Joseph Drouhin

# 2004 – Pure and Well-defined

As the old Burgundy proverb goes: "September makes the wine". The weather definitely gave the vignerons of Burgundy a hard time during the year: there was a magnificent spring followed by a very unstable summer, characterized by hail storms in some areas, a pale sun most of the time and a cool August.
Fortunately, a glorious September brought back more than a ray of sunshine. Summer-like conditions and a warm and dry wind which significantly increased the grape maturation and enabled them to remain disease-free.

The harvest started at a rather early date: September 13th in Mâconnais and Côte Chalonnaise, September 20th in Côte d'Or and September 29th in Chablis.
Due to variation in the quality of the berries, a careful sorting of the grapes was essential. At the Domaine, just as with any other serious proprietor, it was necessary to sort out a good part of the crop. The vinification went rather slowly.
Contrary to 2003, mother nature was more generous (as a reminder, the yield in 2003 was 30 to 40% lower than in 2002!): our production in 2004 was 10% higher than the average of the last 10 years.

Frédéric DROUHIN
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