

1 **Factors influencing winegrowers' adoption of soil organic carbon**
2 **sequestration practices in France**

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16 ABSTRACT

17

18 The adoption of soil organic carbon sequestration (SCS) practices on agricultural land offers
19 the double advantage of offsetting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and improving soil
20 quality. However, little is known about the drivers that might influence winegrowers to adopt
21 these practices, whose uptake remains low on viticultural land. Better understanding these
22 drivers will be crucial to evaluating the efficacy of current policies in the viticulture sector in
23 promoting and incentivising soil organic carbon sequestration in vineyards. This paper
24 identified factors influencing the adoption of SCS practices by winegrowers in France. A
25 survey of 400 winegrowers investigated current rates of adoption and winegrowers'
26 perceptions of the practices. A binary logistic model suggested that winegrower's age, being
27 an independent winegrower, farm size, the number of workers hired, vine's age, being
28 certified High Environmental Value (HVE), being certified organic, practising irrigation,
29 receiving subsidies, and winegrower's perceived resources, attitude towards SCS practices
30 and confidence significantly influenced the decision to adopt the practices, though their
31 influence differed depending on the practice. The findings provide insights for GHG
32 mitigation planning targeting the viticulture sector.

33

34 **Keywords:** soil carbon sequestration; vineyards; farmer behaviour; farming practices;
35 adoption; logistic regression.

36 1. Introduction

37

38 Soil organic carbon sequestration (SCS) practices are management practices that aim to
39 sequester soil organic carbon (SOC) in agroecosystems to offset greenhouse gas emissions.
40 SCS practices can also increase soil quality; as a result, their implementation represents an
41 important strategy for both climate change mitigation and sustainable food production (Smith
42 et al., 2019; Sun et al., 2020). However, how much the mitigation potential of SCS practices
43 will have an impact at the farm, territorial and landscape levels depends largely on the
44 adoption of the practices by farmers. This is why it is important to further our understanding
45 of the factors influencing the adoption of these practices.

46

47 An extensive literature on farmer decision making regarding the adoption of agronomic
48 practices and innovations (*e.g.*, Garini et al., 2017; Barnes et al., 2019; Despotović et al.,
49 2019) shows that a diverse range of interacting social, economic and cultural factors
50 influence farmers' adoption decisions. Tradition, self-opinion and conflicts of interest are
51 important considerations in explaining why farmers and stakeholders of the agricultural
52 industry may not adopt measures, even in potential win-win scenarios (Moran et al., 2013).

53

54 Farmer behaviour with respect to adopting SCS practices on agricultural land has been
55 widely researched over the past decade (*e.g.*, Knowler and Bradshaw, 2007; Calatrava and
56 Franco, 2011; Ingram et al., 2014; Sánchez et al., 2016; Paul et al., 2017). These studies
57 showed that financial incentives play a major role in adoption decisions (Sánchez et al.,
58 2016), along with the cost associated with practice implementation and adequate information
59 about the practice (Paul et al., 2017). Low awareness of SCS practices and variations in how

60 well farmers and stakeholders understand the processes involved in SOC sequestration are
61 also reasons for non-adoption at the European level (Ingram et al., 2014).

62
63 Compared to arable land and grasslands, there are relatively few studies considering
64 viticultural land, where adoption rates of SCS practices are low. Garini et al. (2017) evaluated
65 winegrowers' motivations to adopt agro-ecological practices (such as drip irrigation, reduced
66 herbicide application, etc.) but did not focus specifically on SCS practices. Schütte and
67 Bergmann (2019) investigated the attitudes of French and Spanish winegrowers towards the
68 adoption of cover cropping, but their study was limited to a very specific area at the local
69 level in each country. Accordingly, there is limited information on the factors affecting the
70 adoption of SCS practices in vineyard agroecosystems. Yet, promoting the uptake of SCS
71 practices in vineyards is important, especially in countries with large viticultural areas (e.g.,
72 Spain, France, Italy, etc.), due to the substantial SOC sequestration potential of these
73 practices in viticultural soils (Payen et al., 2021a; Payen et al., 2021b). Understanding farmer
74 behaviours and practice adoption is arguably more complex in vineyard agroecosystems than
75 in other agricultural systems, due to the strong traditions and cultural know-how embodied in
76 the concept of *terroir*¹ in Europe. This implies that European winegrowers might face even
77 greater cognitive barriers in their perceived need to observe specific intergenerational
78 practices.

79
80 In the European Union (EU), agri-environment schemes have been introduced as a key tool
81 for the integration of environmental concerns into the Common Agricultural Policy

¹ A vitivincultural *terroir* refers to an area where a collective knowledge of the interactions between the biophysical environment and the applied vitivincultural practices has developed over time, giving distinctive characteristics to products originating from this area (OIV, 2010).

82 (European Commission, 2017). Agri-environment schemes provide financial support for the
83 Member States to implement agri-environment measures (AEMs). In France, as in many
84 other Member States of the EU, AEMs serve as the main policy instrument to instigate a
85 change towards more sustainable practices in the agriculture sector by providing payments to
86 farmers who undertake specific agricultural practices aiming at protecting the environment on
87 the farmland or reducing GHG emissions from agricultural activities (European Commission,
88 2017). However, research (*e.g.*, Hammes et al., 2016) showed that AEMs have not been as
89 effective as intended, which is illustrated by the insufficient participation of farmers in these
90 measures. Increasing our understanding of the drivers motivating farmers to adopt SCS
91 practices may provide valuable insight to assess the effectiveness of AEMs in incentivising
92 the uptake of SCS practices on viticultural land.

93

94 This study identifies the factors influencing the adoption of SCS practices by French
95 winegrowers. France, whose viticultural area is the third-largest worldwide, with 0.793 Mha
96 in 2018 (OIV, 2019), and includes different soil types, climates, grapevine varieties and
97 viticultural practices, was chosen as a case study. A survey covering all winegrowing regions
98 of France was administered online to determine the current use of SCS practices by
99 winegrowers and their perceptions of these practices. A binary logistic regression was used to
100 evaluate the influence of twenty predictors on the adoption of SCS practices. Findings from
101 this study could be used to draw more generalised recommendations to facilitate the adoption
102 of SCS practices in the viticulture sector, particularly in other countries with large viticultural
103 land.

104

105 The paper is structured as follows. The next section covers data collection and methods.

106 Section 3 provides results from the binary logistic regressions, organised per SCS practice

107 modelled. Section 4 discusses the significance (or absence of significance) of the different
108 factors tested in the study and establishes comparisons between SCS practices. Finally,
109 section 5 covers conclusions.

110

111

112 2. Materials and methods

113

114 2.1. Soil organic carbon sequestration practices

115

116 Six SCS practices were considered in this paper: the use of organic amendments (OA), the
117 use of biochar amendments (BC), incorporating pruning residues to the soil (PR), no-tillage
118 (NT), cover cropping (CC) and planting or maintaining hedges in the vineyard (HG). Existing
119 research and evidence proved that the implementation of these practices leads to SOC
120 sequestration on agricultural land (Sykes et al., 2020). Pellerin et al. (2017) and Pellerin et al.
121 (2019) analysed the SOC sequestration potential of these SCS practices (excluding BC) more
122 specifically in the context of French soils and showed that they could play a crucial role in
123 reaching the target of the ‘4 per 1000’ initiative² at low (*e.g.*, NT and HG) or even negative
124 (*e.g.*, OA and CC) costs at the national level.

² The ‘4 per 1000’ is an international initiative gathering public and private stakeholders under the Lima-Paris Action Plan framework. It aims to achieve an annual growth rate of 0.4% in the global SOC stocks (to a depth of 40 cm) for food security and climate (4p1000, 2018).

125

126 2.2. Study area: France

127

128 Vineyards are widely distributed throughout France (Fig. 1), covering a variety of agro-
129 ecological zones with notably different climates: Mediterranean in the southeast, continental
130 in the east, and temperate oceanic in the rest of the country. Viticultural practices differ
131 between winegrowing regions, each having its own, traditional methods of cultivation
132 (Agreste, 2017). This is due to the strong socio-cultural history associated with winemaking
133 in the country, embodied in the concept of *terroir*. Age-old viticultural management practices
134 at the regional or local levels have evolved across centuries and are crucial elements of
135 distinct regional *terroirs* (OIV, 2010).

