Inspiring innovation.

TITRATABLE ACIDITY

BY VISUAL ENDPOINT TITRATION

Equipment

- 250 mL Erlenmeyer flask
- 5 mL volumetric pipet-Class A
- Hot plate or coffeemaker (source of hot water for degassing sample)
- 10 or 25 mL buret
- Pipet Safety Bulb

Reagents

- 0.10 N NaOH
- Phenolphthalein, 1%
- Distilled Water, pH adjusted to 8.2

Procedure

Pipet 5 mL of wine or must into Erlenmeyer flask. Add approximately 100 mL of pH adjusted hot distilled water and a few drops of phenolphthalein. (Adjust pH of water by adding a few drops of phenolphthalein and 0.1 N NaOH until water is a very slight pink color or at pH 8.2.) Fill buret with 0.1 N NaOH and titrate to a pink endpoint. Endpoint is easiest to see when a light is positioned behind the flask. (The phenolphthalein endpoint is at pH 8.2.)

Calculations

TA (as g Tartaric/100 mL sample) = (mL NaOH)(N NaOH)(1.5)

Example: (6.0 mL NaOH)(.1N NaOH)(1.5)= 0.900 g Tartaric/100 mL

Notes

- For red wines 2 mL of wine may be used to more easily visualize the endpoint. Multiply result by 5/2.
- For juice samples, it is frequently necessary to centrifuge samples. If a centrifuge is not available, strain juice through strainer before pipetting. A wide mouth 5 mL serological pipet should only be used as a last resort.
- Standardize 0.1 N NaOH frequently.

Disposal

Sink disposal, rinse with water.

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