

# The Burgundy Briefing

news, views and tastings

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## Tasting 1

## Domaine Familiaux de Tradition 2003 vintage

This tasting was held in London in March 2006 in association with the Institute of Masters of Wine.

This is a very difficult vintage to assess in terms of ageing potential for the reds. Some producers, including young Ewan Faiveley present at the tasting, enthusiastically predict decades of evolution. Others are more circumspect. No one really knows how the red wines will develop. Perhaps it will be a great and long lived vintage. I have given estimates on ageing, but do not see these as set in stone. The whites, of course, are drinking now and can be delicious, but drink up.

What is more evident is the variation in quality. It is a truly unpredictable vintage. Some rock solid vigneron seem to have under-performed (I say 'seemed' given the uncertainty of how these wines will evolve), while others, including Domaine Trapet, have performed better than the norm. This is probably a combination of premium sites suffering from heat and water stress and the vintage conditions distorting the elegant wines of some vigneron, for example Frédéric Mugnier and Michel Lafarge, who produce the most refined styles. Of course simply over extracting has led to some very aggressive red wine. There is more about the vintage and how people attempted to manage the fruit in the 2003 vintage report.

In the whites, the higher acidity of Chablis and the minerality of Puligny unsurprisingly made the wines of these villages seem better balanced than the wines of Meursault.

The domaines which shone at this tasting, albeit only a snapshot of their wines, were Domaines Drouhin, Germain, Gouges, Montille and Domaine Rousseau, a newcomer to Les Domaine Familiaux de Tradition.

\* denotes the star wines of the tasting

## Scoring wine in bottle

As the wine is in bottle I have awarded marks. The marking is within the context of the vintage and therefore 19 and 20 are achievable for the outstanding premier and grand cru of the vintage. The difficult part is scoring wines in relation to their peers. I have marked in the context of the Côte d'Or, rather than within villages, and to a certain extent have used the appellation level as a ceiling. An outstanding premier cru in *this* tasting merited 19/20 and a grand cru 20, although

last year, when reporting on the 2002 vintage of this group in issue 1 of The Burgundy Briefing, Lafarge's Volnay 1er Cru Clos de Chênes achieved 20/20. I admit this is imperfect.

At the other end of the scale it might be confusing to award a very good 'lesser' AC a high mark. So for example Pierre Morey's excellent Monthélie received 14. A very good village wine would make 15. Something edging into premier cru quality – perhaps good lieu-dit or just an excellent straight village could make 16. I have used the tasting note to convey the quality, and to note if a wine outperforms its AC level more than I can reflect in the marks. I have also given stars to my favourite wines. So please read the note and don't just note the score! In the opposite direction, wine which fails to reach the expectations of its AC quality level, particularly under-performing grand cru or for that matter premier cru, is quite severely marked down.

## Whites

### **\*Chablis 1er Cru Montée de Tonnière, Domaine François Raveneau**

Luscious lemony aroma and a full, rich but pacy palate. Citrus flavours evolving into slightly savoury ones. It finishes firm and vigorous. Ready. Drink over the next 3 years.

Score: 18.5

### **Chablis 1er Cru Forette, Domaine François Raveneau**

Rich, open and biscuity. Soft, full, rounded and unctuous upfront. The fruit is balanced by fair acidity and underpinned by some austerity and reserve. Harmonious. Long savoury finish. Ready and drink over the short term.

Score: 17.5

### **Chablis Grand Cru Valmur, Domaine François Raveneau**

This has already developed a ripe, runny brie aroma. Rounded body and sweet fruit. Big rich attack, but it does batton down to a tight middle palate and an impressive, powerful finish. Drink now and over the next 3-5 years.

Score: 18.5

### **Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos, Domaine Joseph Drouhin**

A rich and baroque aroma and flamboyant palate. It's full, broad and oaky, but very well balanced, fresh and has excellent depth. It is a very good wine, if rather Côte d'Or in style. Drink now - certainly don't wait more than a couple of years, and then drink over the short term.

