

Role of Yeast, Ethephon and Apple Vinegar in Improving Fruit Quality and Storability of Flame Seedless Grape Cultivar

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THIS INVESTIGATION was conducted for two successive seasons (2011 & 2012) in a vineyard located at El-Khatatba, Menoufiya governorate; to find out the effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar applications on yield, fruit quality and storability of Flame Seedless grapes. The chosen vines were ten-year-old, grown in sandy loam soil, spaced at 2 x 2.5 meters apart, irrigated with the drip irrigation, trained to bilateral cordon with spur pruning, and trellised by the double "T" shape system. The vines were pruned during the first week of January with bud load of (60 buds/vine). Ten treatments were applied as follows: untreated vines (control), application with 15 g yeast/vine, spraying with 250 ppm ethephon, spraying with 500 ppm apple vinegar, spraying with 1000 ppm apple vinegar, spraying with 1500 ppm apple vinegar, application yeast + 250 ppm ethephon, application yeast + 500 ppm apple vinegar, application yeast + 1000 ppm apple vinegar and application yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar.

The results showed that all yeast treatments, either alone or combined with ethephon, and the different doses of apple vinegar gave the best results in comparison with control. Application with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar resulted in the best yield and its components *i.e.* physical bunches properties and improved the physical and chemical characteristics of berries. It increased berry color, TSS, TSS/acid ratio while decreased acidity in comparison to the control. Moreover, the clusters during cold storage for four weeks at 0°C, RH 90-95%, showed that all treatments, except for spraying with ethephon treatments, was enhanced storability, since it reduced losses resulting either from disease infection or physiological disorders and inhibited the rate of deterioration of physical and chemical properties (weight loss (%), decay (%), shattering (%), total spoilage (%) and the firmness) of grapes during cold storage.

Yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) is a promising biofertilizer. It contains important nutrients such as N, P and K and approximately 18 common amino acids (Abou-Zaid, 1984). Moreover, soil drench applications of yeast are probably promoting the uptake of different nutrient elements through modifying soil pH towards acidity medium which positively reflect on yield and its components and fruit quality of various grape cultivars. In this respect,

application of yeast after fruit set 15 gm/vine to soil improved physical and chemical of Black Monukka grapes (Abd El-Wahab *et al.*, 2008).

Ethephon (2-chloroethylphosphonic acid), an ethylene releasing compound, have been used successfully to hasten fruit maturation in many cultivars (Jensen *et al.*, 1980). Many studies show that the optimum ethephon application rate ranged from 100 to 300 ppm after color initiation (veraison stage) (Fitzgerald & Patterson 1994). Ethephon application has been shown to accelerate ripening and increase colour (Dokoozlian *et al.* 1994) of red grapes. Also, Ethephon is employed to increase berry coloration; however, being a senescence promoter, ethylene can also induce fruit drop and berry softening at maturity and during storage (Yahuaca *et al.*, 2006). In addition to, Human (2010) on Crimson Seedless found that during the ripening period the TSS was significantly increased for ethephon treated bunches compared to the TSS of the control bunches.

Shelf-life is important for table grapes. Decreasing quality during post-harvest handling of table grapes is often associated with water loss and decay. Browning of the cluster stem and shelling of berries is another problem (Kelany *et al.*, 2011). Concerning the effect of pre-harvest treatments on storability, soil drench application of yeast reduced the development of postharvest decay of table grapes (Ben-Arie *et al.*, 1991). Also, Ezz *et al.*, (2012) found that foliar spraying with 3g/l active dry yeast treatment reduced fruit weight loss and increased fruit firmness and total soluble solids compared to control in Alphonse and Badami mango fruits.

With respect to ethephon application, Gerasopoulos and Stavroulakis (1999) found that storage of control fruit at 0°C delayed ripening, while ethephon-treated fruit ripened earlier. Firmness decreased and anthocyanin content increased compared to the control of 'Sceptar' red raspberries. In addition, (Kelany *et al.*, 2011) found that spraying clusters by ethrel at 500 ppm decreased berry texture and acidity and increased TSS, TSS/acid ratio and anthocyanin percentage more than control, also, Ethrel application and control increased significantly berry weight loss % and exhibited the highest values of berries decay percentages compared with untreated fruits after four weeks of cold storage of Flame Seedless grapes.

Concerning the effect of apple vinegar, Sholberg *et al.* (1996) found that application with acetic acid of Summerland Selection 494 and Selection 651 grapes at approximately 2-week intervals controlled both Botrytis and Penicillium decay and reduced berry shatter. In addition, Sholberg *et al.*, (2000) and Liu *et al.*, (2002) found that vinegar reduced postharvest decay of stone fruit, strawberries and apples by preventing spores of brown rot, grey mould and blue mould from germination. In addition, Antunes *et al.*, (2007) found that fig, apricot, orange, pomegranate and kiwi fruits treated with 1% acetic acid gave a great performance in the reduction of fruit losses, weight loss% and fruit softening through storage, without negative effect on the environment and

human health. Also, Hosseini *et al.* (2013) found that Iranian white lettuce treated with 10g/l aqueous solution of acetic acid (12% of apple vinegar) soaked for 5 minutes increased (TSS) during ambient storage at temperature of 25°C and 65% relative humidity.

The ultimate goal of this study were to raise the yield/vine and its components, to improve cluster and berry characteristics storability and quality of "Flame Seedless" grapes by application of yeast, ethephon and different doses of apple vinegar.

Materials and Methods

This investigation was conducted for two successive seasons (2011 & 2012) in a private vineyard located at El-Khatatba, Menoufiya governorate, on mature Flame Seedless grapevines. The chosen vines were ten-year-old, grown in sandy loam soil, spaced at 2 x 2.5 meters apart and irrigated with drip irrigation system, trained to bilateral cordon with spur pruning, and trellised by the double "T" shape system. The vines were pruned during the first week of January with bud load of (60 buds/vine).

Yeast (*Saccharomyces ccrvicisae*) was active dry with gassing power 150 cm³/91 hour and its concentration was 95% of fungus cells.

Chemical analysis of the active dry yeast:

N (%)	Polysaccharides (%)	Fats (%)	Protein (%)	Fiber (%)	Ash (%)	Thiamin (B1) (mg)	Riboflavin (B2) (mg)	Niacin (B4) (mg)	Vitamin (B6) (mg)	Vitamin (B12) (mg)
7.3	32.3	3.5	35	1.1	6.7	2.33	5.41	36.7	4.41	0.02

A 15 g/vine of yeast was added to soil drench in two application dates, 1st after bud burst stage and after fruit set stage.