136

137 The adoption rate of SCS practices on viticultural land is low at the national level in France,
138 except for PR (Fig. 2). Uptake varies, however, at the regional level, with specific
139 winegrowing regions displaying higher or lower adoption of certain practices. The use of OA,
140 for instance, is as low as 3% in Roussillon and 4% in Beaujolais but reaches 19% in
141 Champagne and 20% in Alsace (Agreste, 2017). The adoption of NT also varies between
142 winegrowing regions, ranging from 9% in Provence to 65% in Champagne (Agreste Primeur,
143 2016). There is no existing data on the adoption rates of BC and HG on viticultural land in
144 France.

145

146 2.3. Survey design

147

148 To understand the adoption of SCS practices by winegrowers, a survey was conducted
149 between April and September 2019. The survey data was collected using a structured

150 questionnaire developed after a literature review, expert consultations and a pilot study. The
151 final questionnaire was divided into five sections (Appendix A). The first section was
152 designed to collect data on winegrowers' socio-economic profiles (*e.g.*, age, education,
153 workforce hired, etc.). The second section enquired about vineyard structure and
154 characteristics (*e.g.*, vineyard size, vine's age, organic certification, etc.). The third section
155 collected information on winegrowers' incentives for adopting new viticultural practices,
156 such as subsidy or participation in AEMs. Section four addressed the adoption or otherwise
157 of SCS practices. The last section asked winegrowers to evaluate various statements to reveal
158 their beliefs and attitudes towards SCS practices.

159

160 The survey targeted farm managers (*chefs d'exploitation*) and co-managers (*co-exploitants*)
161 who cultivate grapes. It only considered vineyards categorised as "viticultural farms", *i.e.*
162 when grape production represents more than two-thirds of the revenues of the farm (Legouy,
163 2014). The survey was administered online via SurveyMonkey, using a simple random
164 sampling method. A total of 1,380 winegrowers were contacted by email using viticultural
165 databases, wine shops and personal contacts. The French Institute of Vine and Wine, the
166 French Confederation of GPI Wines (*Confédération des vins IGP de France*) and several
167 regional inter-professional councils of wine (*e.g.*, the *Bureau interprofessionnel des vins de*
168 *Bourgogne* and the *Conseil interprofessionnel du vin de Bordeaux*) were contacted and
169 agreed to circulate the questionnaire through their networks or to publish the link to the
170 questionnaire on their website and newsletter. A total of 400 fully completed responses were
171 collected across France, giving a return rate of 29%. The sample size margin of error was
172 determined by the methods of Iarossi (2006). Responses were anonymous and handled in
173 accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation.

174

2.4. Principal component analysis

Statements included in the questionnaire assessed winegrowers' attitude towards SCS practices both from an economic and environmental point of view, their perception of the resources needed to implement the practices, and their confidence towards adoption. Respondents were asked to choose the extent to which they agreed with the statements using a five-point Likert scale, from strongly disagree (-2) to strongly agree (2). A principal component analysis (PCA) was used to condense the information contained in the statements. PCA is a data reduction technique that converts a given number of correlated variables into a smaller number of uncorrelated components, with a minimum loss in information (Jolliffe, 2002). The components created, or principal components, account for most of the variation in the responses.

Before conducting the PCA, the suitability of the statements for this type of analysis was checked using the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) test and Bartlett's test of sphericity. The KMO test, which provides a measure of the adequacy of the data for PCA, yielded a value of 0.74, which was considered acceptable (*i.e.* > 0.6). Bartlett's test of sphericity was used to assess whether the correlation matrix of the statement variables was different from an identity matrix. The test was statistically significant ($p = .000$), which means that the correlation matrix of the statements was significantly different from an identity matrix, which is consistent with the assumption that the correlation matrix should be treated as factorable.

The PCA was conducted using an eigenvalue higher than one to extract components. The varimax rotation was employed to simplify component interpretation. A total of three components were kept (Table 1). The value of 0.4 was chosen as a loading threshold for

200 retaining statements in components. A total of ten statements loaded onto the components
201 (Table 1). Once the PCA was completed, a Cronbach's Alpha was carried out for each
202 component to assess internal consistency and reliability. Values higher than 0.6 are
203 commonly considered acceptable for this test; the three components were, therefore, retained
204 as explanatory variables for the rest of the analysis (Table 1).

205

206 The first component, 'resources', consisted of statements reflecting the adequacy of the
207 respondents' current resources to implement SCS practices. These related mostly to time
208 (*e.g.*, "I have enough time to implement SCS practices") and tools (*e.g.*, "My current tools
209 and technologies are sufficient to implement SCS practices"). The second component,
210 'attitude', measured the respondents' beliefs towards SCS practices. Statements with the
211 highest loadings towards this component included "SCS practices increase viticultural
212 productivity" and "SCS practices enhance soil quality". The final component, 'confidence',
213 assessed the respondents' confidence in the implementation of SCS practices, with statements
214 such as "I have a clear understanding of how to implement SCS practices" and "I trust my
215 skills to implement SCS practices".

216

217 2.5. Explanatory variables

218

219 Table 2 presents the explanatory variables used in the qualitative choice modelling. Three
220 types of variables were chosen to explain the adoption of SCS practices, based on the
221 literature about the adoption of new practices in the agriculture sector, and interviews with
222 experts from the French Institute of Vine and Wine as well as members of regional Chambers
223 of Agriculture. The first category of variables related to winegrowers' socio-economic
224 characteristics, such as gender, age, education (general or viticultural) and landownership,

225 and vineyard attributes, including farm size, workforce hired, certification labels – High
226 Environmental Value³ (HVE) and organic agriculture (European label ‘AB’) – and irrigation
227 use. Age is commonly used in studies investigating farmers’ adoption of new practices, as
228 older farmers are prone to being more conservative towards the adoption of alternative farm
229 practices (Prokopy et al., 2008). Farm size is also considered to be an important factor in the
230 adoption of new practices, since smaller farms cannot benefit from the same cost advantages
231 as larger farms when implementing management practices (Knowler and Bradshaw, 2007;
232 Tambo and Abdoulaye, 2012). The second category of variables concerned respondents’
233 access to information and involvement in policy instruments. These types of variables have
234 proved to be crucial in the adoption of innovative measures and their diffusion (Luo et al.,
235 2014). A policy variable (AECM) was created to assess the participation of respondents in
236 AEMs. Some AEMs in France set up specifically for viticultural land (*e.g.*, COUVER_11,
237 which provides financial support to winegrowers for the implementation of cover cropping in
238 the inter-rows of vineyards) are likely to influence the adoption of SCS practices. The third
239 category of variables was linked to specific aspects of viticultural production systems, such as
240 the date when the majority of vines was planted, and whether the respondent is an
241 independent winegrower⁴. The three components ‘resources’, ‘attitude’ and ‘confidence’
242 resulting from the PCA were also used as explanatory variables in the modelling.

243

³ The High Environmental Value (*Haute Valeur Environnementale* in French) label is a French certification awarded to farmers using sustainable and environmental-friendly practices on their farms (IFV, 2019).

⁴ An independent winegrower is a winegrower who grows grapevine, harvests grapes, makes wine and directly sells it (Vignerons indépendants de France, 2020).

2.6. Qualitative choice model

The interest of this paper was in modelling the binary choice of SCS practice adoption (1 = adoption of the practice, 0 = non-adoption of the practice). A binary logistic regression was used for each of the six SCS practices to assess the contribution of the explanatory variables to the adoption process of the practice without considering the adoption of the other practices. This type of econometric model is commonly used to assess the factors influencing the adoption of agricultural practices by farmers (e.g., Tey et al., 2014; Timprasert et al., 2014; Paul et al., 2017; Daxini et al., 2018). In the logit model (Equation (1)), P_i corresponds to the probability of adoption of a SCS practice, $(1 - P_i)$ to the probability of non-adoption of the practice, α to the intercept, and $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_{20}$ to the regression coefficients of variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{20} , respectively. i refers to the values of respondent i .

$$\ln \frac{P_i}{(1-P_i)} = \alpha + \beta_1 X_{1i} + \beta_2 X_{2i} + \dots + \beta_{20} X_{20i} \quad (1)$$

The parameters in the logit model were estimated using the maximum likelihood method. The sign of the β coefficients represents how the variables influence the likelihood of adoption of SCS practices: if β is positive, when the value of the associated variable increases, the likelihood of adoption of the SCS practice increases as well, and vice versa.