Score 18.5

### **Pernand-Vergelesses Les Combettes Blanc, Château de Chorey**

Assertive, orangey, spicy aroma. Full, rich, oaky and savoury with an element of minerality and reserve. Ripe pear-like fruit and soft acidity, yet quite a compact and well structured palate. A wine with plenty of character. Ready now and drink over the short term.

Score: 15

### **Savigny-lès-Beaune Blanc, Domaine Simon Bize et Fils**

Ripe and rounded attack, it tightens up in the middle palate and is nicely balanced. It is surprisingly fresh and shows a surprising edge of minerality, but also some slightly harsh elements. The finish is firm and stony, but the palate is just a bit ponderous. Now and short term.

Score: 14.5

### **Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru Vergelesses, Domaine Labet-Dechelette**

Simple, quite attractive wine. Nicely balanced and fresh. It is correct, but undistinguished. Ready.  
Score 12.5

**Meursault, Pierre Morey**

Spicy, intense aroma. Marmitey attack, to a medium-full bodied and very toasty palate. It has good breadth and intensity, but there is a slightly hard edge. The finish is reasonable. Perhaps a little disappointing for Pierre Morey. Ready.  
Score 14.5

**Meursault Clos de La Barre, Domaine des Comtes Lafon**

This is a wine I normally have a sneaking fondness for - voluptuously rich, generously-bodied but not fat. However in 2003 it is just a bit too indulgent. It is rich and creamy, ripe, melony and broad, but rather loose. Ready.  
Score 15.5

**Meursault 1er Cru Charmes, Domaine des Comtes Lafon**

Baroque wine. A generous, amply full and rounded palate. There is sufficient acidity here too, beneath the ripeness and the palate shows very decent structure, substance and balance, but there is no getting away from the slightly florid character. An exotic and overblown rose. Now and for the short term.  
Score 17.5

**Meursault 1er Cru Santenots, Domaine du Marquis d'Angerville**

Intense ripe aroma of pear. Generous ripe white peach fruit on the palate, full, broad with fair depth and dimension. Ready.  
Score 15

**\*Puligny-Montrachet, Domaine Leflaive**

Compact, tight and fresh for the vintage. This really maintains good typicité. Despite the ripeness there is underlying minerality and focus. Top notch village for the vintage. Ready. Drink over the following 2 or 3 years.  
Score: 15.5

**Puligny-Montrachet, 1er Cru Clavoillons, Domaine Leflaive**

Rich, intense, candied lemon aroma. The palate is full, ripe and creamy, but properly mineral, layered, compact and long. It is a very complete, stylish wine and shows an excellent expression of the cru and the vintage. Ready. Drink over the next 5 years.  
Score 18

<b>Reds</b>
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**Rully 1er Cru Préaux, Domaine de Suremain**

Bright berrish aroma with sweet fruit, fresh acidity with notes of rosemary and herbs. The tannins are soft tannins and the wine rounded. Simple and quite attractive. Drink now.  
Score 12.5

**\*Monthélie Rouge, Pierre Morey**

Rich and very ripe aroma. Sweet fruit attack to a soft and ample palate. Black and slightly tarry fruit, ripe tannins and a decent firm finish. Very attractive indeed. Leave it until late 2006 and drink over 3 or 4 years.

Score 14.5

**Château de Monthélie 1er Cru Sur la Velle, Domaine de Suremain**

Purple, quite exotic aroma. Full on the attack. Broad and quite heavy with rich prune fruit. It seems a bit extracted and there is a slightly burnt note. Rather out of balance.

Score 11

**\*Chorey-lès-Beaune, Chateau de Chorey**

A very unctuous aroma, chocolate and prunes. Sweet fat attack, but carries the warm vintage with a nicely compact and layered middle palate. Bullish, forthright with firm tannins and a punchy long finish. Excellent village wine which over delivers. From 2007/8 and for 5 years plus.