Ethephon (2-chloroethylphosphonic acid), is an ethylene releasing compound, used as a growth regulator to accelerate fruit ripening.

Spraying with ethephon was applied on clusters with 250 ppm at veraison stage (20% berry coloring).

Apple vinegar is a completely natural product, resulting from the fermentation of apple juice to hard apple cider followed by a second fermentation to apple cider vinegar containing 7.1% acetic acid. The mean pH of the vinegars was 3.1 with a standard deviation of 0.2.

Spraying with apple vinegar was applied on clusters at three doses: 500 ppm, 1000 ppm and 1500 ppm at veraison stage (20% berry coloring).

One hundred and twenty vines were chosen. Each four vines acted as a replicate and each three replicates were treated by one of the following treatments.

- Untreated vines (Control)
- Application with 15 g yeast/vine
- Cluster spraying with 250 ppm ethephon
- Cluster spraying with 500 ppm apple vinegar
- Cluster spraying with 1000 ppm apple vinegar
- Cluster spraying with 1500 ppm apple vinegar
- Application with Yeast + 250 ppm ethephon
- Application with Yeast + 500 ppm apple vinegar
- Application with Yeast + 1000 ppm apple vinegar
- Application with Yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar

The following parameters were adopted to evaluate the tested treatments

Random samples of 6 bunches/vine were harvested at maturity when TSS reached about 16-17% in control treatment according to Tourky *et al.* (1995).

The following characteristics were determined

Yield and physical characteristics of bunches

Yield/vine (kg) was determined as number of bunches/vine X average bunch weight (g). Also, average bunch weight (g), bunch length and width (cm) were determined.

Physical characteristics of berries

Berry weight (g), berry size (cm³), berry dimensions (length and diameter) (cm), berry firmness (g/cm²) and shattering (%) were determined.

Chemical characteristics of berries

Total soluble solids in berry juice (TSS) (%) by hand refractometer and total acidity as tartaric acid (%) (A.O.A.C. 1985). Hence TSS /acid ratio and total anthocyanin of the berry skin (mg/100g fresh weight) according to Husia *et al.*, (1965) were calculated.

Storability

At maturity stage, when TSS reached 16-17% according to Tourky *et al.* (1995), clusters from treatments were harvested and packed in perforated bags, each bag contained 550–650 g, then packed in carton boxes and each box contained three bags.

All treatments were packed into 48 carton boxes (1.5 - 2 Kg/box), stored at \pm 0°C and 90-95% RH for four weeks.

Each treatment has three replicates and two carton boxes/replicate to follow up the changes occurring in physical and chemical properties of the stored grapes.

Physical properties

- Weight loss (%) per box was determined periodically according to the equation (weight loss x 100 / Initial box weight).

- Decay (%) per box was calculated periodically according to the equation (weight of decayed x 100 / Initial box weight).

- Shattering (%) per box was calculated periodically according to the equation (weight of the shattered berries x 100 / Initial box weight).

- Total spoilage percentage (%) was calculated periodically as the sum of weight loss, decay and shattering per box.

- Berry firmness (g/cm^2) was estimated on ten berries through the use of texture analyzer instrument using a penetrating Cylinder of 1.0 mm of diameter to a constant distance 1.0 mm inside the berry skin by a constant speed 2.0 mm/sec. and the peak of resistance force of the skin was recorded periodically.

- Berry colour: Skin color (Hue angle) was determined by Konick Minolta, Chroma Meter CR-400/410 for the estimation of a, b and hue angle (h°). In this system of color representation the values a^* and b^* describe a uniform two-dimensional color space, where a^* is negative for green and positive for red and b^* is negative for blue and positive for yellow. From a and b values, were calculated Hue angle ($h^\circ = \arctan b^*/a^*$) determines the red, yellow, green, blue, purple, or intermediate colors between adjacent pairs of these basic colors Hue angle ($0^\circ = \text{red-purple}$, $90^\circ = \text{yellow}$, $180^\circ = \text{bluish-green}$, $270^\circ = \text{blue}$), as described by McGuire, (1992).

Chemical properties

Percentage of total soluble solids in berry juice (TSS) was recorded periodically using a hand refractometer.

Total acidity as tartaric acid (%) was also determined periodically (A.O.A.C. 1985).

- TSS/acid ratio was calculated periodically.

Statistical analysis

The complete randomized block design was adopted for the experiment. The statistical analysis of the present data was carried out according to Snedecor and Chocran (1980). Averages were compared using the new L.S.D. values at 5%.

Results and Discussion*Yield and bunch physical characteristics*

Data in Table 1 show that the yield and its components of Flame Seedless grapevines were greatly affected by the application of yeast, ethephon and different doses of apple vinegar in both seasons.

Yield in general was significantly increased by the application of yeast either alone or in combination with ethephon or different doses of apple vinegar. The highest value of yield was obtained with the application of yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar followed, in a descending order, by the application of yeast + 1000 ppm apple vinegar then application of yeast + 250 ppm ethephon, whereas, the lowest values were obtained from the control in both seasons.

TABLE 1. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on yield/vine and physical characteristics of bunches in 2011 and 2012 seasons

Characteristics Treatments	Yield/vine (kg)		Bunch weight (g)		Bunch length (cm)		Bunch width (cm)	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Control	16.11	15.14	556.53	549.82	23.80	22.89	13.87	13.36
15g yeast/vine	17.23	16.20	595.36	588.17	24.87	24.49	14.50	14.29
250ppm ethephon	16.54	15.55	571.42	564.52	24.23	23.51	14.12	13.71
500ppm apple vinegar	16.39	15.41	566.24	559.41	23.96	23.29	13.97	13.59
1000ppm apple vinegar	16.80	15.80	580.48	573.47	24.39	23.88	14.22	13.93
1500ppm apple vinegar	16.86	15.85	582.42	575.39	24.63	23.96	14.36	13.98
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	17.79	16.73	614.77	607.35	25.48	25.29	14.85	14.75
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	17.42	16.38	601.83	594.57	25.19	24.76	14.68	14.44
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	17.98	16.91	621.24	613.75	25.75	25.56	15.06	14.91
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	18.73	17.61	647.13	639.32	26.71	26.62	15.57	15.53
new L.S.D. at 0.05 =	0.74	0.69	25.13	24.98	0.94	0.91	0.48	0.45

As for bunch weight, it was positively affected by the conducted treatments in a similar manner to that of yield per vine.