The model was run with all the explanatory variables presented in Table 2; however, some variables (e.g., gender or education) were not significant predictors of adoption for any of the SCS practices. A likelihood-ratio test was carried out to see whether the goodness of fit of the model was altered when removing these variables. The test was significant, which implies

268 that permuting these variables significantly alters the model fit. All the explanatory variables
269 were, therefore, integrated into the model.

270

271

272 3. Results

273

274 3.1. Descriptive statistics

275

276 The overall sample size of French winegrowers was 400. Considering that the population size
277 of viticultural farms was 85,000 in 2019 (CNIV, 2019), the sample size margin of error was
278 4.89% with a confidence level of 95% (Iarossi, 2006). Margins of error lower than 5% are
279 considered acceptable for samples with a majority of categorical data (Barlett et al., 2001).

280 Sample summary data for all the variables used in the regressions are presented in Table 2.

281 The mean age of respondents was 50 years. The majority of respondents had a higher
282 education degree (78%), while 20% stopped after secondary education, and only a small
283 percentage of respondents did not have secondary education (2%). Most respondents also had
284 a viticultural degree (74%). 12% of the viticultural farms in the sample were less than 5 ha,
285 37% between 5 and 15 ha, 26% between 15 and 30 ha, 12% between 30 and 50 ha, and 13%
286 higher than 50 ha. Most vines were planted between 1970 and 1989 (35.25%) and between
287 1990 and 1999 (29.75%). Fewer were planted between 2000 and 2010 (19.75%). A few were
288 planted between 1950 and 1969 (8.5%) and between 2011 and 2020 (4.5%). The sample
289 included a small number of vines planted before 1950 (2.25%). 33% of viticultural farms
290 were certified organic and 17% were certified HVE. 16% of the respondents were involved in
291 an AEM. Awareness of the '4 per 1000' initiative was, overall, very low, with only 7% of the
292 respondents stating that they were familiar with the initiative.

293

294 3.2. Adoption of soil organic carbon sequestration practices in the sample

295

296 The adoption rate varied considerably between practices. PR was the most commonly
297 adopted practice, with 91% of respondents incorporating pruning residues into the soil of
298 their vineyard. The adoption of OA and CC was lower (73% and 69%, respectively). NT and
299 HG were adopted by about half the respondents (50% and 52%, respectively). The adoption
300 of BC was exceptionally low, with only 2% of the respondents stating that they use biochar
301 amendments. Most respondents were not familiar with BC.

302

303 There were also variations in the adoption rate of SCS practices at the regional level. For
304 instance, in Languedoc-Roussillon, the adoption rate of CC (57%) was lower than at the
305 national level (69%). This may be due to the high competition for water and nutrients
306 between the vine and the cover crop during the growing period of the vine in this region,
307 which is characterised by dry summers and soils that are low in humus. Inversely, CC was
308 used by 88% of respondents in Alsace-Lorraine, which is more than at the national level and
309 substantially more than in Languedoc-Roussillon. This higher adoption rate in Alsace-
310 Lorraine can be explained by the lower competition between vines and cover crops in the
311 vineyard during the important stages of the vine cycle compared to Languedoc-Roussillon.

312

313 3.3. Factors influencing the adoption of soil organic carbon sequestration practices

314

315 The significance of the model fit was assessed for each practice using model chi-square. The
316 chi-square values were significant at the 0.1% level for OA, PR, NT and HG and at the 5%
317 level for CC, which indicates that the model fit for these practices is significantly better than

318 a null model (*i.e.* without any predictors). However, the chi-square was not significant ($p =$
319 $.430$) for the adoption of BC; BC was, therefore, excluded from the analysis. The goodness of
320 the model fit was assessed for each practice using the Nagelkerke R^2 and the level of
321 accuracy (*i.e.* the percentage of respondents classified correctly between adopters and non-
322 adopters by the model). The Nagelkerke R^2 was 0.23 for OA, 0.25 for PR, 0.22 for NT, 0.13
323 for CC and 0.20 for HG. These were reasonable values for this type of regression and study
324 (Barnes et al., 2019), though the explanatory power was lower for CC than for the other
325 practices. The level of accuracy (75% for OA, 91% for PR, 65% for NT, 70% for CC and
326 66% for HG) was considered acceptable for all the practices. Collinearity between the
327 predictors was controlled by calculating the variance inflation factor (VIF). The VIFs were
328 between 1.05-1.71 for all the variables, which suggests low multicollinearity in this study
329 (James et al., 2017).

330

331 3.3.1. Organic amendments

332 Only four explanatory variables significantly influenced the decision to adopt OA, holding
333 the other variables constant: independent winegrower, vine planting, AB and irrigation (Table
334 3). The effect of independent winegrower and AB was positive, while that of vine planting
335 and irrigation was negative. The variables AB and independent winegrower exerted the
336 strongest impact on the adoption process of OA, with an odds ratio of 3.02 and 2.52,
337 respectively.

338

339 3.3.2. Pruning residues

340 Age, farm size, workforce hired and HVE had a significant impact on the decision to adopt
341 PR (Table 4). The effect of farm size and HVE was positive, while that of age and workforce
342 hired was negative. HVE was, by far, the predictor with the highest impact on the decision to

343 adopt PR: respondents whose vineyard is certified HVE are extremely more likely, by a
344 factor of 7.29, to adopt PR than respondents whose vineyard is not certified HVE.

345

346 3.3.3. No-tillage

347 The decision to adopt NT was influenced significantly and in a positive way by resources,
348 attitude and confidence but negatively by workforce hired, AB and irrigation (Table 5).

349 Irrigation was the predictor with the greatest effect on the decision to adopt NT: respondents
350 practising irrigation in their vineyard are notably less likely, by a factor of 0.31, to adopt NT
351 than respondents not practising irrigation.

352

353 3.3.4. Cover cropping

354 Farm size, vine planting, resources and confidence were the key predictors affecting the
355 decision to adopt CC, while the other variables were not significant (Table 6). The effect of
356 vine planting, resources and confidence on the decision to adopt CC was positive, whereas
357 that of farm size was negative. The variable with the strongest effect on the decision to adopt
358 CC was resources, with an odds ratio of 1.6.

359

360 3.3.5. Hedges

361 The decision to adopt HG was positively influenced by the predictors vine planting, HVE,
362 AB, resources and confidence, and negatively influenced by the variable subsidy (Table 7).

363 HVE had a particularly powerful effect on the decision to adopt HG compared to the other
364 five variables: respondents whose viticultural farm is certified HVE are considerably more
365 likely (by a factor of 4.38) to adopt HG than respondents whose farm is not certified HVE.

366

367

368 4. Discussion

369

370 4.1. Influence of the predictors on the decision to adopt soil organic carbon sequestration
371 practices

372

373 Twelve predictors out of twenty had a significant effect on the decision to adopt at least one
374 SCS practice: age, independent winegrower, farm size, workforce hired, vine planting, HVE,
375 AB, irrigation, subsidy, resources, attitude and confidence (Table 8). However, there were
376 variations in the significance of the explanatory variables between SCS practices.

377

378 Age had a significant, negative effect only on the decision to adopt PR. This confirms the
379 results of previous studies analysing the role of farmer age in the adoption process of new
380 practices (*e.g.*, Lambert et al., 2015; Sánchez et al., 2016; Paul et al., 2017). Several reasons
381 explain why younger farmers are, in general, more likely to adopt management practices than
382 older farmers. Younger farmers have a longer planning horizon than older farmers, which
383 makes them more inclined to adopt new management practices, especially if they maintain or
384 increase production on the farm (Knowler and Bradshaw, 2007). Younger farmers are also
385 more exposed to information about new practices and are, therefore, more knowledgeable
386 about innovations (Barnes et al., 2019). They are also more willing to face learning curves
387 (Roberts et al., 2004). Long et al. (2016) observed in several European countries (the
388 Netherlands, France, Switzerland and Italy) that older farmers may be reluctant to change
389 traditional agricultural practices, even if new practices are tried and tested. The difficulty in
390 overcoming traditions makes it harder to incentivise training in new agricultural practices
391 among older farmers.

392

393 Farm size had a significant effect on the decision to adopt PR and CC but was not significant
394 for the other SCS practices; however, the effect of the variable was positive for PR but
395 negative for CC, which means that winegrowers with larger vineyards are more likely to
396 adopt PR but less likely to implement CC than winegrowers with smaller vineyards.

