

Information Sheet 2: *Domaine la Colombette Grenache*

CHARACTERISTICS

Type: Red wine 2003
Vin de pays des Coteaux du Libron
Grape variety: Grenache 100%
Nb btls / year: 20 000

GROWING METHODS

Soil: Clayey limestone slopes
Age of vines: between 5 and 25 years
Planting: 4000 to 6000 vines/ha
Pruning method: Cordon de Royat
Trellising: lifted 1.5m vertically, with a width of 0.40m
Work on the soil: Full ploughing, no chemical weed killers
Irrigation: "Drip" watering
Insecticide treatments: Only sexual confusion for grape-worm
Fungicide treatments: Oidium and mildew, very little use of copper
Leaf-thinning: A little on the north side
Production: 70hl/ha
Harvesting method: mechanical



VINIFICATION

Sorting: by hand
Yeast: yes
Fermentation: between 18 and 22°C
Vatting: no

MATURING

Racking: 1/month for the first 3 months
Barrels: 1 year in 3-year-old-barrels
Vats: no
Fining: no
Filtration: yes
Bottling: On the property.

TASTING NOTES

Colour: Garnet red
Nose: Strawberries and raspberries, typical of Grenache, slightly spicy
Taste: Supple and fruity, well balanced and full of charm
Serving suggestions: Grills, charcuteries, barbecued thrush
Serving T°: 15°C
Ageing: 5 to 10 year

Caractéristique	Sucres Réducteurs g/l	Alcool % vol	Acidité Totale g H2SO4/l	Acidité Volatile g H2SO4/l	SO2 Total mg/l	SO2 Libre mg/l	pH
Grenache	1,6	13,55	2,79	0,33	83	21	3,69

COMMENT

Our favourite grape variety

A lover of the heady wines of the Rhone Valley, François Pugibet decided to plant this fundamentally southern grape variety in 1968. With its erect bearing and vigorous shoots, it stands up very well to the north wind, the Mistral and the Tramontane. It is also very happy in dry soils.

The white marl slopes at Domaine la Colombette bring out the very best of Grenache. It regularly reaches outstanding levels of ripeness, especially in this 2003 vintage, where it has taken on all its aromatic strength.

Lack of recognition

This variety suffers from a lack of recognition. However, three years ago, at the instigation of the "Slow Food" association, an international Grenache day was created. This event brings together the best ambassadors of the grape variety from areas such as Chateauneuf, Priorato and Roussillon. We have been there since the start and have gradually seen people develop a real passion for these wines.

A wine of the future

In the early 1980's Grenache represented up to 30% of the varieties planted at Domaine la Colombette. It has lost a little of its volume in favour of the white varieties. Today, with the arrival of high planting densities, we predict a great future for it and new planting is taking place. With vines planted at over 6000 plants/ha we hope to make wines that are even more fruity and dense but less alcohol-rich, without changing its outstanding ageing capacity. Over 4 years of age, this wine gradually becomes an increasingly explosive red berry bomb!