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Nationality: Italian
Date of birth: 18/09/1994
Place of birth: Verona, Italy

Education:

- Ph.D. student in Animal and Food Science, Università di Padova (2021-)
- M.Sc. in Viticulture, Oenology and Marketing, Università di Udine (2019-2021)
- B.Sc. in Viticultural and Oenological Science and Technology, Università di Verona (2013-2017)

Research areas:

- Non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts
- Winemaking technology
- Industrial fermentations

Brief description of Ph.D project:

Microbiological approach to improving the sustainability of wine production and reducing the impact of climate change on wine quality.

The research project aims to develop knowledge on the potential use of *Starmerella bacillaris* as a biotechnological tool for sustainable winemaking. The topics investigated are related to the propensity to colonize grape berry, the antifungal activity, and the desirable oenological/technological traits of *S. bacillaris*. The possible use of this non-*saccharomyces* specie on grape berries as a biocontrol agent against *B. cinerea*, and bioprotectant against unwanted spoilage yeasts and bacteria, as the grapes undergo the vinification process, will be evaluated. Then, characterization and growth-optimization of *S.bacillaris* cells on industrial scale grade will be carried on, with the purpose of extracting and fractionating polysaccharide molecules of oenological interest. The performance of these products on wine technological qualities will be assessed.

Supervisor:

Viviana Corich

Publications: Google scholar link

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=C0mpcYMAAAAJ>

Research Gate link

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Zeno-Molinelli>