397 Literature on the influence of farm size on the adoption of new management practices by
398 farmers reports mixed effects of the variable. Lambert et al. (2015) and Barnes et al. (2019)
399 both found that farmers with larger farms are more likely to be adopters of precision
400 agriculture technologies. Goldberger and Lehrer (2016) also found that walnut growers with
401 larger orchard farms were more likely to adopt biological control practices in the western
402 USA, and Prager and Posthumus (2010) observed greater uptake of soil conservation
403 practices in larger farms in Europe. This positive influence can be explained by the fact that,
404 in larger farms, the costs of adopting a new practice are spread over more hectares (Lambert
405 et al., 2015) and that when more land is being cultivated, farmers become less vulnerable to
406 failure from the new practice (Mariano et al., 2012). Conversely, Despotović et al. (2019)
407 showed that with increasing farm size, farmers become less willing to adopt integrated pest
408 management practices, because they are less ready to take a risk by reducing pesticide use.
409 This suggests that the effect of farm size on the adoption of new management practices is
410 context-specific, and this applies to the adoption of SCS practices by French winegrowers.

411

412 The size of the workforce hired had a significant, negative effect on the decision to adopt PR
413 and NT (but had no significant effect on the decision to adopt other SCS practices). This
414 finding is consistent with that of Tey et al. (2014), who noticed that the number of hired
415 workers was one of the most important factors in the adoption of conservation tillage and
416 crop rotation in Malaysia and that its effect was negative. It could be explained in the case of
417 French viticulture by the important costs associated with hiring workforce on a full-time

418 basis, which could reduce winegrowers' willingness to adopt PR and NT, due to the capital
419 investment in new equipment necessary for both practices (Posthumus et al., 2015; Garcia et
420 al., 2018). Conversely, as soil tillage requires more qualified workers, such as tractor drivers,
421 than NT (especially when NT takes the form of chemical weeding), viticultural farms with a
422 high number of workers are more likely associated with the use of tillage than of NT. This
423 goes against the results of other studies, which found a positive effect of hired (Barnes et al.,
424 2019) or family (Paul et al., 2017) labour on the adoption of new management practices. The
425 positive effect of family workforce observed by Paul et al. (2017) is, however, due to the fact
426 that an increased number of family members working on the farm leads to a reduction in
427 labour intensity, particularly in smaller farms where labour is more often manual than on
428 larger farms, but at lower costs than when labour is hired outside of the household.

429

430 Being an independent winegrower had a significant effect on the decision to adopt OA but
431 not any other SCS practice. This effect was positive, probably because independent
432 winegrowers often have more capital and equipment than other winegrowers and would have
433 a higher capability to adopt OA. The year of vine planting also significantly influenced the
434 decision to adopt OA, CC and HG. The effect of the variable was negative for OA but
435 positive for CC and HG.

436

437 Being certified HVE had a strong, positive effect on the decision to adopt PR and HG (by a
438 factor of 7.29 and 4.39, respectively). This is coherent with the restrictions of the label, which
439 require the use of practices that limit as much as possible inputs coming from outside the
440 agricultural system and that help to increase biodiversity on the farm (IFV, 2019).

441

442 Being certified AB had a significant influence on the decision to adopt OA, NT and HG;
443 however, this effect was positive in the case of OA and HG but negative for NT. The strong
444 positive effect (by a factor of 3.02) obtained for the adoption of OA was anticipated, since
445 organic agriculture forbids the use of synthetic fertilisers, which are replaced by organic
446 amendments (Council of the European Union, 2007). Under organic viticulture, winegrowers
447 use OA to increase soil properties and quality and to ensure that grape yields are sufficient.
448 However, organic fertilisers are used cautiously on viticultural land (often according to soil
449 testing), as too much vine vigour could lead to a decrease in grape quality for winemaking.
450 The positive effect of AB on the adoption of HG could be explained by the important role
451 hedges play in agroecosystems under organic farming, mainly by providing shelter for
452 beneficial organisms, which act as pest control in lieu of pesticides, and by improving soil
453 quality and water infiltration (Holden et al., 2019). The negative effect of AB on NT can also
454 be explained by the fact that, under organic certification (Council of the European Union,
455 2007), winegrowers cannot use herbicides treatments to control weed growth in vineyards; a
456 majority uses tillage instead to ensure that weed does not compete too much with the vine.
457
458 The use of irrigation by winegrowers had a negative impact on the decision to adopt OA and
459 NT. This could be due to the lower evapotranspiration associated with the use of NT, which
460 may reduce the need for irrigation. It is also related to the bio-climatic conditions of the
461 winegrowing regions where irrigation is used. Irrigation in viticulture is mostly practised in
462 the southeast of France, where precipitations are low. Tillage is commonly used under such
463 conditions as a way to mitigate the water and nitrogen competition between weed and vine.
464 The negative effect of irrigation on the adoption of OA is surprising, however, as irrigation is
465 often used on viticultural soils with low OM content, where the use of organic amendments
466 could improve soil water retention and quality. It goes against the findings by Sánchez et al.

467 (2016), who noted a positive effect of irrigation on the adoption of intercropping practices in
468 Spain.

469

470 Receiving subsidies was, surprisingly, only significant in the decision to adopt HG and in a
471 negative way. Previous studies observed, inversely, a positive effect of subsidies on the
472 adoption of new management practices such as CC and intercropping (Sánchez et al., 2016)
473 or precision agriculture technologies (Barnes et al., 2019). The negative effect of subsidies on
474 the adoption of HG in viticulture might be due to the specific nature of subsidies that
475 respondents were asked about: set up in the context of the vitivinicultural common market
476 organisation and developed by FranceAgriMer⁵, these subsidies aim at incentivising vineyard
477 restructuration that would improve productivity, mainly by modifying vine row density,
478 training the vine or implementing irrigation practices (FranceAgriMer, 2020), but they do not
479 target non-productive investments such as hedgerows. Other types of financial incentives
480 targeting more specifically the implementation or maintenance of hedgerows exist at the
481 regional or *département* level, but respondents were not asked about them in the survey.

482

483 The variable resources had a significant and positive effect on the decision to adopt NT, CC
484 and HG, which means that winegrowers who believe that they have the necessary resources
485 (*i.e.* time and appropriate equipment) to adopt SCS practices are more likely to adopt NT, CC
486 and HG than winegrowers who do not. This is in line with previous studies that analysed the
487 effect of this variable on the adoption process of new agricultural practices (*e.g.*, Tey et al.,

⁵ FranceAgriMer is a French agricultural agency whose aim is to implement the measures set up by the Common Agricultural Policy at the national level and to undertake actions to support the agriculture sector. It receives a fund of €280 million every year to support vineyard restructuration and conversion, investments in vitivinicultural businesses, wine promotion abroad, and the distillation of wine by-products (FranceAgriMer, 2020).

488 2014; Daxini et al., 2018; Barnes et al., 2019). These studies concluded that farmers who
489 believed that their current machinery was able to support the new technology were more
490 likely to adopt it. This finding is relevant to the fact that the implementation of SCS practices
491 may require new tools and be time-consuming. Although the adoption of NT may reduce fuel
492 and time costs associated with tillage, it is likely to require capital investment in new
493 equipment (Posthumus et al., 2015) and to generate costs associated with weed control such
494 as herbicides (Maillard et al., 2018). These costs, however, vary depending on the planting
495 density of the vineyard: the costs of tillage are considerably higher than those of NT in
496 vineyards with a high planting density but tend to be similar to those of NT in vineyards with
497 a low planting density. The implementation of CC is associated with additional inputs and
498 time costs (Sykes et al., 2020). Planting hedges requires capital investment for appropriate
499 tools and increases time costs for maintenance (Lasco et al., 2014).

500

501 The variable attitude had a significant and positive effect on the decision to adopt NT, which
502 is in line with the strong positive relationship between attitude and behaviour found by
503 previous studies (*e.g.*, Wauters et al., 2010; van Dijk et al., 2016; Rezaei et al., 2018;
504 Despotović et al., 2019). The positive effect of attitude on the decision to adopt was to be
505 anticipated considering the important role attitude plays in behavioural modelling, and
506 particularly in the theory of planned behaviour: it is generally admitted that the more
507 favourable an attitude is towards a behaviour, the higher the possibility that an individual will
508 perform the behaviour (Ajzen, 1991). For this reason, it was quite surprising that
509 winegrowers' attitudes towards SCS practices did not have a significant effect on the
510 adoption of the other SCS practices. This might be because the statements used to create the
511 principal component 'attitude' considered SCS practices as a whole, but respondents may
512 have answered with specific SCS practices in mind.