With respect to bunch dimensions, it is obvious that bunch length and width were affected by treatments; all yeast treatments either solely or in combination with ethephon or with different doses of apple vinegar significantly recorded the highest values in comparison with control in both seasons. In this respect, application of yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar resulted in the highest values of followed, in descending order, by the application of yeast + 1000 ppm apple vinegar then the application of yeast + 250 ppm ethephon, whereas, the lowest values were obtained from control in both seasons.

Yield produced in response to yeast application could be mainly attributed to the enhancement effect of yeast on bunch weight. The positive effect of yeast can be explained since the yeast is considered as a source for IAA and cytokinin-like substances which encourage the uptake of various nutrients (Moor, 1979 and Ferguson *et al.*, 1987).

The obtained results are nearly similar to those achieved by Esmail *et al.*, (2003) on "Roumi Red" cv. and Aisha *et al.*, (2006) on "Flame Seedless" found that yeast applications as foliar or in soil drench significantly increased bunch weight and yield /vine. As for the effect of ethephon, Human (2010) on Crimson Seedless found that total yield was generally unaffected by ethephon application.

Physical characteristics of berries

As shown in Table 2, it is obvious that all yeast treatments either in the individually form or in combination with ethephon or different doses of apple vinegar were obvious on physical characteristics of berries i.e. berry weight, size, length, diameter, firmness and shattering. The positive effects attributed to those parameters were detected in case of vines treated with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar followed, in descending order, by the application of yeast + 1000 ppm apple vinegar. On the other hand, spraying with ethephon and control vines induced a negative effect on those parameters in both seasons.

The positive effect of yeast application on berry physical properties could be attributed to that yeast contains some natural growth regulators, *i.e.* auxin (IAA) (Moor, 1979) and cytokinins (Cks) (Ferguson *et al.*, 1987). Also, it enhances the formation and movement of natural hormones specially cytokinins and GA3 and increases cell division in meristem tissues (Nijjar, 1985).

TABLE 2. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on berry physical characteristics in 2011 and 2012 seasons

Characteristics Treatments	Berry weight (g)		Berry size (cm ³)		Berry length (cm)		Berry diameter (cm)		Berry firmness (g/cm ³)		Berry shattering (%)	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Control	2.60	2.51	2.38	2.29	1.65	1.61	1.67	1.62	30.34	29.85	0.07	0.03
15g yeast/vine	2.69	2.59	2.46	2.37	1.69	1.63	1.70	1.65	31.56	31.03	0.00	0.00
250ppm ethephon	2.64	2.55	2.42	2.33	1.67	1.62	1.68	1.63	29.82	29.32	4.37	4.23
500ppm apple vinegar	2.62	2.53	2.40	2.31	1.65	1.62	1.68	1.62	30.56	30.03	0.00	0.00
1000ppm apple vinegar	2.65	2.56	2.43	2.34	1.67	1.63	1.68	1.63	30.86	30.34	0.00	0.00
1500ppm apple vinegar	2.66	2.57	2.43	2.35	1.68	1.63	1.69	1.64	31.17	30.61	0.00	0.00
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	2.72	2.62	2.48	2.39	1.69	1.65	1.71	1.67	30.02	29.52	3.92	3.87
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	2.71	2.61	2.48	2.38	1.69	1.64	1.70	1.66	31.93	31.40	0.00	0.00
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	2.75	2.64	2.51	2.42	1.70	1.66	1.72	1.68	32.26	31.73	0.00	0.00
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	2.77	2.65	2.53	2.43	1.71	1.68	1.73	1.70	33.47	32.91	0.00	0.00
new L.S.D. at 0.05=	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.19	0.17	0.31	0.28

The obtained results are in agreement with those reported by El-Mogy *et al.* (1998) on "Thompson Seedless" cv., Esmail *et al.* (2003) on "Roumi Red" cv. and Aisha *et al.* (2006) on "Flame Seedless" grape who found that yeast applications as foliar or soil drench significantly increased berry physical properties *i.e.* weight, size, length and width. As for the effect of ethephon, Yahuaca *et al.* (2006) on "Malaga Roja" grape who found that ethephon is employed to increase berry coloration; however, being a senescence promoter, ethylene can also induce fruit drop and berry softening at maturity and during storage.

Chemical characteristics of berries

Results presented in Table 3 revealed that all berry chemical characteristics, *i.e.* TSS, Acidity, TSS/acid ratio and anthocyanin content of berry skin were significantly affected by spraying with ethephon or different doses of apple vinegar either alone or in combination with yeast. Application of yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar resulted in the highest values of TSS percentage, TSS/acid ratio, anthocyanin content in berry skin and the lowest values of acidity percentage as compared to control in both seasons.

The positive effect of yeast application on berry chemical could be attributed to the enhancement effects of photosynthesis process and increasing promoter hormones as cytokinins. It is well known that these hormones induce a considerable increase in sugar content, and consequently cause an increase in TSS%, TSS/acid ratio and anthocyanin content in berry skin and a decrease in acidity % in grape juice.

The effect of ethylene on berry chemical properties *i.e.* TSS%, acidity %, TSS/acid ratio and anthocyanin content of berry skin could be attributed to regulate many aspects of fruit ripening (Abeles *et al.*, 1992), and is considered to be the hormone of fruit maturation and senescence because it promotes degradation of chlorophyll in berry skin (Hartmann, 1992) with intensive anthocyanin synthesis in the sub-epidermal layer in the berries of red cultivars (Hrazdina *et al.*, 1984), and it is now well established that ethylene is involved during the ripening of non-climacteric fruits such as grape and strawberry (Chervin *et al.*, 2006).

