

Louis Latour Agencies

WINES WITH PERSONALITY

2003 Rhône Vintage Report

A very long, uniformly hot summer throughout Europe. 2002 saw heavy rainfall in the Rhone so areas with clay soils fared better than those on gravel soils having been better able to retain water.

Sun damage to the grapes and hailstorms in the north along side the drought caused problems. The resulting harvest was reduced due to grape damage and severe selection and much earlier than normal, many growers, exceptionally, having finished by the end of August.

Many of the wines from this vintage very successful although not typical. The reds fared better with some excellent full-bodied examples with high tannins and complex fruit characters. These wines should keep well.