



The 2020 Vintage at Château Cantemerle

It was in mid-March, almost two weeks ahead of the average, that the buds of the vine bloomed. The month of April, very mild, was marked by a lot of precipitation which became almost daily until mid-May. During this period, mildew in all its forms has been shown to be very aggressive. The vegetative cycle then continued under complicated weather conditions with frequent rains, especially during flowering. Then very sunny days took place and suddenly accelerated the growth of the vine.

Veraison began in mid-July in sometimes overwhelming heat and the onset of drought which slowed down the vegetative cycle. However, beautiful rain showers around August 15th allowed the grapes to resume their way to harvest.

The first days of September saw strong thermal amplitudes between day and night. This phenomenon allows grape berries to perfect their maturity by causing the cells that contain the polyphenols to soften and to facilitate their extraction. It is a quality marker little known to the general public but very popular with winemakers.

Finally, the harvest took place peacefully from September 14th to 30th despite some stormy precipitation at the end of the journey.

Due to the drought that preceded and then accompanied the harvest, yields are down by around 20% compared to the previous year.