TABLE 3. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on berry chemical characteristics in 2011 and 2012 seasons

Characteristics Treatments	TSS (%)		Acidity (%)		TSS/acid ratio		Anthocyanin (mg/100g F.W.)	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Control	16.07	16.43	0.65	0.67	24.72	24.52	35.54	35.91
15g yeast/vine	16.25	16.57	0.62	0.65	26.21	25.49	35.81	36.47
250ppm ethephon	16.35	16.67	0.58	0.60	28.19	27.78	36.23	36.87
500ppm apple vinegar	16.18	16.56	0.63	0.66	25.68	25.09	35.68	36.14
1000ppm apple vinegar	16.28	16.62	0.59	0.63	27.59	26.38	35.94	36.58
1500ppm apple vinegar	16.31	16.64	0.59	0.62	27.64	26.84	36.17	36.64
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	16.37	16.68	0.56	0.59	29.23	28.27	36.41	36.91
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	16.27	16.60	0.60	0.63	27.12	26.35	35.87	36.53
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	16.38	16.70	0.55	0.57	29.78	29.30	36.54	36.94
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	16.41	16.74	0.53	0.56	30.96	29.89	36.81	37.13
new L.S.D. at 0.05 =	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.97	0.58	0.26	0.17

These results are in agreement with those found by El-Mogy *et al.* (1998) on "Thompson Seedless" cv., Esmail *et al.* (2003) on "Roumi Red" cv. and Aisha *et al.*, (2006) on "Flame Seedless" who found that yeast applications as foliar or soil drench significantly increased TSS%, TSS/acid ratio and anthocyanin content in berry skin and decreased total acidity% of the juice. As for the effect of ethephon, the grape industry has been using ethephon with some success to enhance berry anthocyanin accumulation and increasing TSS /acid ratio (Shulman *et al.*, 1985). In this respect, (Shibli *et al.*, 1997) found that the ethylene is released from ethephon that stimulates the production of endogenous ethylene, which increases fruit sugar and colour, thus accelerating the ripening process (Awad & De Jager, 2002). Also, Human (2010) on Crimson Seedless found that during the ripening period the TSS was significantly increased for ethephon treated bunches compared to the TSS of the control bunches.

Storability

Physical properties

Weight loss (%)

Data in Table 4 revealed that weight loss (%) increased gradually till the end of the cold storage period. This increase is probably due to moisture loss from the grapes during cold storage. It observed that weight loss (%) was decreased by the application of all treatments. The lowest percentage of weight loss (4.73 & 4.96%) was recorded after four weeks of cold storage for clusters treated with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar, whereas, the highest percentage of weight loss (9.99 & 10.82%) were obtained from spraying with ethephon in both seasons.

The obtained results are similar to those achieved by Ezz *et al.* (2012) found that foliar spraying with 3g/L yeast active dry yeast treatment reduced fruit weight loss compared to control in Alphonse and Badami mango fruits. With respect to ethephon application, Kelany *et al.* (2011) who found that spraying of clusters by ethrel at 500 ppm increased significantly berry weight loss % compared with untreated fruits after four weeks of cold storage of Flame Seedless grapes. Concerning the effect of apple vinegar, Antunes *et al.* (2007) found that figs, apricots, oranges, pomegranates and kiwi fruits treated with 1% acetic acid gave a great performance in the reduction of fruit weight loss through storage, without damaging the environment and human health.

TABLE 4. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on weight loss (%) of Flame Seedless grapes through 30 days storage period in 2011 and 2012 seasons.

2011 season						
Treatments (T)	Dates (D)	Days in cold storage				
		0	7	14	21	28
Control		0.00	1.27	2.96	4.54	7.42
15g yeast/vine		0.00	0.91	2.12	3.25	5.31
250ppm ethephon		0.00	1.71	3.99	6.12	9.99
500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	1.07	2.50	3.83	6.25
1000ppm apple vinegar		0.00	1.01	2.36	3.61	5.90
1500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	0.98	2.29	3.50	5.72
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon		0.00	1.54	3.59	5.51	8.99
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	0.89	2.08	3.18	5.20
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar		0.00	0.86	2.01	3.08	5.02
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	0.81	1.89	2.90	4.73
MEANS (D)		0.00	1.11	2.58	3.95	6.45
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =		0.11				
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =		0.08				
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =		0.25				
2012 season						
Treatments (T)	Dates (D)	Days in cold storage				
		0	7	14	21	28
Control		0.00	1.38	3.21	4.92	8.04
15g yeast/vine		0.00	1.03	2.40	3.68	6.01
250ppm ethephon		0.00	1.85	4.32	6.63	10.82
500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	1.16	2.71	4.15	6.77
1000ppm apple vinegar		0.00	1.12	2.61	4.01	6.54
1500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	1.06	2.48	3.80	6.20
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon		0.00	1.67	3.89	5.97	9.75
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	0.96	2.25	3.45	5.63
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar		0.00	0.92	2.15	3.29	5.37
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	0.85	1.98	3.04	4.96
MEANS (D)		0.00	1.20	2.80	4.29	7.01
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =		0.17				
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =		0.12				
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =		0.38				

▪ *Decay (%)*

As shown in Table 5 a gradual significant increase in berry decay (%) was observed up to the end of the cold storage period. Spraying with ethephon exhibited the highest percentage of decay (6.77 and 7.34%) for the two seasons, respectively. On the other hand, vines treated with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar showed the lowest percentage of decay (3.21 and 3.37%) in both seasons, respectively.

These results are in line with those obtained by Ben-Arie *et al.* (1991) on table grapes who found that soil drench application of yeast reduced the development of postharvest decay. With respect to ethephon application, Kelany *et al.* (2011) found that spraying of clusters by ethrel at 500 ppm exhibited the highest values of berries decay percentages compared with untreated fruits after four weeks of cold storage of Flame Seedless grapes. Concerning the effect of apple vinegar, it is obvious that application with 2.0 or 4.0 mg/L acetic acid before wounding prevented apples contaminated with *Botrytis cinerea* or *Penicillium expansum* conidia, respectively, from decaying (Sholberg and Gaunce, 1995). Also, Moyls *et al.* (1996) found that application with acetic acid at 8.0 mg per liter followed by use of modified atmosphere packaging for 74 days at 0°C reduced the percentage of decayed grapes from 94% in the control to 2% of Thompson Seedless grapes. In this respect, Sholberg *et al.* (1996) found that application with acetic acid of Summerland Selection 494 and Selection 651 grapes at approximately 2-week intervals controlled both *Botrytis* and *Penicillium* decay.

In addition, vinegar reduced postharvest decay of stone fruit, strawberries and apples by preventing spores of brown rot, grey mould and blue mould from germination (Sholberg *et al.*, 2000 and Liu *et al.*, 2002).

Shattering (%)

Data in Table 6 shows that shattering (%) increased gradually till the end of the cold storage period. It is observed that shattering (%) was increased by spraying with ethephon. The highest percentage of shattering (10.13 & 8.88%) was recorded after four weeks of cold storage for fruits treated with ethephon in the two seasons, respectively. Whereas, clusters treated with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar showed the lowest shattering (2.65 & 2.32%) after four weeks of cold storage in both seasons, respectively.

Similar results were obtained by Yahuaca *et al.* (2006) on "Malaga Roja" grape who found that ethephon induce fruit drop at maturity and during storage. Concerning the effect of apple vinegar, Sholberg *et al.* (1996) found that application with acetic acid of Summerland Selection 494 and Selection 651 grapes at approximately 2-week intervals reduced berry shatter.