513

514 The variable confidence influenced significantly and positively the decision to adopt NT, CC
515 and HG, suggesting that farmers who are confident in their capability to adopt SCS practices
516 are more likely to adopt these practices. This is in line with the findings of Daxini et al.
517 (2018) and Despotović et al. (2019), who noted a positive effect of the variable on farmers'
518 intention to adopt specific management practices. It highlights the fact that if winegrowers do
519 not adopt NT, CC and HG, it is not necessarily because they lack the motivation to do so but
520 instead because they lack suitable levels of confidence in their understanding and skills to
521 take action (Wilson et al., 2018).

522

523 It was surprising that the variable viticultural advisor was not significant for any of the
524 practices. Most studies investigating the factors influencing the adoption of new agricultural
525 practices reported a positive effect of being in contact with an agricultural advisor on
526 adoption (*e.g.*, Ingram, 2008; Baumgart-Getz et al., 2012; Daxini et al., 2018; Barnes et al.,
527 2019). Such a positive effect can be explained by the important support role of advisors, who
528 provide knowledge and technical expertise, which encourages adoption (Busse et al., 2014).
529 The effectiveness of this support role depends, however, on the advisors' knowledge and
530 understanding of management practices, which, in the case of SCS practices, tends to be low
531 at the European level (Ingram et al., 2014). SOC sequestration is not currently an objective in
532 viticulture, which may explain why the variable viticultural advisor was not significant in this
533 study. Nevertheless, SCS practices are in agreement with what is generally advised by
534 viticultural advisors (*e.g.*, in the context of agroecology).

535

4.2. Uncertainty and further research

A sampling error was detected, which implies that the sample used in this study was not representative of the entire population of French winegrowers. Firstly, the adoption rate of some SCS practices in the sample was higher than at the national level as established by the latest national survey undertaken by the French Government (Agreste, 2017). The adoption rate of PR in the sample (91%) was similar to that estimated at the national level (87%), but this was not the case for the adoption rate of OA (73%), NT (50%) and CC (69%), which were considerably higher than at the national level (9%, 21% and 45%, respectively). This suggests that there is an overrepresentation of winegrowers who have adopted SCS practices in the sample, which may be because these winegrowers might have higher concerns about soil quality and climate change and would, therefore, be more inclined to answer the questionnaire. This overrepresentation may have skewed some of the results of the logistic regressions, since adopters of SCS practices are more likely, on average, to have positive attitudes towards the practices than non-adopters. However, it is important to notice that the data reported by Agreste (2017) is expressed in percentage of viticultural land where a practice has been implemented and not in percentage of winegrowers who have implemented the practice, which may also explain some of the differences observed between our sample and the national survey. Secondly, winegrowers whose viticultural farm is certified organic were overrepresented in this study: they represented 33% of the sample, while only 8% of the total viticulture at the national level is conducted under organic farming (Agreste, 2017). This could explain, for instance, the higher adoption rate of OA in the sample, since the use of organic amendments is encouraged under organic agriculture as an alternative to synthetic fertilisers.

561 The adoption intensity in the sample averaged 3.3 practices, ranging from 0 (n = 1) to 6 (n =
562 1) practices adopted by a single respondent. Most respondents to the questionnaire
563 implemented three or four practices (31% and 30%, respectively). 17% of respondents
564 implemented two practices and 16% implemented five practices. Only 5% of the respondents
565 implemented one practice, overall. This shows that winegrowers do not adopt just one SCS
566 practice but, conversely, several at the vineyard level. The adoption intensity was not taken
567 into account in this study; however, there is room for further research to investigate the
568 factors influencing the adoption intensity of SCS practices and whether having already
569 adopted one or several SCS practices incentivises winegrowers to implement more on their
570 viticultural farm. This would be of great importance to better understand the role viticultural
571 land could play in sequestering SOC, since the adoption of several SCS practices at the
572 vineyard level (*e.g.*, OA+NT) is associated with higher SOC sequestration rates than the
573 adoption of a single SCS practice (*e.g.*, only OA or only NT), based on field experiments
574 (Payen et al., 2021a). Questions regarding the adoption intensity of SCS practices in French
575 vineyards could be added to the surveys on viticultural practices conducted by Agreste at the
576 national level, which rely on sample groups representative of each winegrowing region of
577 France.

578

579

580 5. Conclusions

581

582 This paper aimed to investigate the different factors influencing the adoption process of SCS
583 practices by winegrowers in France. Results showed that socio-economic and behavioural
584 characteristics were important factors in the decision to adopt SCS practices. Specific aspects
585 of viticultural production (*e.g.*, vine age or being an independent winegrower) were also

586 significant drivers of the decision to adopt the practices. The use of a binary logistic model
587 proved to be adequate to evaluate the impact of the different variables tested in the study,
588 except in the case of BC, whose adoption rate in the sample was too low for the model to be
589 significant. These results add to the existing literature relating to farmers' decision-making
590 behaviour and adoption of new agricultural practices. They also address a gap in the
591 literature, as vineyard agroecosystems have not been considered for analysis by any study
592 dealing with the adoption process of SCS practices.

593

594 Findings from this study could help to improve policy targeted at the viticulture sector in
595 France and potentially in the EU. The current subsidies received by French winegrowers do
596 not incentivise effectively the adoption of agricultural practices with SOC sequestration
597 elements, since subsidies did not play any significant role in the adoption of OA, PR, NT and
598 CC in this paper. The same could be said of AEMs: even though a relatively large number of
599 winegrowers from the sample were involved in a measure directly incentivising the adoption
600 of a SCS practice (mostly OA, CC and HG), being involved in an AEM did not have any
601 significant effect on the adoption of these practices. This suggests that many winegrowers
602 who implement SCS practices are not necessarily involved in the corresponding AEM, which
603 represents a potential loss of earnings for these winegrowers. Further research would seek to
604 understand the reasons behind this, and whether it is because payments are not high enough
605 or winegrowers are not sufficiently aware of AEMs. Overall, results from this paper provide
606 insights into the decision-making behaviour of winegrowers, which could be useful in the
607 context of the '4 per 1000' initiative, of which France is a founding member.

