



## BCGrape

# An experimental platform for evaluating new biocontrol and biostimulation products for vines

France is gearing up to accelerate the construction and development of sustainable agricultural systems and equipment. For vines, developing bio-inputs involves a major R&D effort. To meet this demand and develop partnerships with businesses from the sector, Carnot Plant2Pro® Institute (INRAE and IFV) has created a unique platform.

Carnot Plant2Pro Institute

### Scientific / technological breakthrough

To provide support for businesses in the wine sector focused on the management of biotic stress (disease, insect pests, etc.) and/or abiotic stress (water stress, nitrogen stress, etc.) in grapevines, Carnot Plant2Pro® (INRAE and IFV) has harnessed all of its expertise and facilities to create an experimental platform – BC2GRAPE – dedicated to the evaluation of biocontrol and biostimulation products for grapevines. This attractive infrastructure provides a complete range of biocontrol solutions for dealing with airborne diseases (powdery mildew, downy mildew and botrytis).

It aims to accurately determine optimal conditions for candidate products.

The platform is organised around three complementary devices: i) a device for exploring lab mechanisms and conditions of effectiveness of products; ii) a device for controlling epidemics by artificial inoculation; and iii) a device that works under real production conditions.



### Competitive advantage for the economic stakeholders

The bio-input market is booming on the back of nationwide demand and it contains some very dynamic and innovative businesses. Thanks to the diversity of the biological mechanisms and processes involved, developing biocontrol and biostimulation strategies generates major R&D requirements. The BC2GRAPE platform is a unique and innovative application for people involved in the wine sector, providing possibilities for working with the resistant grape varieties currently being grown. The platform has obtained Good Experimental Practice (GEP) certification, enabling it to conduct trials for securing the accreditation of new molecules. Moreover, BC2GRAPE provides knowledge and expertise in the epidemiology of bio-aggressors, control over artificial contamination, characterisation of interactions between living beings and the vine, and techniques for characterising the physiological health of the plant.

