

Domaine Roulot

Meursault

VINTAGE 2014

Following a very mild winter, the vines began their vegetative cycle towards the end of March. April, May and June were marked by a 25% increase in sunlight hours and a 50% decrease in precipitation. These conditions led to an early budbreak, flowering towards the end of May and an overall healthy fruit set. Coming off of two vintages characterized by extremely poor yields, our hopes for a normal harvest remained high.

Then came the storm on June 28th. At 5pm, a cloud of hail originating from the south unleashed its devastation on Meursault, Volnay, Pommard and Beaune. In less than 5 minutes the vineyards of Meursault lost 50% of their potential crop.

The summer seemed to mirror the overall moral of the vigneron. The weather was gloomy and rainy and temperatures remained cool throughout July and August. These conditions led to a drawn out veraison, delaying the final stages of ripeness until the return of warmer weather towards the end of August.

Harvest began on September 10th. Even though scarce, the fruit clusters themselves remained in good condition. Acidity levels are similar to those in 2013 with modest alcohol degrees averaging 12.5%. There was no need to chaptalize and fermentations progressed effortlessly. 2014 will end up being a very approachable vintage. Following a year spent in oak, the wines benefited greatly from their time in tank and we found ourselves in no hurry to put them to bottle.

The big disappointment brought on by the hail should not overshadow the overall quality of the vintage: a fine pure line at once harmonious and without excess. It is a vintage that will be pleasing in its youth while affording even greater pleasure in years to come...like a 2000...maybe!

Jean-Marc Roulot