

# LA VALENTINA

## HARVEST REPORT 2017

Abruzzo 2017 harvest was heavily affected by difficult climate conditions throughout the whole season. April brought unexpected frosts followed by a prolonged period of draught and heat waves during the summer until mid September. Luckily several parcels were spared thanks to their capacity to store enough water reserves during the winter season, and thanks to a very careful management or to the presence of irrigation systems.

White grapes harvesting began ahead of schedule compared to previous years. By August 20 Pecorino and Trebbiano grapes were ready to be picked. Very healthy grapes, but the different stages of maturation, even within the same parcel, required a stricter selection. Harvest ended by September 10th. The quality has been quite good across the board; yields though were around 30% lower than average.

September rains and a general temperature decrease allowed a higher hydration and a general rebalancing of Montepulciano grapes maturation process. So harvest was perfectly on schedule. Grapes were very healthy due to the lack of any problems during their biological cycle. The harvest ended around October 25th with older vineyards being the last ones. Yields were just below average; quality was generally very good with peaks of excellence in some parcels.

While we write this report, most of the wines are still in the maceration process.