TABLE 5. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on decay (%) of Flame Seedless grapes through 30 days storage period in 2011 and 2012 seasons.

2011 season						
Dates (D) \ Treatments (T)	Days in cold storage					MEANS (T)
	0	7	14	21	28	
Control	0.00	0.86	2.01	3.08	5.03	2.20
15g yeast/vine	0.00	0.62	1.44	2.21	3.60	1.57
250ppm ethephon	0.00	1.16	2.70	4.15	6.77	2.96
500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.73	1.69	2.59	4.24	1.85
1000ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.68	1.60	2.45	4.00	1.75
1500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.66	1.55	2.38	3.88	1.69
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	0.00	1.04	2.44	3.73	6.10	2.66
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.60	1.41	2.16	3.52	1.54
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.58	1.36	2.09	3.41	1.49
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.55	1.28	1.96	3.21	1.40
MEANS (D)	0.00	0.75	1.75	2.68	4.38	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.08					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.06					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.18					
2012 season						
Dates (D) \ Treatments (T)	Days in cold storage					MEANS (T)
	0	7	14	21	28	
Control	0.00	0.93	2.18	3.34	5.45	2.38
15g yeast/vine	0.00	0.70	1.63	2.50	4.08	1.78
250ppm ethephon	0.00	1.26	2.93	4.49	7.34	3.20
500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.79	1.83	2.81	4.59	2.00
1000ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.76	1.77	2.72	4.43	1.94
1500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.72	1.68	2.58	4.21	1.84
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	0.00	1.13	2.64	4.05	6.61	2.89
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.65	1.53	2.34	3.82	1.67
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.62	1.46	2.23	3.64	1.59
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	0.58	1.34	2.06	3.37	1.47
MEANS (D)	0.00	0.81	1.90	2.91	4.75	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.09					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.06					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.20					

Total spoilage (%)

Data presented in Table 7 clearly shows that the total spoilage percentage for stored Flame Seedless grapes increased gradually and significantly with the cold storage extension in both seasons. Clusters treated with ethephon had the highest total spoilage percentage (26.89 & 27.04%) recorded at the last sampling date, i.e. after four weeks of cold storage in both seasons, respectively. On the other hand, clusters treated with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar recorded the lowest percentage of total spoilage (10.59 & 10.65%) at the end of the cold storage period in both seasons, respectively.

Berry firmness (g / cm²)

As shown in Table 8 it is obvious that berry firmness decreased gradually till the end of the cold storage period. Berry firmness decrease was reduced by spraying with ethephon. The lowest berry firmness (24.70 & 24.29 g/cm²) was recorded after four weeks of cold storage for fruits treated with ethephon in the two seasons, respectively. Whereas, clusters treated with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar resulted in the highest berry firmness (27.72 & 27.26 g/cm²) after four weeks of cold storage in both seasons, respectively.

These results are in accordance with those obtained by Ezz *et al.* (2012) who found that foliar spraying with 3g/L active dry yeast increase fruit firmness compared to the control in Alphonse and Badami mango fruits. With respect to ethephon application, Yahuaca *et al.* (2006) on "Malaga Roja" grape found that ethephon induces berry softening at maturity and during storage. Also, Kelany *et al.* (2011) found that spraying of clusters by ethrel at 500 ppm decreased berry texture compared to control after four weeks of cold storage of Flame Seedless grapes. Concerning the effect of apple vinegar, Antunes *et al.* (2007) found that figs, apricots, oranges, pomegranates and kiwi fruits treated with 1% acetic acid gave a great performance in the reduction of fruit softening through storage, without damaging the environment or affecting human health.

Berry colour

As shown in Table 9 it is obvious that spraying with ethephon or different doses of apple vinegar either alone or in combination with yeast application reduced berry hue angle color (increased red skin color) more than the control. The lowest value of hue angle (the highest red skin color) (20.47 & 19.72) was recorded by the application of yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar at the last sampling date, i.e. after four weeks of cold storage in the two seasons, respectively. On the contrary, control grapes resulted in the highest values of hue angle (the lowest red skin color) (23.69 & 22.90) at the last sampling date, i.e. after four weeks of cold storage in both seasons, respectively.

TABLE 6. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on shattering (%) of Flame Seedless grapes through 30 days storage period in 2011 and 2012 seasons.

2011 season						
<div> <div>Dates (D)</div> <div>Treatments (T)</div> </div>	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	0.07	2.29	2.83	3.49	4.30	2.60
15g yeast/vine	0.00	1.71	2.11	2.60	3.21	1.93
250ppm ethephon	4.37	5.39	6.65	8.21	10.13	6.95
500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	2.12	2.62	3.23	3.98	2.39
1000ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.92	2.37	2.92	3.61	2.16
1500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.83	2.26	2.79	3.44	2.06
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	3.92	4.84	5.97	7.37	9.09	6.24
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.53	1.89	2.33	2.87	1.72
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.48	1.83	2.25	2.78	1.67
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.41	1.74	2.15	2.65	1.59
MEANS (D)	0.84	2.45	3.03	3.73	4.61	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.07					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.05					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.16					
2012 season						
<div> <div>Dates (D)</div> <div>Treatments (T)</div> </div>	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	0.03	2.01	2.48	3.05	3.77	2.27
15g yeast/vine	0.00	1.50	1.85	2.28	2.81	1.69
250ppm ethephon	4.23	4.72	5.83	7.19	8.88	6.17
500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.86	2.29	2.83	3.49	2.09
1000ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.68	2.08	2.56	3.16	1.90
1500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.60	1.98	2.44	3.01	1.81
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	3.87	4.24	5.23	6.45	7.96	5.55
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.34	1.65	2.04	2.52	1.51
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.30	1.60	1.97	2.44	1.46
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	0.00	1.24	1.52	1.88	2.32	1.39
MEANS (D)	0.81	2.15	2.65	3.27	4.04	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.06					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.04					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.13					

TABLE 7. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on total spoilage (%) of Flame Seedless grapes through 30 days storage period in 2011 and 2012 seasons.