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610

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612

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625

626

627

628 **Competing interests**

629

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631 **References**

632

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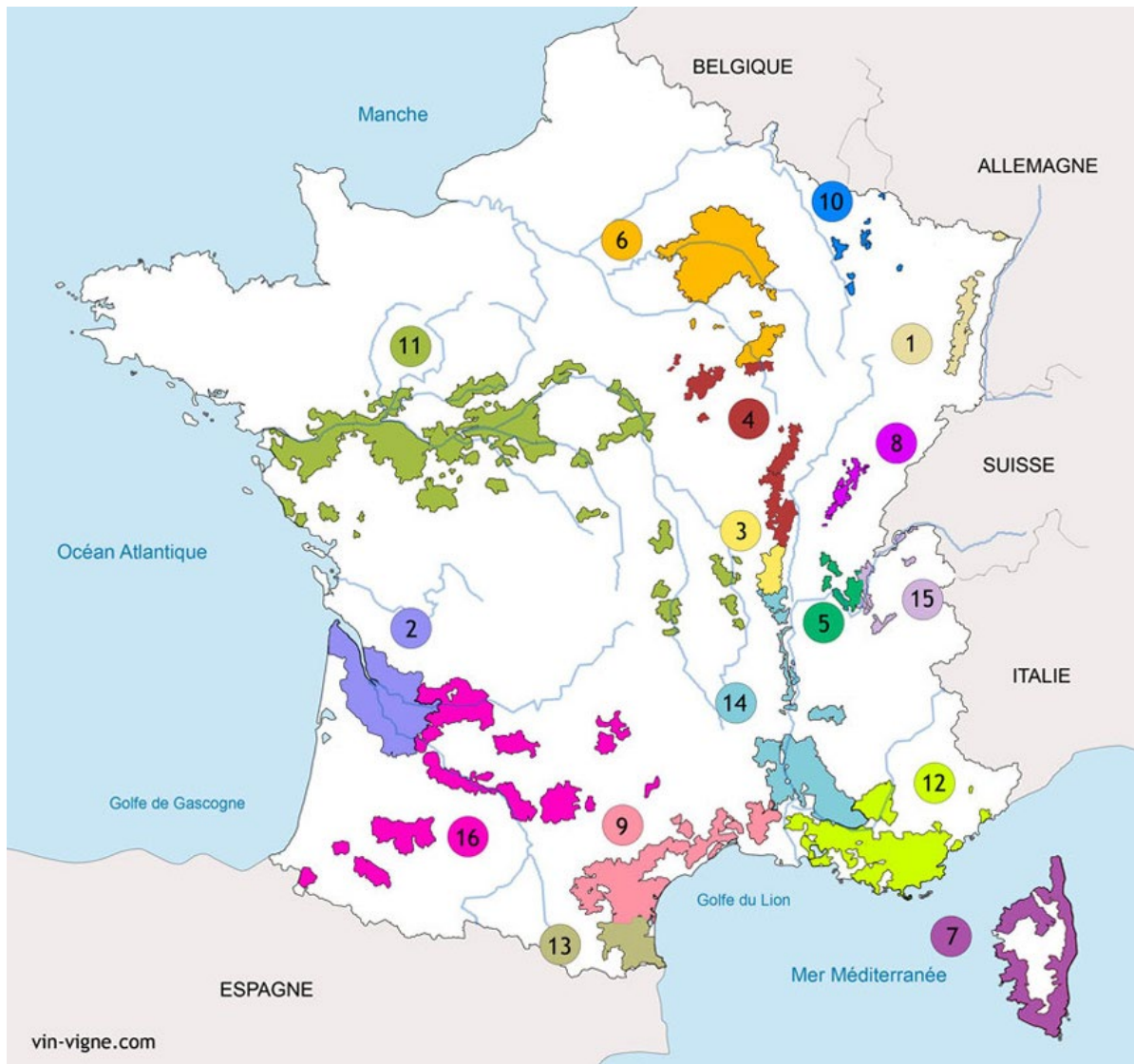
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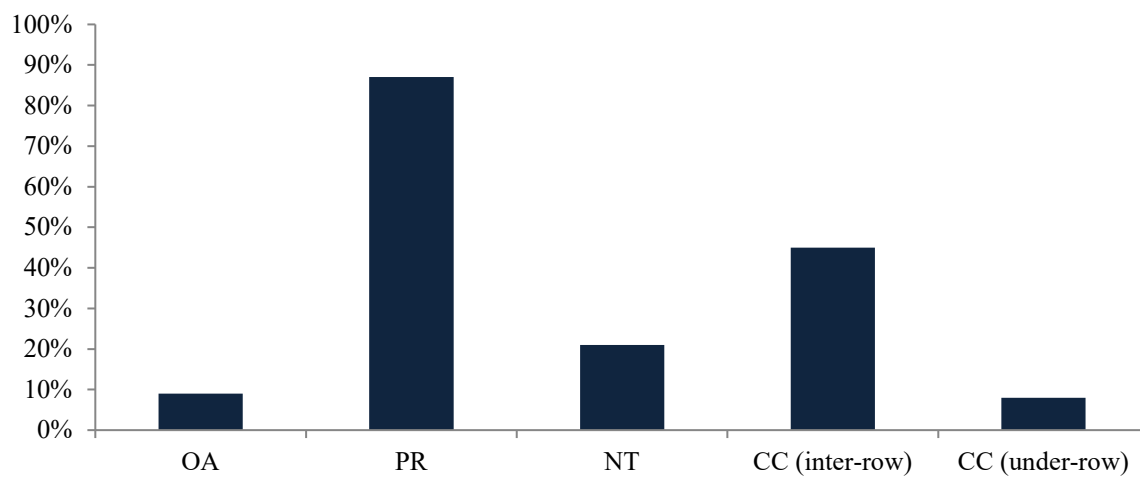
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830

831 **Fig. 1.** French winegrowing regions (Vin-Vigne, 2015). (1), Alsace; (2), Bordeaux; (3), Beaujolais; (4),
 832 Burgundy; (5), Bugey; (6), Champagne; (7), Corsica; (8), Jura; (9), Languedoc; (10), Lorraine; (11), Loire
 833 Valley; (12), Provence; (13), Roussillon; (14), Rhône Valley; (15), Savoy and (16), South-West.



834

835

836 **Fig. 2.** Percentage of France's viticultural land where SCS practices are implemented (Agreste, 2017). OA,

837 applying organic amendments; PR, returning pruning residues to the soil; NT, implementing no-tillage; CC,

838 cover cropping.

839 **Table 1.** Results of the PCA for winegrowers' intentions to adopt SCS practices.

840

Statements	Resources	Attitude	Confidence
SCS practices increase viticultural productivity	0.070	0.693	0.054
SCS practices increase wine quality	0.225	0.694	0.038
SCS practices save time	0.640	0.095	-0.165
SCS practices enhance soil quality	0.083	0.694	0.233
SCS practices increase vineyard resilience	0.021	0.624	0.096
I have enough time to implement SCS practices	0.770	0.098	0.221
My current tools and technologies are sufficient to implement SCS practices	0.609	0.068	0.219
I have a clear understanding of how to implement SCS practices	0.109	0.169	0.886
I trust my skills to implement SCS practices	0.175	0.178	0.879
My current tools and technologies make it easy to implement SCS practices	0.722	0.116	0.129
Eigen value	3.096	1.393	1.207
Cronbach's Alpha	0.655	0.637	0.835

841

842 **Table 2.** Explanatory variables used in the modelling for the full sample of respondents (n = 400).

843

Variable	Description	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Gender	Gender of the farm manager (1 = male, 0 = female)	0.82	0.38	0	1
Age	Age of the farm manager (continuous)	49.94	11.47	24	86
Education	Level of formal education received by the farm manager (1 = primary education, 2 = secondary education, 3 = higher education)	2.76	0.47	1	3
Viticultural education	Farm manager has a viticultural degree (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.74	0.44	0	1
Landowner	Farm manager owns (at least partially) their vineyard (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.81	0.39	0	1
Inherited vineyard	Farm manager inherited the vineyard from a family member (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.46	0.50	0	1
Independent winegrower	Farm manager is an independent winegrower (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.67	0.47	0	1
Farm size	Size of the viticultural farm (1 = < 5 ha, 2 = 5-15 ha, 3 = 15-30 ha, 4 = 30-50 ha, 5 = > 50 ha)	2.77	1.20	1	5
Workforce hired	Number of regular labour (working part- or full-time) employed (continuous)	3.94	9.01	0	92
Vine planting	Date when the majority of vine was planted (1 = 2011-2019, 2 = 2000-2010, 3 = 1990-1999, 4 = 1970-1989, 5 = 1950-1969, 6 = before 1950)	3.30	1.09	1	6
HVE	Vineyard is certified High Environmental Value (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.17	0.38	0	1
AB	Vineyard is certified organic (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.33	0.47	0	1
Irrigation	Irrigation is used in the vineyard (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.13	0.33	0	1
AECM	Farm manager participates in an agri-environment measure (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.16	0.37	0	1
Subsidy	Farm manager receives subsidies (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.49	0.50	0	1

Viticultural advisor	Farm manager is in contact with a viticultural advisor (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.67	0.47	0	1
4per1000	Farm manager is familiar with the '4 per 1000' initiative (1 = yes, 0 = no)	0.07	0.26	0	1
Resources	Component variable built from ordinal responses (5-point Likert scale)	-	-	-	-
Attitude	Component variable built from ordinal responses (5-point Likert scale)	-	-	-	-
Confidence	Component variable built from ordinal responses (5-point Likert scale)	-	-	-	-

844

845 **Table 3.** Results of the binary logistic regression for the prediction of winegrowers' adoption of OA.

