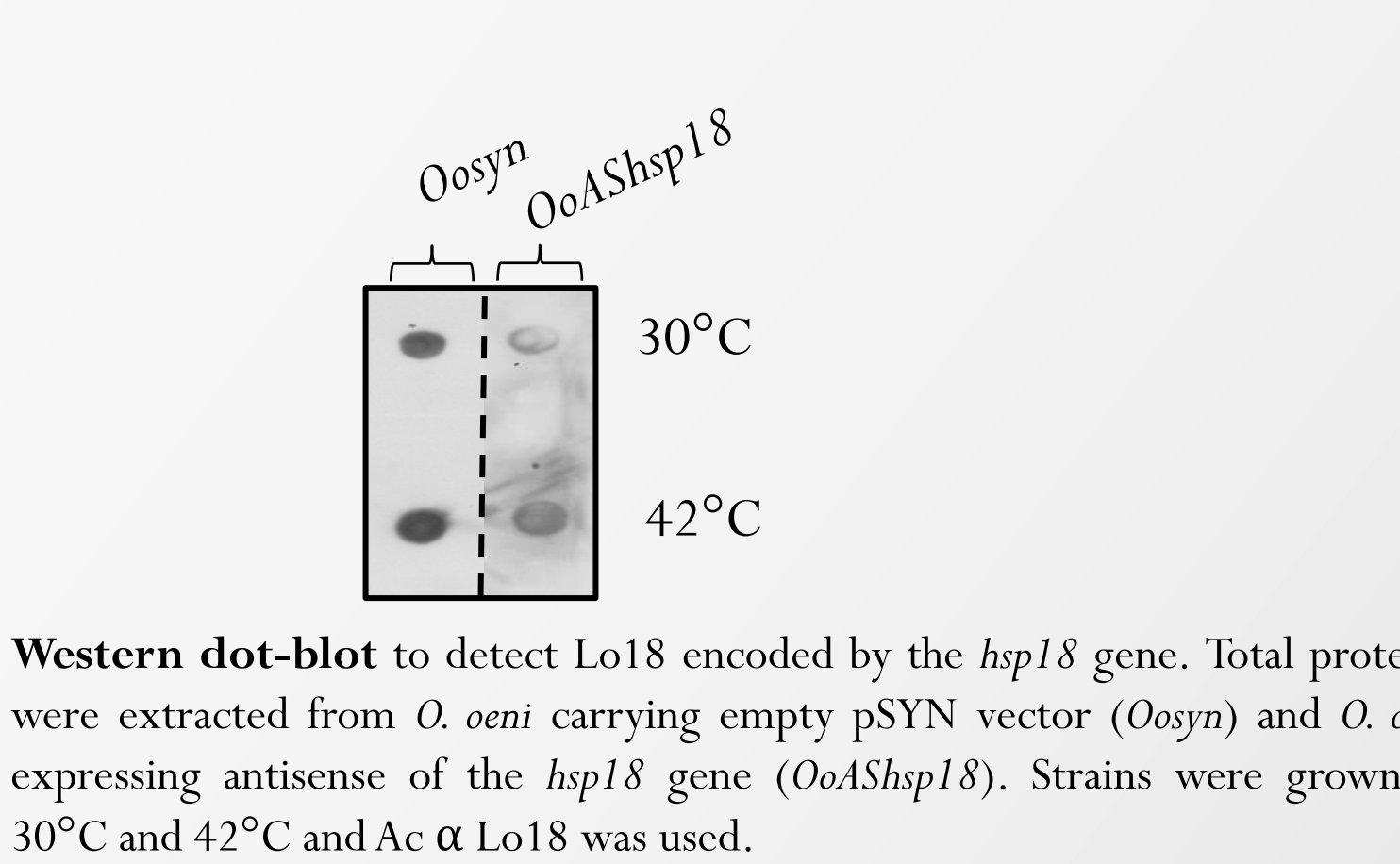
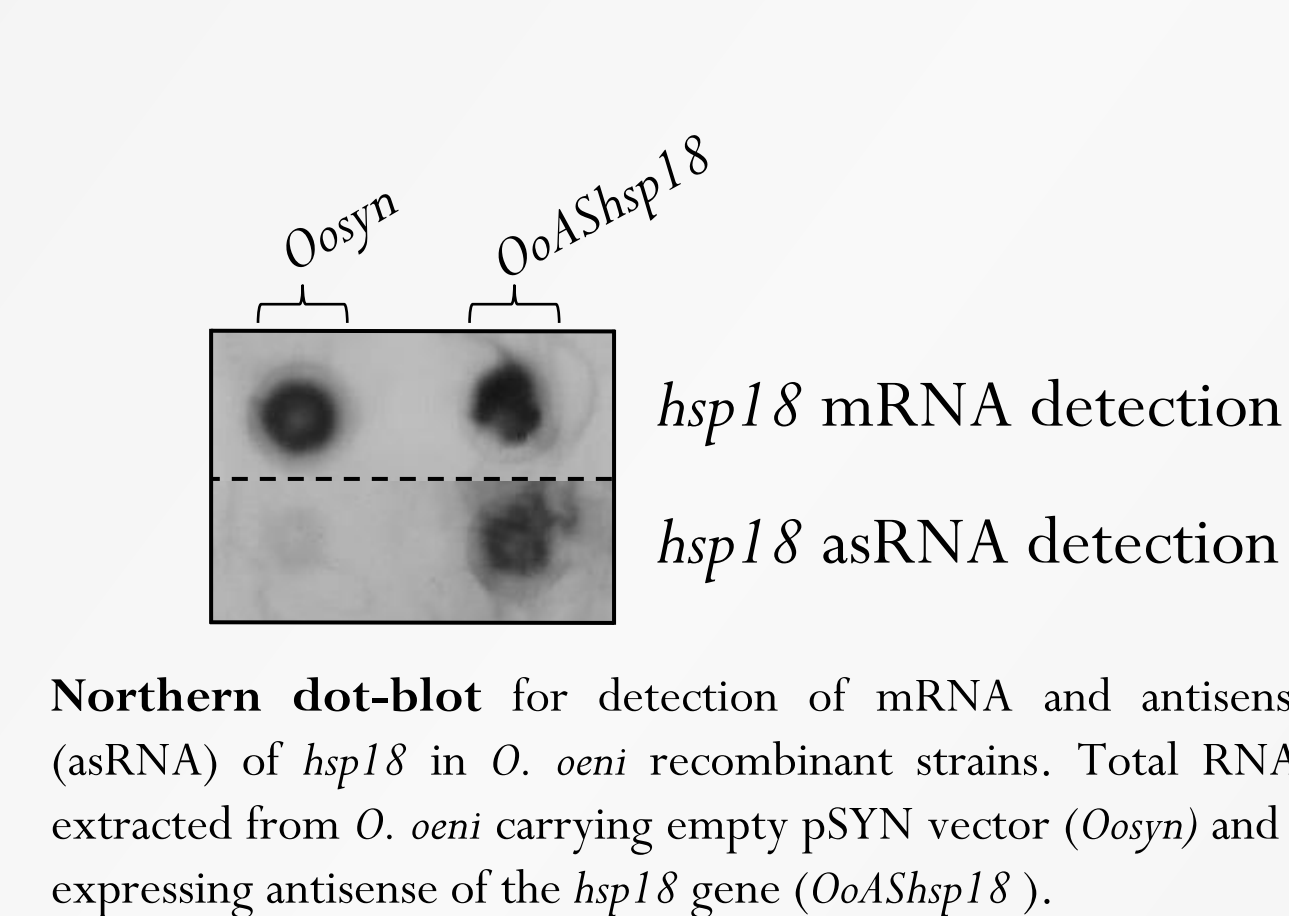


