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## Non Saccharomyces Yeast for Postharvest/Cider Protection

Posted by [Brittany Kordick](#)

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[Brittany Kordick](#)

[Non Saccharomyces Yeast for Postharvest/Cider Protection](#)

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Registered: 4 years ago

Posts: 211

A winemaker customer just turned us onto the growing trend of adding low or no fermenting, non-*Saccharomyces* yeast species to grapes or fresh-pressed juice to aid in post-harvest protection of the fruit or for juice pre-fermentation (particularly used to protect during shipping of juice, apparently). Pretty cool that this is apparently becoming a mainstream practice as an alternative to using sulfur. Our guy was describing myriad ways these yeasts are being used, such as, if I'm remembering correctly, making use of yeast species that naturally inhibit oxygen in containers.

He thought we might be interested in this for preservation of our cider or apples, since we don't have a lot of cold storage, and told us to check out the Scott Labs offerings of non-sacc yeasts (Gaia is the trade name of the specific storage strain they sell). This is the first we've heard of using yeasts in this fashion and seemed like it might appeal to some in the HON community. In most applications, it sounds like the strains of yeast are being used to outcompete pathogens in the same way we might use EM-1, Spectrum, or specific beneficial fungi and bacteria in our orchards. Just curious to know if any apple growers or cider makers have played around with something like this. At the very least, we're interested in potentially having some on hand for emergencies where our refrigeration is down and we've got a bunch of pressed juice, bearing in mind, however, that cooler temperature conditions are recommended for usage (for Gaia, anyway).

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