

PRESQUE ISLE WINE CELLARS

“Serving the Winemaker Since 1964”

(814) 725-1314

www.piwine.com

Residual Sugar Test Using CLINITEST Tablets

Dextrocheck Residual Sugar Test Kits for wine are no longer produced. **Clinitest Kits** used by diabetics use the same technology so that you can perform the same test. If you have the dropper and test tube from a **Dextrocheck Kit**, you will only need **Clinitest Tablets** and this sheet of directions.

A. FOR WINES WITH LESS THAN 1% RESIDUAL SUGAR

- 1) Place 10 drops (0.5 ml) of wine in the test tube.
- 2) Drop one reagent tablet in the test tube. Watch the reaction to make sure the color change does not pass through the orange color and turn slightly brownish. If this occurs you have more than 1% residual and will have to follow the secondary procedure in paragraph B below.
- 3) If the color does not reach and pass through orange, wait until the boiling reaction stops, shake the tube and match colors with the seven color chart for the Two Drop Method shown on the **Clinitest** direction sheet. The actual amount of sugar in the wine is not that shown on the chart, but the following:

<u>Color Chart for 2 Drop Method</u>	<u>Amount shown on Clinitest Kit</u>	<u>Actual Sugar in Wine</u>
Blue (color on far left)	Negative	None
Dark Green (2nd from left)	Trace	0.05%
Medium Green (3rd from left)	1/2%	0.1%
Light Green (4th from left)	1%	0.2%
Dark Brown (5th from left)	2%	0.4%
Light Orange Brown (2nd from right)	3%	0.6%
Orange (color slab at right)	5%	1.0%

- 4) If you get a color that appears to be between any two of the color slabs you can assume an intermediate value, but be certain that the wine never passed through to the orange color and then to a brown color. If this occurs or if you are unsure, try the procedure in paragraph B below.

B. FOR WINES CONTAINING FROM 1 TO 5% RESIDUAL SUGAR

- 1) Place 2 drops (0.1 ml) of wine in the sample tube and add 8 drops (0.4 ml) of water.
- 2) Drop one reagent tablet into the tube and watch the reaction to be certain it does not go all the way to the orange color. If it does, you have more than 5% residual sugar and should follow the procedure in paragraph C below.
- 3) If the color change does not go to and pass through orange, wait until the boiling reaction is finished, then match the color to the color chart for the **2 Drop Method** on the **Clinitest** instructions and read the amounts as shown on the chart.

C. FOR WINES CONTAINING MORE THAN 5% RESIDUAL SUGAR

- 1) Add 1 drop (0.05 ml) of wine and 9 drops (0.45 ml) of water to the test tube and proceed as above. If you pass through the orange color and go to a brown you have more than 10% residual sugar and cannot get a measurement with this test.

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- 2) After the boiling stops match the sample color to the **2 Drop Method** color chart and double the readings on that chart to get the residual sugar level in the wine. Be aware that your accuracy is greatly reduced when using a single drop of wine for your test. The result would only indicate an approximate range.