



BANCO NAZIONALE DI ASSAGGIO DELLE BIRRE

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- “The first Italian Official Beer Tasting Annual Event”
 - www.banab.it“

By Paolo Fantozzi

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Last June, in the occasion of the Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the creation of CERB, speaking in Perugia with our invited Guests **John Brauer** and **Gert De Rouck**, I suggested the possibility of a presentation at the **BSG in Salzburg** of our **National Beer Tasting Bench (BANco Nazionale di Assaggio delle Birre- BANaB)**.

They both agreed and here we are!!



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This idea raised to my mind because the last spring we celebrated also the **10th anniversary** of the establishment of the **CEREVISIA Award organized by the National Beer Tasting Bench (BANCO Nazionale di Assaggio delle Birre- BANaB)** .





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The official announcement of the **2023** beer winners took place in **Rome** the 22 of June 2023 inside the Great Hall of the **Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry (1)**





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The today presentation will deal mainly on the historical **reasons** that justified the creation in 2013 in Italy of a Beer **Prize** called “**Cerevisia**” (<http://www.premiocerevisia.com/>) (2),

First of all, is the **only** Italian Prize sponsored by :

the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry,
and by:
ASSOBIRRA, the Italian Associations of Malterers and Brewers.



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But, most important,

Why we decided to create in 2013 such Prize, that **should not** be a simple **duplication** of many already existing prizes in our Country?

Let us see.....





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In January 2013, at the 10th Anniversary of Cerb creation, in my position of Director of CERB, I first noticed the positive effect of the **regular Courses for new Brewers offered since 2008 by CERB**, not existing, at that moment, elsewhere **in Italy**.

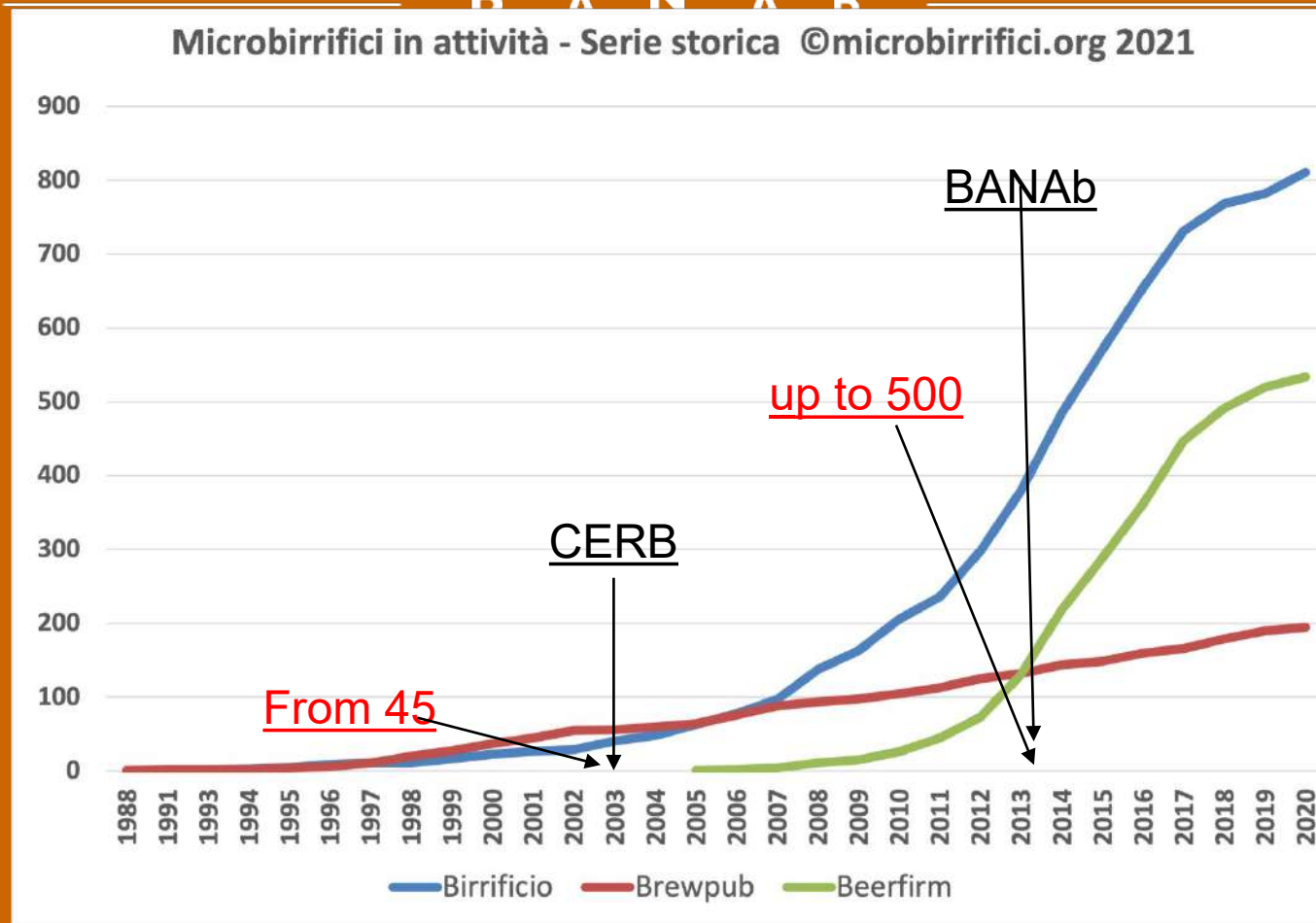
In fact, many of the **1100** new brewmasters formed by **CERB** started to create **their own beer factory**, giving raise in Italy to an incredible number of craft beer factories (from ca.45 in 2003 to ca. 500 in 2013) (**ca. 1600 today**) .





