



TENUTA
DELLE
TERRE NERE

Harvest 2019

A vintage, 2019, characterized at first by the very cold and rainy winter that preceded it, with copious snowfalls and weather often below freezing, uncommonly extreme in Sicily, even on Etna. Early spring followed suit, wet and crisp, the first quarter of the year showing cumulative rainfalls exceeding 400 mms.

The temperatures postponed the vegetative awakening and development which, by the end of May saw the leafing two weeks late with respect to average, the young vines damaged by a May 8 freeze.

June was the month for recovery, warm and dry, with flowering occurring at worst a week late. Carricante's natural vigour, however, matched with prolonged warmth and well hydrated soils, caused it to suffer from a coulure that was instrumental in lowering production in some vineyards up to 40-50%. On the other hand, the dry and warm June facilitated the yearly battle against mildew and oidium typical of that month, both of which were entirely absent.

The season progressed into a warm July and August with very few peaks of heat. September was as perfect as one could wish for, wonderfully cool with a few refreshing rainfalls.

Early October remained cool, favouring what I consider to be the finest Carricante harvest ever: small production, full ripeness, crisp acidity.

From the second week of October on the weather stabilized into a perfect Indian summer, bringing the red grapes to a slow and steady ripeness in perfect health.

A classic vintage for Etna Rosso, in many ways comparable to the very fine 2016, with perhaps even greater balance.

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