2011 season						
Treatments (T)	Dates (D)	Days in cold storage				
		0	7	14	21	28
Control		0.07	4.42	7.80	11.11	16.75
15g yeast/vine		0.00	3.24	5.67	8.07	12.13
250ppm ethephon		4.37	8.26	13.35	18.47	26.89
500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	3.92	6.80	9.65	14.47
1000ppm apple vinegar		0.00	3.61	6.32	8.99	13.51
1500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	3.47	6.09	8.67	13.04
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon		3.92	7.42	12.00	16.61	24.18
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	3.02	5.37	7.67	11.60
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar		0.00	2.92	5.19	7.41	11.21
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	2.77	4.91	7.01	10.59
MEANS (D)		0.84	4.31	7.35	10.37	15.44
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =		0.27				
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =		0.19				
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =		0.60				
2012 season						
Treatments (T)	Dates (D)	Days in cold storage				
		0	7	14	21	28
Control		0.03	4.32	7.86	11.31	17.26
15g yeast/vine		0.00	3.22	5.88	8.46	12.90
250ppm ethephon		4.23	7.83	13.08	18.31	27.04
500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	3.80	6.83	9.79	14.85
1000ppm apple vinegar		0.00	3.56	6.46	9.28	14.14
1500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	3.39	6.14	8.81	13.42
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon		3.87	7.04	11.76	16.47	24.32
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	2.96	5.43	7.83	11.97
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar		0.00	2.84	5.20	7.50	11.45
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar		0.00	2.66	4.85	6.98	10.65
MEANS (D)		0.81	4.16	7.35	10.47	15.80
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =		0.36				
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =		0.26				
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =		0.81				

TABLE 8. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on berry firmness (g/cm²) of Flame Seedless grapes through 30 days storage period in 2011 and 2012 seasons.

2011 season						
Dates (D) \ Treatments (T)	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	30.34	28.94	27.61	26.34	25.13	27.67
15g yeast/vine	31.56	30.11	28.73	27.40	26.14	28.79
250ppm ethephon	29.82	28.45	27.14	25.89	24.70	27.20
500ppm apple vinegar	30.56	29.15	27.81	26.53	25.31	27.87
1000ppm apple vinegar	30.86	29.44	28.09	26.79	25.56	28.15
1500ppm apple vinegar	31.17	29.74	28.37	27.06	25.82	28.43
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	30.02	28.64	27.32	26.07	24.87	27.38
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	31.93	30.46	29.06	27.72	26.45	29.12
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	32.26	30.78	29.36	28.01	26.72	29.43
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	33.47	31.93	30.46	29.06	27.72	30.53
MEANS (D)	31.20	29.76	28.40	27.09	25.84	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	1.07					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.76					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	2.40					
2012 season						
Dates (D) \ Treatments (T)	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	29.85	28.48	27.17	25.92	24.72	27.23
15g yeast/vine	31.03	29.61	28.24	26.95	25.71	28.31
250ppm ethephon	29.32	27.97	26.69	25.46	24.29	26.75
500ppm apple vinegar	30.03	28.65	27.33	26.07	24.87	27.39
1000ppm apple vinegar	30.34	28.95	27.62	26.35	25.13	27.68
1500ppm apple vinegar	30.61	29.20	27.86	26.58	25.35	27.92
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	29.52	28.16	26.87	25.63	24.45	26.93
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	31.40	29.96	28.58	27.26	26.01	28.64
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	31.73	30.27	28.87	27.55	26.28	28.94
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	32.91	31.40	29.95	28.57	27.26	30.02
MEANS (D)	30.67	29.26	27.92	26.63	25.41	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	1.03					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.73					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	2.31					

The increase in berry colour during cold storage period may be attributed to the effect of water loss and endogenous sugars which considered being fundamental agents for synthesis of anthocyanin and other phenol compounds (Pirie and Mullins, 1977).

Similar results were obtained by Gerasopoulos and Stavroulakis (1999) who found that storage of control fruit at 0 °C delayed ripening; ethephon-treated fruit increased of anthocyanin content compared to the control of 'Sceptar' red raspberries. Also, Kelany *et al.* (2011) found that spraying of clusters with ethrel at 500 ppm increased anthocyanin percentage in comparison with the control after four weeks of cold storage of Flame Seedless grapes.

Chemical properties

Percentage of total soluble solids (TSS)

Data in Table 10 revealed that, there was a gradual and significant increase in the berry juice TSS (%) till the end of the cold storage period. This increase can be due to the moisture loss. Application with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar recorded the highest TSS (%) at the last sampling date, *i.e.* after four weeks of cold storage (19.14 & 19.53%) in both seasons, respectively. While, the control grapes had the lowest TSS percentages (18.51 & 18.94%) after four weeks of cold storage in both seasons, respectively.

Similar results were obtained by Ezz *et al.* (2012) found that foliar spraying with 3g/L active dry yeast increased TSS compared to control in Alphonse and Badami mango fruits. With respect to ethephon application, Kelany *et al.* (2011) found that spraying of clusters by ethrel at 500 ppm increased TSS percentage more than control after four weeks of cold storage of Flame Seedless grapes. Concerning to the effect of apple vinegar, Hosseini *et al.* (2013) found that Iranian white lettuce treated with 10g/L aqueous solution of acetic acid soaked for 5 minutes increased TSS during ambient storage at temperature of 25°C and 65% RH.

Percentage of acidity

As shown in Table 11 it is obvious that berry juice acidity decreased gradually till the end of the cold storage period. Berry juice acidity was decreased by spraying with ethephon or different doses of apple vinegar either alone or in combination with yeast. The lowest berry juice acidity (0.39 & 0.40%) was recorded after four weeks of cold storage as a result of applying yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar in the two seasons, respectively. On the other hand, grapes of the control showed the highest berry juice acidity (0.52 & 0.55%) after four weeks of cold storage in both seasons, respectively.

The obtained results are similar to those achieved by Kelany *et al.* (2011) who found that spraying of clusters by ethrel at 500 ppm decreased berry acidity percentage compared to control after four weeks of cold storage of Flame Seedless grapes.

TABLE 9. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on color (Hue angle) of Flame Seedless grapes through 30 days storage period in 2011 and 2012 seasons.

