

WINE GRAPES

*A complete guide to 1,368
vine varieties, including
their origins and
flavours*

JANCIS ROBINSON
JULIA HARDING
JOSÉ VUILLAMOZ

On cabernet franc
page 156

Italy's 2000 survey found 7,085 ha (17,507 acres) of Cabernet Franc, although it is mainly concentrated in the far north east, where there has been considerable confusion between this variety and CARMENÈRE, so the total found in the 2010 vineyard survey may well be very different – not least because the market has seemed much more enthusiastic about MERLOT. As in the Loire, vines were for long allowed to yield too heavily, producing decidedly 'green' wines, but this is slowly improving. An exceptional champion of true and subtle Cabernet Franc in central Italy is Tenuta di Trinoro just south of Montepulciano.

On cesanese d'Affile
page 216

Andrea Franchetti, who experimented with the variety at Tenuta di Trinoro in southern Toscana but abandoned it there because it either failed to ripen or was too emphatically aromatic, grows some on Etna, Sicilia.