Relative esterase activity in *O. oeni* recombinant strains. The *O. oeni* ATCC BAA-1163 *estA2* and *estA7* genes were cloned under the control of the synthetic constitutive promoter (p_{SYN}) using the *E. coli*/LAB shuttle vector pSYN. Recombinant vectors were transferred into *O. oeni* ATCC BAA-1163 strains and recombinant strains OoestA2 and OoestA7 were grown in FT80m medium until exponential growth phase. Enzyme activity was determined with cellular extract using p-nitrophenol-butanate as synthetic substrate. Values are shown relative to the basal activity detected in strain carrying native pSYN plasmid (Oosyn), which was arbitrarily designated 0. Significant differences are based on unilateral and paired t tests. ***, p ≤ 0.0005; **, p ≤ 0.005; *, p ≤ 0.05.

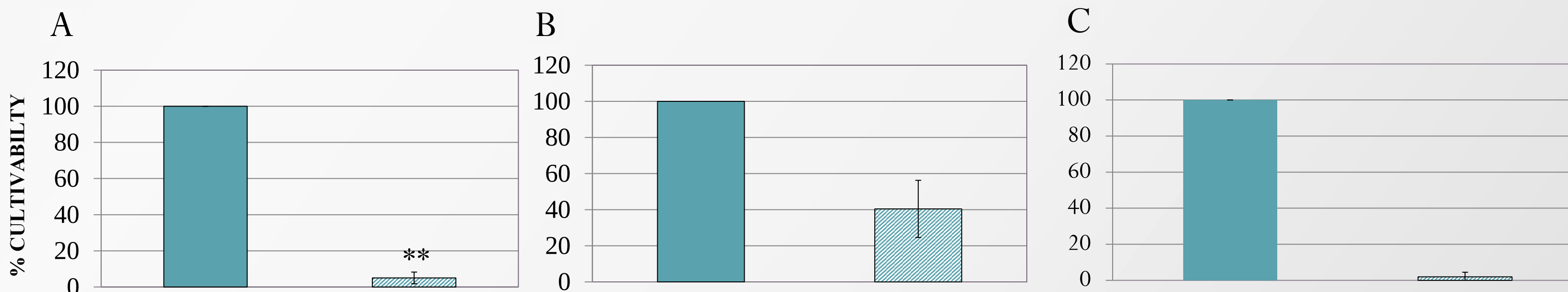


Antisense technology to interfere on gene expression

2. Antisens RNA expression in O. oeni and impact on Lo18 protein level



2. Effects of hsp18 asRNA expression on survival under stress conditions



Cultivability tests after heat shock (A), acid shock pH3.5 (B) or pH3 (C). Recombinant strains carrying pSYN plasmid (■) or carrying plasmid expressing *hsp18* asRNA (■) were grown at 30°C in FT80 medium until mid-exponential phase (OD_{600nm} = 0.8). Culture were incubated at 48°C (A) or cells were transferred into pH3.5 (B) or pH3 (C) FT80 medium and incubated at 30°C during 90 min. A numeration on agar plate was performed after decimal dilutions. Significant differences are based on a unilateral and paired T test. *** P<0,0005, ** P<0,005, * P<0,05.

Significant loss of cultivability after heat shock (95%) and acid shock (60% at pH3.5 & 98% at pH3)
Lo18 plays a key role in O. oeni stress response

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