2011 season						
<div>Dates (D) Treatments (T)</div>	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	32.87	30.80	28.86	25.28	23.69	28.30
15g yeast/vine	29.74	27.87	26.11	22.87	21.43	25.60
250ppm ethephon	28.94	27.12	25.41	22.26	20.86	24.92
500ppm apple vinegar	30.49	28.57	26.77	23.45	21.97	26.25
1000ppm apple vinegar	28.81	26.99	25.29	22.16	20.76	24.80
1500ppm apple vinegar	28.73	26.92	25.22	22.10	20.70	24.73
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	28.65	26.85	25.15	22.03	20.65	24.67
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	29.37	27.52	25.79	22.59	21.17	25.29
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	28.53	26.73	25.05	21.94	20.56	24.56
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	28.41	26.62	24.94	21.85	20.47	24.46
MEANS (D)	29.45	27.60	25.86	22.65	21.23	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.09					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.06					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.20					
2012 season						
<div>Dates (D) Treatments (T)</div>	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	31.78	29.78	27.90	24.44	22.90	27.36
15g yeast/vine	28.43	26.64	24.96	21.87	20.49	24.48
250ppm ethephon	27.83	26.08	24.43	21.40	20.06	23.96
500ppm apple vinegar	29.17	27.33	25.61	22.43	21.02	25.11
1000ppm apple vinegar	27.74	25.99	24.35	21.33	19.99	23.88
1500ppm apple vinegar	27.67	25.93	24.29	21.28	19.94	23.82
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	27.56	25.82	24.20	21.20	19.86	23.73
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	28.07	26.30	24.64	21.59	20.23	24.17
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	27.51	25.78	24.15	21.16	19.83	23.68
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	27.37	25.65	24.03	21.05	19.72	23.56
MEANS (D)	28.31	26.53	24.86	21.78	20.40	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.07					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.05					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.16					

TABLE 10. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on TSS (%) of Flame Seedless grapes through 30 days storage period in 2011 and 2012 seasons.

2011 season						
Dates (D) Treatments (T)	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	16.07	16.74	17.31	17.90	18.51	17.31
15g yeast/vine	16.25	16.95	17.54	18.16	18.79	17.54
250ppm ethephon	16.35	17.05	17.63	18.23	18.85	17.62
500ppm apple vinegar	16.18	16.88	17.47	18.08	18.71	17.46
1000ppm apple vinegar	16.28	16.98	17.59	18.22	18.88	17.59
1500ppm apple vinegar	16.31	17.01	17.61	18.22	18.86	17.60
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	16.37	17.07	17.71	18.36	19.04	17.71
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	16.27	16.97	17.58	18.21	18.87	17.58
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	16.38	17.08	17.70	18.34	19.00	17.70
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	16.41	17.12	17.77	18.44	19.14	17.77
MEANS (D)	16.29	16.99	17.59	18.22	18.87	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.06					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.04					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.13					
2012 season						
Date (D) Treatment (T)	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	16.43	17.14	17.72	18.32	18.94	17.71
15g yeast/vine	16.57	17.28	17.89	18.51	19.16	17.88
250ppm ethephon	16.67	17.39	17.98	18.59	19.22	17.97
500ppm apple vinegar	16.56	17.27	17.88	18.50	19.15	17.87
1000ppm apple vinegar	16.62	17.33	17.96	18.61	19.28	17.96
1500ppm apple vinegar	16.64	17.36	17.96	18.59	19.24	17.96
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	16.68	17.40	18.04	18.71	19.40	18.05
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	16.60	17.31	17.94	18.58	19.25	17.94
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	16.70	17.42	18.05	18.69	19.37	18.05
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	16.74	17.46	18.12	18.81	19.53	18.13
MEANS (D)	16.62	17.34	17.95	18.59	19.25	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.07					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.05					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.16					

TABLE 11. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on acidity (%) of Flame Seedless grapes through 30 days storage period in 2011 and 2012 seasons.

2011 season						
<div>Dates (D)</div> <div>Treatments (T)</div>	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	0.65	0.61	0.58	0.55	0.52	0.58
15g yeast/vine	0.62	0.59	0.57	0.55	0.54	0.57
250ppm ethephon	0.58	0.54	0.50	0.47	0.43	0.50
500ppm apple vinegar	0.63	0.60	0.57	0.54	0.51	0.57
1000ppm apple vinegar	0.59	0.56	0.53	0.51	0.48	0.53
1500ppm apple vinegar	0.59	0.55	0.51	0.48	0.46	0.52
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	0.56	0.53	0.49	0.46	0.43	0.49
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	0.60	0.58	0.56	0.55	0.53	0.57
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	0.55	0.51	0.48	0.44	0.41	0.48
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	0.53	0.50	0.47	0.43	0.39	0.46
MEANS (D)	0.59	0.56	0.53	0.50	0.47	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.02					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.01					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.04					
2012 season						
<div>Dates (D)</div> <div>Treatments (T)</div>	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	0.67	0.64	0.61	0.58	0.55	0.61
15g yeast/vine	0.65	0.62	0.60	0.58	0.56	0.60
250ppm ethephon	0.60	0.56	0.52	0.48	0.45	0.52
500ppm apple vinegar	0.66	0.63	0.60	0.57	0.54	0.60
1000ppm apple vinegar	0.63	0.60	0.57	0.54	0.51	0.57
1500ppm apple vinegar	0.62	0.58	0.54	0.51	0.48	0.55
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	0.59	0.55	0.51	0.47	0.44	0.51
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	0.63	0.61	0.59	0.57	0.56	0.59
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	0.57	0.53	0.49	0.46	0.43	0.50
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	0.56	0.52	0.47	0.44	0.40	0.48
MEANS (D)	0.62	0.58	0.55	0.52	0.49	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	0.01					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.01					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	0.02					

TSS/acid ratio

Results presented in Table 12 indicated that TSS/acid ratio increased gradually and significantly with the extension of the cold storage period in both seasons. Application with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar recorded the highest TSS/acid ratio (48.82 & 48.67) at the last sampling date, i.e. after four weeks of cold storage in both seasons, respectively. On the other hand, grapes of the control had the lowest values (35.42 & 34.50) at the end of the cold storage period in both seasons, respectively.

These results are in line with those obtained by Kelany *et al.* (2011) who found that spraying of clusters by ethrel at 500 ppm increased TSS/acid ratio more than control after four weeks of cold storage of Flame Seedless grapes.

In conclusion, it can be said that all yeast treatments either alone or in combination with ethephon or different doses of apple vinegar gave the best results in comparison with control. Application with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar resulted in the best yield and its components as well as the physical properties of bunches and improved the physical and chemical characteristics of berries. With respect to the effect of application with yeast either alone or in combination with ethephon or different doses of apple vinegar on clusters during cold storage for four weeks at 0°C, RH 90-95%, it was noticed that all treatments, except for ethephon treatments, were effective in enhancing storability, since it reduced wastage resulting either from disease infection or physiological disorders and inhibited the rate of deterioration of grapes physical and chemical properties during cold storage by reducing weight loss (%), decay (%), shattering (%), total spoilage (%) and the decrease in firmness. Application with yeast + 1500 ppm apple vinegar increased berry colour, TSS and TSS/acid ratio and decreased acidity compared to control.