846

OA	Coefficient	Standard error	Wald	Odds ratio
Gender	-0.140	0.338	0.171	0.870
Age	-0.014	0.011	1.629	0.986
Education	0.075	0.273	0.076	1.078
Viticultural degree	0.144	0.291	0.246	1.155
Landowner	-0.126	0.382	0.108	0.882
Inherited vineyard	0.150	0.285	0.277	1.162
Independent winegrower	0.923***	0.274	11.311	2.516
Farm size	0.232	0.146	2.541	1.262
Workforce hired	0.050	0.037	1.782	1.051
Vine planting	-0.246**	0.121	4.120	0.782
HVE	-0.594	0.391	2.307	0.552
AB	1.104***	0.319	11.959	3.016
Irrigation	-0.797**	0.385	4.288	0.450
AECM	-0.001	0.346	0.000	0.999
Subsidy	0.395	0.290	1.863	1.485
Viticultural advisor	-0.258	0.285	0.817	0.773
4per1000	0.157	0.546	0.083	1.170
Resources	0.084	0.125	0.452	1.088
Attitude	0.012	0.134	0.008	1.012
Confidence	-0.012	0.126	0.009	0.988
Constant	0.928	1.222	0.576	2.529
Chi-square	70.509 (p = .000)			
Nagelkerke R ²	0.234			
Log-likelihood	400.026			
Accuracy	74.8%			

847 p < .1 = *, p < .05 = **, p < .01 = ***

848 **Table 4.** Results of the binary logistic regression for the prediction of winegrowers' adoption of PR.

849

PR	Coefficient	Standard error	Wald	Odds ratio
Gender	0.208	0.487	0.183	1.232
Age	-0.047***	0.018	6.578	0.954
Education	0.140	0.415	0.114	1.150
Viticultural degree	-0.724	0.471	2.359	0.485
Landowner	0.299	0.566	0.279	1.349
Inherited vineyard	0.062	0.435	0.020	1.064
Independent winegrower	-0.717	0.453	2.507	0.488
Farm size	0.771***	0.240	10.333	2.163
Workforce hired	-0.078***	0.023	11.636	0.925
Vine planting	-0.220	0.183	1.456	0.802
HVE	1.987*	1.063	3.496	7.293
AB	0.760	0.490	2.407	2.137
Irrigation	-0.707	0.631	1.256	0.493
AECM	-0.592	0.548	1.166	0.553
Subsidy	0.525	0.476	1.218	1.691
Viticultural advisor	0.180	0.410	0.193	1.197
4per1000	0.402	1.124	0.128	1.495
Resources	0.190	0.201	0.887	1.209
Attitude	0.319	0.209	2.330	1.376
Confidence	0.071	0.195	0.133	1.074
Constant	3.672	1.840	3.984	39.338
Chi-square	48.558 (p = .000)			
Nagelkerke R ²	0.248			
Log-likelihood	198.069			
Accuracy	91%			

850 p < .1 = *, p < .05 = **, p < .01 = ***

851 **Table 5.** Results of the binary logistic regression for the prediction of winegrowers' adoption of NT.

852

NT	Coefficient	Standard error	Wald	Odds ratio
Gender	-0.049	0.300	0.027	0.952
Age	0.006	0.010	0.299	1.006
Education	-0.368	0.259	2.025	0.692
Viticultural degree	0.049	0.271	0.032	1.050
Landowner	-0.443	0.340	1.699	0.642
Inherited vineyard	-0.167	0.255	0.428	0.846
Independent winegrower	0.198	0.255	0.606	1.219
Farm size	-0.147	0.122	1.441	0.863
Workforce hired	-0.039**	0.018	4.738	0.962
Vine planting	0.013	0.108	0.014	1.013
HVE	0.460	0.353	1.698	1.585
AB	-0.521**	0.254	4.212	0.594
Irrigation	-1.172***	0.394	8.865	0.310
AECM	0.110	0.307	0.128	1.116
Subsidy	-0.119	0.252	0.222	0.888
Viticultural advisor	0.334	0.249	1.798	1.397
4per1000	0.442	0.474	0.869	1.555
Resources	0.433***	0.119	13.291	1.541
Attitude	0.506***	0.123	16.868	1.659
Confidence	0.319***	0.113	7.936	1.376
Constant	1.556	1.117	1.941	4.742
Chi-square	71.827 (p = .000)			
Nagelkerke R ²	0.219			
Log-likelihood	482.681			
Accuracy	65.3%			

853 p < .1 = *, p < .05 = **, p < .01 = ***

854 **Table 6.** Results of the binary logistic regression for the prediction of winegrowers' adoption of CC.

855

CC	Coefficient	Standard error	Wald	Odds ratio
Gender	0.058	0.308	0.035	1.060
Age	0.003	0.011	0.075	1.003
Education	0.325	0.256	1.618	1.385
Viticultural degree	-0.175	0.278	0.396	0.839
Landowner	0.043	0.349	0.015	1.044
Inherited vineyard	-0.040	0.263	0.023	0.961
Independent winegrower	-0.113	0.260	0.190	0.893
Farm size	-0.252**	0.125	4.052	0.777
Workforce hired	0.029	0.023	1.603	1.029
Vine planting	0.198*	0.112	3.092	1.218
HVE	0.189	0.351	0.289	1.208
AB	0.207	0.261	0.631	1.230
Irrigation	-0.173	0.349	0.247	0.841
AECM	-0.423	0.310	1.868	0.655
Subsidy	0.365	0.264	1.917	1.440
Viticultural advisor	0.002	0.258	0.000	1.002
4per1000	-0.141	0.472	0.089	0.869
Resources	0.467***	0.124	14.137	1.596
Attitude	0.128	0.123	1.094	1.137
Confidence	0.281**	0.116	5.891	1.325
Constant	-0.286	1.127	0.065	0.751
Chi-square	37.356 (p = .011)			
Nagelkerke R ²	0.125			
Log-likelihood	461.078			
Accuracy	69.5%			

856 p < .1 = *, p < .05 = **, p < .01 = ***

857 **Table 7.** Results of the binary logistic regression for the prediction of winegrowers' adoption of HG.

858

HG	Coefficient	Standard error	Wald	Odds ratio
Gender	0.065	0.295	0.049	1.067
Age	-0.013	0.010	1.489	0.988
Education	0.129	0.249	0.271	1.138
Viticultural degree	0.308	0.265	1.347	1.361
Landowner	0.479	0.339	2.001	1.614
Inherited vineyard	-0.333	0.253	1.734	0.717
Independent winegrower	0.231	0.251	0.848	1.260
Farm size	0.068	0.119	0.326	1.070
Workforce hired	-0.007	0.016	0.193	0.993
Vine planting	0.183*	0.107	2.905	1.200
HVE	1.478***	0.368	16.131	4.383
AB	0.627**	0.248	6.391	1.872
Irrigation	0.198	0.358	0.304	1.218
AECM	0.230	0.307	0.558	1.258
Subsidy	-0.482*	0.255	3.560	0.618
Viticultural advisor	-0.159	0.245	0.419	0.853
4per1000	-0.170	0.465	0.134	0.843
Resources	0.419***	0.117	12.739	1.520
Attitude	0.082	0.118	0.480	1.085
Confidence	0.305***	0.115	7.029	1.357
Constant	-1.264	1.090	1.346	0.282
Chi-square	65.610 (p = .000)			
Nagelkerke R ²	0.202			
Log-likelihood	488.547			
Accuracy	66%			

859 p < .1 = *, p < .05 = **, p < .01 = ***

860 **Table 8.** Summary of how the significant factors influence the decision to adopt SCS practices.

861

Factors	OA	BC	PR	NT	CC	HG
Age			-			
Independent winegrower	+					
Farm size			+		-	
Workforce hired			-	-		
Vine planting	-				+	+
HVE			+			+
AB	+			-		+
Irrigation	-			-		
Subsidy						-
Resources				+	+	+
Attitude				+		
Confidence				+	+	+

862

863 **Appendix A.** Questionnaire used in this study. (The questionnaire was administered in
864 French.)

865

866 **I. Winegrower characteristics**

867 • Are you...?

868 ○ Male

869 ○ Female

870 ○ Other

871 • Which year were you born in?

872 • What is your highest level of education?

873 ○ Primary school

874 ○ Secondary school

875 ○ Higher education

876 ○ Other

877 • Do you have a viticultural degree?

878 ○ Yes

879 ○ No

880 • Are you...?

881 ○ The farm manager

882 ○ The co-manager

883 ○ The spouse of the farm manager (working on the farm)

884 ○ Other

885 • Do you own your viticultural land in its entirety?

