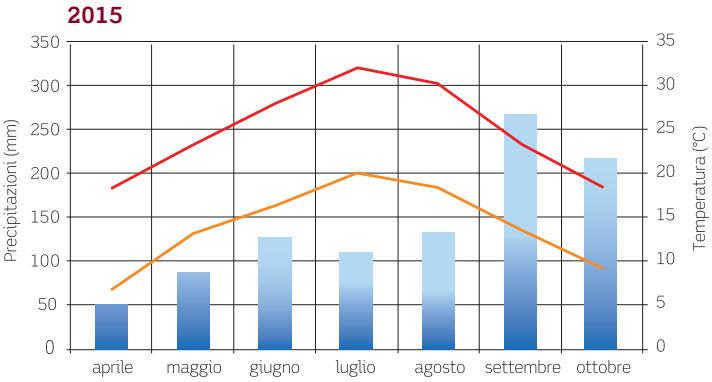
LE STAGIONI E LE UVE 2015

FRIULI COLLI ORIENTALI . RAMANDOLO

MAIN FEATURES OF THE SEASON

The 2015 season in the "Colli Orientali del Friuli e Ramandolo" area was marked by these climatic and quantitative features:



2015 season: rain and temperature trend
Σ rain: 998 mm Σ t: 1,998 °Cd
maximum t.: 24.7 °C minimum t.: 13.7 °C average t.: 19.2 °C
temperature/precipitation rate: 2.0 Huglin index: 2,482

Summary and comments on the weather this year (01 April – 31 October)

The 2015 season started in line with the average data recorded in the 2003-2014 time series.

In April temperatures were below the historical average, with low precipitations (50 mm vs the average 120 mm); in May temperatures rose above the average while the precipitations remained low (87 mm vs the average 142 mm). Flowering took place at the end of May and went on until June 10th. During this period rainfall was scarce, just 18 mm, while average temperatures reached 20°C leading to an optimal veraison.

In June temperatures were above the average (0,7°C higher), rainfall was in line with the historical average ensuring a good development of the berries and of the bunches. In July temperatures rose well above the average (2,6°C higher) peaking at 39,8°C recorded on 22nd July in the Villanova dello Judrio site. Even if the precipitations remained in line with the average, the high temperatures blocked the plant development and thus in the veraison of the early varieties.

Veraison started in the last ten days of July and went on until mid-August for the late varieties. In August precipitations remained in line with the historical data while temperatures, despite being higher than the average, decreased reaching a +1,1°C value as compared to the historical data. In September rainfall reached a peak, with 270 mm recorded (120 mm more than the historical average) and temperatures decreased to a value 0,5°C below the average. Despite the high rainfall during the harvest, only 7 rainy days were recorded, not affecting the good quality of the grapes. In summary, 2015 season was above the historical average as far as temperatures are concerned (1998°C) Temperatures above 30°C were recorded on 48 days, with a peak of 39,8°C recorded on 22nd July. The rain was remarkable, reaching an overall amount of 989 mm. The temperature/precipitation rate of the season reached a value of 2, thus the season can be considered as optimal.

Conclusions in terms of quality

The meteorological trend of the 2015 season had a positive impact on all the metabolic processes in the plants connected to the ripening of the grapes. The alternation between rainfall and high temperatures kept the plants under ideal conditions in terms of water availability, leading to an optimal development of secondary metabolites, such as aromatic compounds and polyphenols.

The regular plant development allowed the harvest to take place in September, with mild temperatures during the day and cool temperatures at night, ideal conditions for the good quality of the grapes both in terms of sanity and of ripening.

In any case, some varieties showed a remarkable aromatic and technological maturity. It is the case of Sauvignon, which through different harvest times expressed its aromatic potential, but also of Ribolla gialla which recorded a long


Ribolla Gialla


Merlot

and complete maturation, and Pinot gris which reached an optimal technological maturity. In general, all the white grapes reached a balanced sugar content and a mild acidity.

Among the red grapes Pignolo, Merlot and Carmenere found the optimal conditions to reach the desired phenolic and technological maturity.

In conclusion the 2015 harvest showed a good technological maturation, typical of the geographical area, a higher aromatic intensity for the thiolic varieties (Sauvignon and Tocai friulano) and a good quality also for some red grapes which had the opportunity of expressing an intense colour and a balanced tannic content.