TABLE 12. Effect of yeast, ethephon and apple vinegar on TSS/acid ratio of Flame Seedless grapes through 30 days storage period in 2011 and 2012 seasons.

2011 season						
<div><div>Dates (D)</div><div>Treatments (T)</div></div>	Days in cold storage					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	24.72	27.64	30.02	32.61	35.42	30.08
15g yeast/vine	26.21	28.78	30.70	32.76	34.96	30.68
250ppm ethephon	28.19	31.61	35.15	39.08	43.45	35.50
500ppm apple vinegar	25.68	28.20	30.72	33.47	36.46	30.91
1000ppm apple vinegar	27.59	30.29	33.04	36.03	39.29	33.25
1500ppm apple vinegar	27.64	31.00	34.50	37.59	40.95	34.34
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	29.23	32.09	35.79	39.90	44.49	36.30
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	27.12	29.16	31.14	33.26	35.52	31.24
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	29.78	33.40	37.21	41.45	46.17	37.60
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	30.96	34.35	37.94	42.80	48.82	38.98
MEANS (D)	27.71	30.65	33.62	36.90	40.55	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	1.33					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	0.94					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	2.98					
2012 season						
<div><div>Dates (D)</div><div>Treatments (T)</div></div>	Days in cold storag					
	0	7	14	21	28	MEANS (T)
Control	24.52	26.92	29.24	31.76	34.50	29.39
15g yeast/vine	25.49	27.99	29.86	31.86	34.00	29.84
250ppm ethephon	27.78	31.16	34.64	38.52	42.83	34.99
500ppm apple vinegar	25.09	27.55	30.01	32.70	35.62	30.19
1000ppm apple vinegar	26.38	28.96	31.59	34.44	37.56	31.79
1500ppm apple vinegar	26.84	30.10	33.50	36.50	39.76	33.34
15g yeast/vine+ 250ppm ethephon	28.27	31.71	35.35	39.42	43.96	35.74
15g yeast/vine+ 500ppm apple vinegar	26.35	28.33	30.26	32.32	34.52	30.36
15g yeast/vine+ 1000ppm apple vinegar	29.30	32.86	36.60	40.78	45.42	36.99
15g yeast/vine+ 1500ppm apple vinegar	29.89	33.89	38.24	43.14	48.67	38.77
MEANS (D)	26.99	29.95	32.93	36.14	39.68	
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (T) =	1.47					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (D) =	1.04					
new L.S.D. at 0.05 (TXD) =	3.29					

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دور الخميرة والأثيلفون وخل التفاح في تحسين جودة الثمار والقدرة التخزينية لصنف عنب الفليم سيدلس

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أجرى هذا البحث لمدة موسمين متتاليين (٢٠١١، ٢٠١٢) بأحد المزارع الخاصة بمنطقة الخطاطبة التابعة لمحافظة المنوفية على كرمات عنب الفليم سيدلس بهدف دراسة تأثير الخميرة والأثيلفون وخل التفاح في تحسين المحصول وجودة الثمار والقدرة التخزينية لصنف عنب الفليم سيدلس. وكانت الكرمات عمرها ١٠ سنوات نامية في تربة طميية رملية، منزرعة على مسافة $2 \times 2,5$ متر، وكانت تروى بنظام الري بالتنقيط، وكرمات العنب مرباة بطريقة الكردون المزدوج وفيها تم تقليم الكرمات تقليماً دابرياً تحت نظام التدعيم "T" المزدوج. وتم تقليم الكرمات في الأسبوع الأول من يناير مع ترك حمولة براعم كلية (٦٠ عنب لكل كرمة). وقد تم إجراء عشرة معاملات وهى المقارنة (كرمات غير معاملة)، إضافة ١٥ جم خميرة/كرمة، رش العناقيد بـ ٢٥٠ جزء في المليون أثيفون، رش العناقيد بـ ٥٠٠ جزء في المليون خل التفاح، رش العناقيد بـ ١٠٠٠ جزء في المليون خل التفاح، رش العناقيد بـ ١٥٠٠ جزء في المليون خل التفاح، إضافة ١٥ جم خميرة/كرمة + رش العناقيد بـ ٢٥٠ جزء في المليون أثيفون، إضافة ١٥ جم خميرة/كرمة + رش العناقيد بـ ٥٠٠ جزء في المليون خل التفاح، إضافة ١٥ جم خميرة/كرمة + رش العناقيد بـ ١٠٠٠ جزء في المليون خل التفاح، إضافة ١٥ جم خميرة/كرمة + رش العناقيد بـ ١٥٠٠ جزء في المليون خل التفاح.

أشارت نتائج الدراسة إلى أن جميع معاملات الخميرة إما بصورة منفردة أو مشتركة مع الأثيلفون أو تركيزات مختلفة من خل التفاح قد أعطت أفضل النتائج مقارنة بالكنترول. كما أن المعاملة بإضافة ١٥ جم خميرة/كرمة + رش العناقيد بـ ١٥٠٠ جزء في المليون خل التفاح أعطت أعلى محصول ومكوناته بالإضافة إلى تحسين الصفات الطبيعية للعناقيد والصفات الطبيعية والكيميائية للحبات. وبالنسبة فيما يتعلق بتأثير إضافة الخميرة إما بصورة منفردة أو مشتركة مع الأثيلفون أو تركيزات مختلفة من خل التفاح قبل الحصاد على قابلية الثمار للتخزين المبرد على درجة الصفر المئوى ورطوبة نسبية ٩٠-٩٥٪ فقد أدت كل معاملات التجربة فيما عدا معاملة رش العناقيد بالأثيلفون إلى تحسين القدرة التخزينية للعناقيد حيث قللت من الفاقد سواء كان ناتجاً من إصابات مرضية أو أضرار فسيولوجية بالإضافة إلى تثبيت معدل تدهور الخواص الطبيعية والكيميائية للحبات أثناء التخزين المبرد وذلك من خلال تقليل النسب المئوية لكل من الفاقد فى الوزن والتالف والفرط وكذلك نسبة الفاقد الكلى كما قللت من انخفاض الصلابة. وقد أعطت المعاملة بإضافة ١٥ جم خميرة/كرمة + رش العناقيد بـ ١٥٠٠ جزء في المليون خل التفاح زيادة فى اللون ونسبة المواد الصلبة الذائبة الكلية ونسبة المواد الصلبة الذائبة الكلية إلى الحموضة بينما قللت من نسبة الحموضة تدريجياً وبدرجة معنوية مقارنة بالكنترول.