Technology

How a biotech start-up is making expensive wines without grapes

What if you could buy an exact replica, precisely recreated molecule by molecule of the wine on your bucket list, for less money than you likely have in your wallet right now?

Rather than trying to reconstruct the terroir and conditions those grapes experienced, though, this San Francisco start-up, founded by two bioengineering grads last year, is foregoing things like grapes and yeast altogether. Instead, it's using chemicals instead of grapes or fermentation to replicate wine.

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Handheld chemistry lab helps farmers analyse crops and maximise production

A handheld device that can provide an instant chemical analysis of crops, allowing farmers to maximise production, has been developed by a company based in the NSW Hunter Valley.

It can be used with any plant-based product, from grains to grapes and root vegetables to work out optimal harvest times, irrigation and fertiliser requirements, and crop performance.

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