Score 15

**\*Chorey-lès-Beaune, Domaine Tollot-Beaut et Fils**

Bright spicy and deliciously fresh aroma. The palate is medium, not too plump with blueberry and raspberry fruit. It is lively with nicely refined tannins and is very well balanced. It is not at all heavy or extracted. Good typicité. Nicely done. Ready now and for 5 or 6 years.

Score 15

**Savigny-lès-Beaune Aux Grands Liards, Domaine Simon Bize et Fils**

Rather an elegant first impression on the palate redolent of strawberries and ripe summer fruits. It has quite refined, silky tannins and is nicely composed and structured. Drinking from 2007 and for another 5 years.

Score 15.5

**Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru aux Vergelesses, Domaine Simon Bize et Fils**

Very pretty aroma, spicy and bright with no 2003 prune characters. Again it is very composed, red and even slightly crunchy with just a hint of more stewed-style fruit. Overall it is bright and energetic, stylish and rather delicious with quite a good finish. Leave it a year or two and drink over 5 or 6 years.

Score 16.5

**Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru La Dominode, Domaine Bruno Clair**

Low key aroma with dark red fruits. Very silky, rich and luscious, medium bodied, supple and rich with soft tannins and nicely scented finish. Quite a lot of new oak. From 2008 for 5 years or so.

Score 16

**Beaune, Domaine Michel Gaunoux**

An enticing and unusual aroma with coriander, low spices and dark fruits. Really sweet on the strike (entry) before it tightens up with chewy tannins. Medium-full and liquorishy with good depth, although somewhat dry on the finish. Wait for 2 or 3 years and drink for 8 plus.

Score 14.5

**Beaune Clos, Domaine du Dessus des Marconnets, Domaine Labet-Dechelette**

This has an odd aroma. Seemingly it is ageing rather too quickly. Straw, mushroom characters and dry tannins. It lacks fresh fruit and has a short finish.

**\*Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches, Domaine Drouhin**

Very perfumed and intense; delicious raspberry aromas with a touch of cinnamon and mandarin. Elegant fruity strike. A ripe palate, but not too heavy. It has good depth as well as dimension and firm and stylish tannins. A well-mannered wine with a persistent finish. From 2009 and for 10-15 years.

Score 17.5-18

**Beaune 1er Cru Les Siziès, Domaine de Montille**

Very lively red fruit aroma and bursting with fresh red cherries on the palate. It is energetic, nicely compact with good structure, fine tannins, flair and, despite vintage, good typicité. Quite a complex palate with an attractive perfumed finish. From 2008/9 and for 10 years onwards.

Score 17.5

**Beaune 1er Cru Les Cras, Château de Chorey**

Rich and spicy with a prune character. Decisive fruit driven attack with notes of tar and mineral on the mid palate. It is compact and layered and has a punchy finish. Good intensity and while the tannins are firm, they are not over extracted at all. Disciplined. My only criticism is the obvious oak. The concentrated fruit does soak it up for now, but what will happen in the future?

From 2008 and for 6-8 years.

Score: a good 17

**Beaune, 1er Clos d l'Ecu, Domaine Faiveley**

Richly intense morello cherry aroma. Succulent attack to a concentrated dense, chewy and powerful palate. This is certainly very burly and four-square with muscular tannins and a long but dryish finish. It is very awkward and un *pinot-ish* at the moment and should not be approached for 4 or 5 years. I would have thought it has the power and balance to age for well over a decade, but will it age gracefully?

Score: a conservative 17

**Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Ursules, Louis Jadot**

Nicely restrained on the aroma for 2003; sweet raspberry and spice. The attack is very elegant and it flows supplely across the palate. The tannins are firm, but silky. The fruit lacks a little definition and intensity, but this seems more like an adolescent stage, than a fundamental problem. The palate comes back for prolonged, tight mineral finish and the wine certainly has lovely perfume and texture. From 2009 and it should evolve for 10 years.