886 ○ Yes

887 ○ No, I rent my viticultural land

- 888 ○ Other
- 889 • If you are the owner of your vineyard, did you inherit it?
 - 890 ○ Yes
 - 891 ○ No
- 892 • Are you...?
 - 893 ○ An independent winegrower
 - 894 ○ A winegrower working in a cooperative
 - 895 ○ Other

896

897 **II. Farm characteristics**

- 898 • In which *département* is your vineyard located?
- 899 • What is the surface area of your viticultural farm?
 - 900 ○ Lower than 5 ha
 - 901 ○ Between 5 and 15 ha
 - 902 ○ Between 15 and 30 ha
 - 903 ○ Between 30 and 50 ha
 - 904 ○ Higher than 50 ha
- 905 • How many people work on a permanent contract (whether full-time or part-time) on
 - 906 your viticultural farm?
- 907 • When was the majority of your vines planted?
 - 908 ○ Before 1950
 - 909 ○ Between 1950 and 1969
 - 910 ○ Between 1970 and 1989
 - 911 ○ Between 1990 and 1999
 - 912 ○ Between 2000 and 2010

- 913 ○ Between 2011 and 2019
- 914 • Which type of geographic indication does the wine you produce qualify for?
- 915 ○ Protected Designation of Origin (PDO)
- 916 ○ Protected Geographical Indication (PGI)
- 917 ○ Wine Without Geographical Indication (WWGI)
- 918 ○ Other
- 919 • Did your viticultural farm receive one or several of the following labels...?
- 920 ○ High Environmental Value (label HVE)
- 921 ○ Organic agriculture (label AB)
- 922 ○ Biodynamic (label Demeter or Biodyvin)
- 923 ○ My viticultural farm did not receive any of these labels
- 924 ○ Other
- 925 • Do you practise irrigation on your viticultural farm?
- 926 ○ Yes
- 927 ○ No

928

929 **III. Access to information and involvement in policy instruments**

- 930 • Are you in contact with a viticultural advisor?
- 931 ○ Yes
- 932 ○ No
- 933 ○ I do not know
- 934 • Have you ever heard of the '4 per 1000' initiative?
- 935 ○ Yes
- 936 ○ No
- 937 ○ I do not know

- 938 • Are you participating in one or several agri-environment measures?
- 939 ○ Yes
- 940 ○ No
- 941 ○ I do not know
- 942 • If yes, please indicate all the measures that you are participating in:
- 943 • Did you receive subsidies as part of the National Programme of Support to the
- 944 Viticultural and Wine Sector developed by FranceAgriMer?
- 945 ○ Yes
- 946 ○ No
- 947 ○ I do not know

948

949 **IV. Adoption of soil carbon sequestration practices**

- 950 • Do you return pruning residues to the soil in your vineyard?
- 951 ○ Yes
- 952 ○ No
- 953 ○ I used to, but I stopped
- 954 • Do you apply organic amendments (such as compost, mulch, manure, etc.) in your
- 955 vineyard in-between harvests?
- 956 ○ Yes
- 957 ○ No
- 958 ○ I used to, but I stopped
- 959 • Do you apply biochar amendments in your vineyard in-between harvests?
- 960 ○ Yes
- 961 ○ No
- 962 ○ I used to, but I stopped

- 963 • Is there, from one year to the other, a cover crop (temporary or permanent) growing in
964 your vineyard?
- 965 ○ Yes, under the vine rows
 - 966 ○ Yes, in the inter-rows
 - 967 ○ Yes, under the vine rows and in the inter-rows
 - 968 ○ No
 - 969 ○ There used to be some, but I stopped
 - 970 ○ Other
- 971 • Are there hedges on the edge of or within your viticultural farm?
- 972 ○ Yes
 - 973 ○ No
 - 974 ○ There used to be, but I removed them
- 975 • Have you implemented no-tillage practices in your vineyard (*i.e.* absence of
976 ploughing or a very shallow and occasional ploughing of the soil)?
- 977 ○ Yes
 - 978 ○ No
 - 979 ○ I used to, but I stopped

980

981 **V. Statements about the use of soil carbon sequestration practices in viticulture**

- 982 • Please, indicate whether you agree or not with the following statements:
- 983 ○ “SCS practices increase viticultural productivity.”
 - 984 ■ Strongly disagree
 - 985 ■ Disagree
 - 986 ■ Neither agree nor disagree
 - 987 ■ Agree

- 988 ▪ Strongly agree
- 989 ○ “SCS practices allow for the production of better-quality wine.”
- 990 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 991 ▪ Disagree
- 992 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 993 ▪ Agree
- 994 ▪ Strongly agree
- 995 ○ “SCS practices decrease profits.”
- 996 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 997 ▪ Disagree
- 998 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 999 ▪ Agree
- 1000 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1001 ○ “SCS practices increase production costs.”
- 1002 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1003 ▪ Disagree
- 1004 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1005 ▪ Agree
- 1006 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1007 ○ “SCS practices are less time-consuming.”
- 1008 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1009 ▪ Disagree
- 1010 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1011 ▪ Agree
- 1012 ▪ Strongly agree

- 1013 ○ “SCS practices represent new economic opportunities.”
- 1014 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1015 ▪ Disagree
- 1016 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1017 ▪ Agree
- 1018 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1019 ○ “SCS practices reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”
- 1020 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1021 ▪ Disagree
- 1022 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1023 ▪ Agree
- 1024 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1025 ○ “SCS practices decrease soil quality.”
- 1026 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1027 ▪ Disagree
- 1028 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1029 ▪ Agree
- 1030 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1031 ○ “SCS practices increase vineyard resilience.”
- 1032 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1033 ▪ Disagree
- 1034 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1035 ▪ Agree
- 1036 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1037 ○ “SCS practices decrease grape yield.”

- 1038 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1039 ▪ Disagree
- 1040 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1041 ▪ Agree
- 1042 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1043 • Please, indicate whether you agree or not with the following statements:
- 1044 ○ “I have enough time to implement SCS practices in my vineyard.”
- 1045 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1046 ▪ Disagree
- 1047 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1048 ▪ Agree
- 1049 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1050 ○ “I need more workforce to be able to implement SCS practices in my
- 1051 vineyard.”
- 1052 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1053 ▪ Disagree
- 1054 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1055 ▪ Agree
- 1056 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1057 ○ “I have enough financial resources to implement SCS practices in my
- 1058 vineyard.”
- 1059 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1060 ▪ Disagree
- 1061 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1062 ▪ Agree

- 1063 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1064 ○ “My current agricultural tools and technologies are not enough to implement
- 1065 SCS practices in my vineyard.”
- 1066 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1067 ▪ Disagree
- 1068 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1069 ▪ Agree
- 1070 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1071 • Please, indicate whether you agree or not with the following statements:
- 1072 ○ “I understand perfectly how to implement SCS practices in my vineyard.”
- 1073 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1074 ▪ Disagree
- 1075 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1076 ▪ Agree
- 1077 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1078 ○ “I trust my abilities and skills enough to implement SCS practices in my
- 1079 vineyard.”
- 1080 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1081 ▪ Disagree
- 1082 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1083 ▪ Agree
- 1084 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1085 ○ “Implementing SCS practices is not my responsibility.”
- 1086 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1087 ▪ Disagree

- 1088 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1089 ▪ Agree
- 1090 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1091 ○ “SCS practices are difficult to set up.”
- 1092 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1093 ▪ Disagree
- 1094 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1095 ▪ Agree
- 1096 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1097 • Please, indicate whether you agree or not with the following statements:
- 1098 ○ “Most people around me think that I should implement SCS practices in my
- 1099 vineyard.”
- 1100 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1101 ▪ Disagree
- 1102 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1103 ▪ Agree
- 1104 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1105 ○ “Most people around me encourage me to adopt SCS practices in my
- 1106 vineyard.”
- 1107 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1108 ▪ Disagree
- 1109 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1110 ▪ Agree
- 1111 ▪ Strongly agree

- 1112 ○ “Most people around me would disapprove if I were to implement SCS
- 1113 practices in my vineyard.”
- 1114 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1115 ▪ Disagree
- 1116 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1117 ▪ Agree
- 1118 ▪ Strongly agree
- 1119 ○ “Most winegrowers that I know have adopted SCS practices in their
- 1120 vineyard.”
- 1121 ▪ Strongly disagree
- 1122 ▪ Disagree
- 1123 ▪ Neither agree nor disagree
- 1124 ▪ Agree
- 1125 ▪ Strongly agree