



CHAMPAGNE: SERENE DECISIONS FOR NEXT HARVEST

After cold, gloomy and very wet winter and spring, the growing cycle of the vine started about fifteen days late on the ten-year average, then vine grew very slowly until the first sunny and hot days of June.

Flowering was recorded in early July in very favorable weather conditions giving reason to hope for a qualitative harvest potential.

To date, the beginning of the harvest is expected in late September. After several earlier crops, this period is closer to the one Champagne knew in the past.

Champagne shipments in the first half of the year amounted to 108 million bottles which is slightly lower than the same period last year. The distant export markets remain extremely strong but economic conditions in France and Europe impact shipments to these destinations.

Considering this situation, growers and houses gathered in the Comité interprofessionnel du vin de Champagne have agreed today in Epernay on an available yield of 10,500 kg/ha of which 500 kg/ha will be taken out of the reserve. Moreover, up to 3,100 kg/ha can be picked to be put in the reserve (if the reserve does not exceed 10,000 kg/ha).

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