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In function of that, I got the idea that it would be space for a specific Beer Tasting competition at **national based on the following reasons:**

-to allow the new breweries to enter in real competition and confrontation between them,

-to introduce completely different rules from all the competitions already existing outside Italy.



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- Following this basic idea, on the name of **CERB I** contacted the **Italian Association of Malsters and Beer (ASSOBIRRA)**, and some Regional Entities interested in the Prize enhancement as the **Department of Agriculture of Region of Umbria**, the **Umbrian Chamber of Commerce** and the **Municipality of Deruta**, where CERB was and is located.
- All of them enthusiastically agreed to go on. The protocol of understanding for the establishment of **BaNaB** was formally signed on April 30, 2013 at the Department of Agriculture of the Umbrian Region. **(3)**





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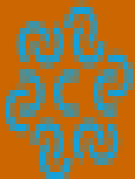
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Regione Umbria



Banco Nazionale d'Assaggio delle Birre



CAMERA DI COMMERCIO
DELL'UMBRIA

Premio CEREVISIA



Comune di Deruta



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The Banab 2013 constitution Meeting





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The Annual Competition created by BanaB, called "CEREVISIA Award" was reserved for **two distinct types of beers**:

- 1. beers** obtained from their own production facilities. The production facilities and the registered office of the breweries **must** be located in the Italian territory.





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2. **beers** obtained from production facilities NOT owned (BeerFirm).
The production facilities and the registered office of the breweries must still to be located in the Italian territory.

N.B.(Beers placed on the market in bulk or in any case not packaged in compliance ith European legislation **are not** admitted to the Competition.)





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Each participant must ensure the marketing on their own of a homogeneous batch of at least **2.5 hectoliters** packaged in kegs, jars or bottles of product verifiable on the basis of the documentation to be attached

(i.e. beer with the **same** chemical and sensory characteristics of the product entered in the competition must be available on the market contained in commercial containers.)





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These distinctive features, absent in all other Prizes, were certified and based in the following 4 qualifying control points:

1. The participating beers should respect the Italian beer quality laws .
This control, **completely absent in all other prizes**, would be certified by **CERB**
2. Correspondance of Label Claims with the product inside the container ,
certified again by **CERB**.



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3. Real Presence on the national market of participating beers

This control would be made by **Chamber of Commerce and Dept. of Agriculture of Umbria Region.**

4. Analytical certification by CERB sent to all the participating brewers attesting the acceptance / refusal of their submitted beer





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**I will show you now the different Prizes given during the
CEREVISIA AWARD**





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- **Excellence Award, for the first ever ranked beer**





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Awards for regional origin:

- 1. Northern Italian regions Category Award** (to the **first classified** among the beers produced by breweries within one of the following regions: Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Liguria, Lombardy, Piedmont, Trentino Alto Adige, Valle d'Aosta, Veneto)
- 2. Center Italian regions Category Award** (to the **first classified** among the beers produced by breweries within one of the following regions: Abruzzo, Emilia Romagna, Lazio, Marche, Tuscany, Umbria)
- 3. South and Islands Italian Category Award** (to the **first classified** among the beers produced by breweries within one of the following regions: Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Molise, Puglia, Sardinia, Sicily)





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- Awards for the following 22 Styles of Beers

(Bottom-fermented beers category):

1. PILSNER and substyles

2. KELLER

3. RAUCHBIER

4. BOCK and sottostili

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- Awards for the following Styles of Beers

(Top-fermenting beer category):

5. GOLDEN/BLOND ALE

6. BELGIAN PALE/BLOND ALE

7. PALE ALE SOTTOSTILI

8. PORTER – STOUT e sottostili

9. BLANCHE/WHEAT BEER

10. WHEAT/WHITE/FRUMENTO

11 SAISON

12. IPA and substyles

13. NEIPA/DDHIPA, new England-IPA

14. DOUBLE IPA

15. DOBEL

16. BELGIAN STRONG ALE/TRIPEL





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- Awards for the following Styles of Beers

(Flavoured beers/spontaneous fermentation category):



17. FRUIT BEER

18. SOUR ALE

19. WOOD/BARREL AGED BEER



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- Awards for the following Styles of Beers



(Other categories):

20. ITALIAN GRAPE ALE

21. ITALIAN RAW MATERIALS (beer where at least 51% of raw materials are Italian)

22. Others

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And, finally:



- Image Award

intended for beer that presents a more interesting and innovative design or label.



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In order to assure an objective evaluation of the beers, the BaNaB Committee **appoints** the members of the **Tasting Panel** and the **Panel Leader**, selecting them among tasters with consolidated experience and national renowned, preferably belonging to public Bodies or Institutions.





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Starting 2020 about **1/3** of the Panelists is chosen among the members of the **AITBM** (Italia Association of Beer and Malt Technicians), **1/3** of the institutional Panel by **the CERB** and **1/3** from international renowned beer testers.





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Names of the Panel Leaders appointed over the years:

**2013 Dr Deborah Parker - Sensory Manager Brewing
Division Campden BRI (UK)**



**2014 e 2015 Dr. Ed Wray Brewing new products Campden
BRI (UK)**



**From 2016-2021 and 2023 Eng. Vittorio Gorza
AITBM**



2022 Eng. Claudio Gorza and Dr. Flavio Boero AITBM





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Literature

(1) Paolo Fantozzi. “Grande successo del Premio Cerevisia 2022,

“Industrie delle Bevande” Anno 51. n. 301 pagg 89-92

(2) Cerevisia Award web site(www.premiocerevisia.com)

(3) BANAB- Protocol of Understanding [[Protocollo-Intesa-in-vigore.pdf](#)

[\(premiocerevisia.com\)\]](#)





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Thank you for your patience!!

