



## HARVEST REPORT 2024

The winter that preceded the 2024 harvest was one of the warmest and driest on record, temperatures averaging +1° C above norm. No snowfall (third consecutive year with no snow) and, still more preoccupying, very little rain indeed.

Spring was thankfully rainy and humid, but without causing sanitary problems - as the ravaging downy mildew attack of spring 2023. The only damage was a light “coulure”, particularly concerning the Carricante varietal.

The spring rains, however, proved insufficient in making up for the winter drought. This became obvious during the dry summer months in which even old vines seemed to suffer the lack of water, not to speak of the young ones, which had to be abundantly irrigated where possible, even by hand. On the other hand, the grapes were totally free of any phytosanitary problems. Moreover, late August and early September drizzles, although modest, spurred the vines to renew their vegetative cycle and to swiftly ripen their fruit. Harvest started September 20 and finished October 18.

October was characterized by relatively low temperatures and excellent temperature excursions.

A surprising lack of rain in what is habitually a very wet month saw us harvesting impeccably healthy grapes with excellent sugars and acidity compounded by a very desirable phenolic ripening.

From the very beginning, both whites and reds displayed the characteristics of a very fine vintage. The whites exhibiting a purity of character rarely seen, matched by lively freshness. This led me for the first time to use virtually no barrel fermentation, looking to retain the handsome Carricante identity the musts displayed. The crus shall also benefit from a longer stay on the fine lees. Truly, I look forward to follow their evolution.

The reds, I'm sure, will be among the very finest of the last 20 years.: the exceptional quality of the grapes and the very careful and soft extraction during maceration yielded full, rich, deep, elegant and still abundantly coloured wines with a refreshing grip across the full gamut. I know I said the same of the 2022s (and its proving to be true!), but I have no doubt the 2024s will positively rival the best we have ever crafted. What can I say: we're on a streak!