



NEWSLETTER 08/2015

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Herkules and Polaris - A comparison of quality of bitterness

The licensing fee for the hop variety Polaris (DEPA) will be dropped with effect from crop 2015 onwards. Consequently, Polaris may now be considered as an alternative bittering variety. Therefore, at this year's Hopsteiner Forum in July 2015 a selection of two Pils beers were presented to an audience of brewers and brewing scientists to show the impact on bitter quality by using either Polaris or Herkules (DEHS). Both varieties were exclusively used as a bittering dosage at the beginning of boiling. The analytical data of these two beers are shown in table 1.

Table 1 – Analytical Data

	IBU EBC 9.8	ABV %	° P	Iso-alpha acids EBC 9.47 (mg/l)	Polyphenols EBC 9.11 (mg/l)
DEHS	39.3	5.4	12.3	40.3	169
DEPA	38.7	5.3	12.2	40.4	172

Tasting Results

The following figures compare the quality of bitterness as well as the overall impression of the Pils beers described above.

Fig. 1 – Quality of Bitterness

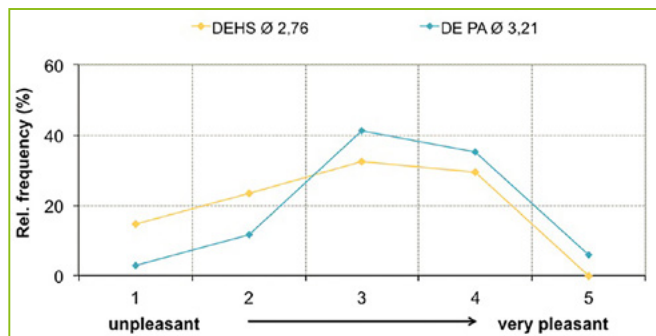


Fig. 2 – Overall Impressions

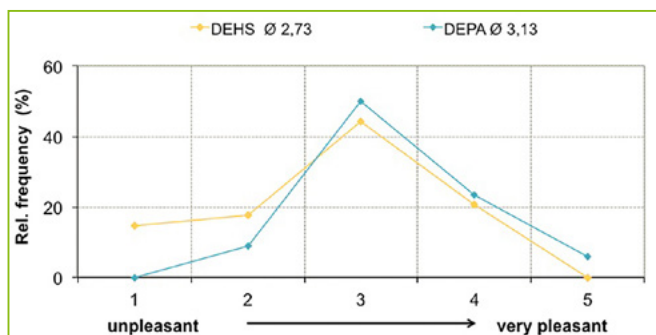


Figure 1 and 2 express the comparable quality of bitterness of both beers hopped with either Herkules or Polaris. Besides (not shown in figure 1 and 2) the sensory bitter units were assessed at the same level of about 30. The overall impression as well as the quality of hop aroma of these two Pils were nearly identical and show no significant difference at all. These facts demonstrate the suitability of Polaris as a comparable bitter hop variety to Herkules.



Tasting Experience Diversity

