

Microbiota on cheese surface

Arias E., Haldemann J., Sartori C., Fehér N.

Agroscope, Liebefeld, Suisse; www.agroscope.ch

Diversity of fungi



Natural cheese cellar



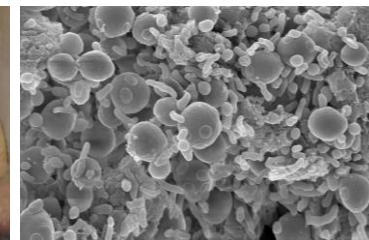
Humid cheese cellar



Cheese care



Diversity of bacteria

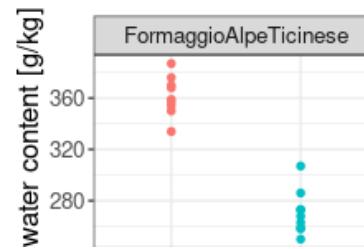


Dry cheese cellar



Filamentous fungi

- *Penicillium* spp.
- *Mucor* spp.
- undescribed spp.



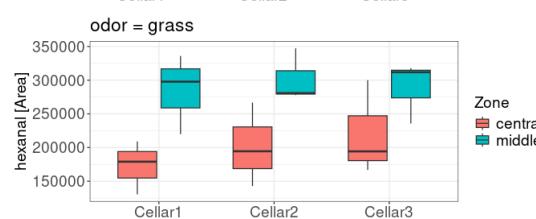
3 alpine cellars in Ticino



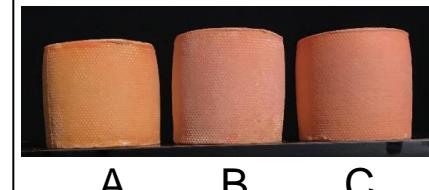
indication of lipolysis



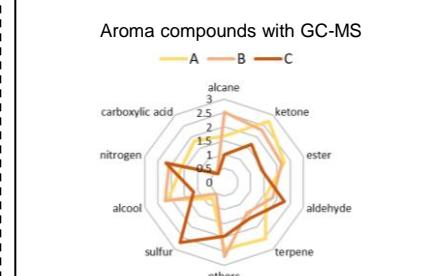
odor = grass



3 cellars in jura mountains

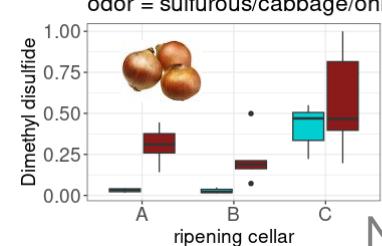


Aroma compounds with GC-MS



Brevibacterium aurantiacum, *Brevibacterium* spp., *Agrococcus casei*, *Leucobacter* sp. metabolise the amino acid methionine into methanethiol and ammoniac (NH₃) and further into...

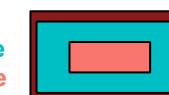
odor = sulfurous/cabbage/onion



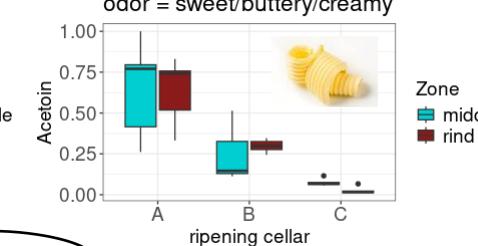
NH₃

Sampling scheme

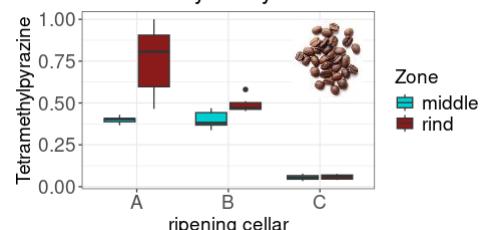
- rind
- middle zone
- central zone



odor = sweet/buttery/creamy



odor = nutty/musty/chocolate/coffee



Take home message

- The climate in the cellar and the care taken influence the microorganisms on the surface.
- These microorganisms influence the flavour of the cheeses



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