2015 Vintage Report





## An 'Atypical Harvest' ...

And, as it turns out, a promising one. Favourable weather conditions led the CIVC to forecast an early start to the harvests, especially in the Aube and Sézanne regions. The particularly hot, dry summer resulted in some irregularity in the picking times in different areas. At Taittinger, the harvests began on 4 September in the vineyards in the Aube, a week before those in the Marne.

These involved 800 seasonal workers, spread over the Champagne producer's 288 hectares, with a yield of 11,800 kg/hectare (the compulsory yields being 10,500 kg/hectare for market yield and 12,400 kg/hectare for agronomic yield).

Everything already suggests that the vintage will be a «grand vin»: the vines were in excellent health and the grapes reached a very good level of ripeness (10.5% potential alcohol). Alternating periods of dryness and rain resulted in a beneficial water stress which was more pronounced in the Aube than in the Marne due to the composition of the subsoil. The impact was most noticeable in the Aube, where the bunches often consisted of small grapes, which were nevertheless very ripe. For cellar master Loïc Dupont, this was a beautiful harvest: the Chardonnay is fruity and expressive, with a golden colour. Whereas the Pinot Noir has a pleasant lightness with a base of red fruit aromas. The Pinot Meunier was ultimately more varied, despite a satisfactory level of ripeness.

We are very pleased to have brought grapes of exceptional quality to the presses, this year, particularly as this was an atypical growing season.
 So what will the wines be like? No doubt they too will be exceptional "
 Vincent Collard, Vineyard Director.



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