

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

September, 2007

Harvest 2007 – Portugal

During the grape growing cycle the weather was cooler than usual. There were more rainfalls than usual during the growing period which lead to the appearance of diseases like mildew, which seems to have affected more the quantity produced rather than the quality of the grapes. The total amount of rain was not enough to put the vintage into jeopardy. This vintage will put more in evidence the professionalism of viticulturalists in regards to good practice in the vineyard throughout the year and of oenologists who overall seem to be quite positive regarding the quality for this harvest. The general feedback from winemakers indicates a vintage with less production however with wines of excellent quality (quite fresh and balanced).

In 2007 there will be an estimated decrease of 15% versus 2006. Although forecast data is not available from all wine regions, the decrease in production is more noticeable in the northern regions.

Winemakers quotes by region:

Vinho Verde

Manuel Soares – Aveleda

“In comparison with previous years, the harvest is delayed. If the weather stays as it has been, the wines will be pretty fresh, fruity and very balanced. This year seems to be especially good for grape varieties such as Trajadura, Loureiro and Alvarinho”

Bairrada

Luís Pato – Luís Pato Wines

“It is still difficult to evaluate this harvest as it depends on weather conditions in September and, this year, also during the first week of October. We have a delay of around 10 days for the harvest kick-off, as the summer has been cooler than usual. There was loss of quantity due to rainfalls throughout the year and mildew attacks, but I foresee exceptional quality for sparklings and for whites in Bairrada.”

Douro

Sandra Tavares da Silva – Pintas / Quinta do Vale D. Maria

“There is an evident decrease of production. The grapes maturation is delayed and we need that the climate stays stable and warm for the next 2 weeks in order to have a good phenolic maturation. For the producers which did the correct treatments for mildew, the grapes show a very good sanitary condition. Regarding the quality of this vintage, it seems that it will be very good to excellent, with balanced productions.”

Dão

Carlos Lucas – Dão Sul

“2007 is a year of great oenological potential, as the vines are in excellent conditions with a good quantity of fruit per vine and good balance of sugar and acidity. This year has potential to produce elegant Dão wines, as the balance of sugar and acidity is not being put at risk by too high temperatures”

Estremadura

José Luis Oliveira da Silva – Casa Santos Lima

“Harvest is delayed around 2 weeks and we expect it to be longer than usual. Production will be reduced by 15 – 20% vs. last 3 years, due to the storms and hail in May, followed by a grape sunburn by end of June. The sanitary conditions of the vines are excellent and the moderately

warm days and cool nights are contributing for a balanced grape maturation, which allows us to foresee a very good harvest”

Ribatejo

Nuno Cancellia d’Abreu – Alorna

“This year’s harvest will be delayed in one week and we will have a slight reduction in production. However, the grapes are more balanced and with very good acidity and with a phenomenal aromatic potential which I haven’t experienced for several years.”

Península de Setúbal

Jaime Quendera – Adega Cooperativa de Pegões / Casa Ermelinda Freitas

“The white wines have normal maturations with lots of aromatic freshness and good acidity due to a mild summer, the quality expected is high. For reds the maturation is delayed in one week but it is balanced. These wines are likely to have good concentration and aromas.”

Alentejo

Luís Duarte – Herdade dos Grous

“There will be a slight reduction on production of around 15% due to rainfalls in June, which lead to occurrence of mildew. With regular treatment the vines are healthy and the “green harvest” caused my mildew actually helped to improve the overall quality of the grape bunches which remained in the vines. The weather conditions now are exceptional and we expect to have wines of excellent quality”.

Harvest 2007 - Production Forecast in August 2007

Wine Region	Unit (1.000 HI)		Harvest Forecast		% change	
	Harvest 2006	Average last 3 harvests	2007 HI	(1.000 HI)	Harvest 2007	Average last 3 harvests
Vinho Verde (Minho)	938	955	657		-30%	-31%
Trás-os-Montes	1.949	1.940	1.562		-20%	-19%
Douro	1.716	1.705	1.444		-16%	-15%
Other Regions Trás-os-Montes	234	235	118		-50%	-50%
Beiras	1.328	1.293	-		-100%	-100%
Dão	508	453	298		-41%	-34%
Bairrada	355	379	-		-100%	-100%
Other Regions Beiras	465	460	-		-100%	-100%
Ribatejo	639	723	-		-100%	-100%
Estremadura	1.199	1.224	-		-100%	-100%
Terras de Sado	429	380	365		-15%	-4%
Alentejo	959	826	-		-100%	-100%
Algarve	32	28	32		1%	15%
Madeira	49	44	41		-17%	-7%
Azores	10	13	-		-100%	-100%
Total	7.532	7.426	2.657		-65%	-64%

Source: CVRVV, IVDP,I.P., CVRBI, IVBAM

Note: Forecast 07 not available yet from all wine regions

Notes to the editor:

ViniPortugal is a private inter-professional association whose objective is to promote wine in Portugal and abroad, particularly in those markets that show the highest growth potential. ViniPortugal associates are all wine trade associations and wine producers, including vine-growers, cooperatives and representatives from the government and the farmers.

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