Score: a conservative 17.5 probably 18

**Volnay 1er Cru Clos des Chênes, Domaine Michel Lafarge**

Warmly perfumed, rich and heady with a sweet fruit attack on the palate, where it quickly clamps down and becomes surprisingly lean and tannic, devoid of the silky sensuality, plumpness and depth typical of this wine in a cooler vintage. However the finish is good with a suggestion of roundness and sweetness. Expectations of this wine are always high and it disappoints at the moment. Moreover, it is more difficult than most to assess how it will develop. From 2008

Score: It needs to be reassessed, but a disappointing 17.5 at this point in time.

**\*Volnay 1er Cru Clos de Ducs, Domaine du Marquis d'Angerville**

An enticing and typical aroma of red cherry and white blossom. Generously fruity attack, with lovely raspberry characters, ripe, but controlled. Certainly the tannins are more assertive tannins than normal, but are well managed. I really like this because it succeeds in being both delicate and dense. It is deliciously layered and has a persistent perfumed finish. From 2008 and for 6-8 years.

Score 19

**Volnay 1er Cru Taillepieds, Domaine du Marquis d'Angerville**

Very sweet fruit, rather chewy with ripe, structural, firm tannins. Again it is a well-managed wine, supple, balanced and dense with rich cherry fruit. It has a thick velvety texture and substantial finish. Not as energetic as Clos de Ducs, somewhat more sultry. From 2008 and for 6-8 years.

Score 18

**Volnay 1er Cru Les Taillepieds, Domaine Hubert de Montille**

Bullish wine. It is very aromatic and spicy and the first impression on the palate is energetic, sweet and exotic. The middle palate is concentrated with good depth and dimension. It has very firm grip, substance and rather forceful tannins. It is compact and has an impressively long finish. This scores highly as a well-structured wine, *although it is less successful as a Volnay*. Perhaps from 2009 for 10 years.

Score: 18

**Volnay 1er Cru Santenots du Milieu, Domaine des Comtes Lafon**

Full, heady aroma. Generous and unreserved attack, rich and concentrated. This is full, broad and fruit driven with big, but velvety ripe tannins. Lush and thickly textured, it is all up-front at the moment, but the follow through is long and richly perfumed. From 2008 and for 10 years.

Score: 18

**Pommard 1er Cru Les Grand Epenots, Domaine Michel Gaunoux**

A wine with grunt. It is deep and chewy, black with an edge of tar, dense, powerful and austere. The middle palate is compact and has no lack of tannic structure. From 2010 and for 10 years.

Score: 16.5

**Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens, Domaine Michel Gaunoux**

The aroma of this Les Rugiens is slightly jammy and sweet. A little insubstantial on the attack with only moderate depth and intensity across the palate. Sweet red fruit, relatively reserved, soft acidity and somewhat lean tannins. Decent finish. From 2008

Score: 15

**\*Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens, Domaine Hubert de Montille**

Floral aroma with deliciously ripe red cherry fruit. It is another wine with big structural tannins from Montille - black, dense, intense and complexly layered. The acidity is modest, but balanced and there is a lovely perfume on the finish, which is very well sustained. Despite the weight and roundness it has pace and good definition. I think this domaine has played to the strengths of this vintage and what comes through in this wine is balance. A top notch premier cru in the context of the vintage. From 2010 for 10 years, perhaps more.

Score 19

**Pernand 1er Cru Ile des Vergelesses, Chandon de Briailles**

Ripe, forward and spicy. Juicy, fruity attack which quickly knuckles down to a compact, pure and mineral palate. It is full and prune-like with forceful, but fine tannins, a succulent texture and a persistent and punchy finish. There is an underlying elegance here. The structure and balance to develop over the next 8-10 years.

Score 17.5

**Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Les Fournières, Domaine Tollot-Beaut et Fils**

Richly perfumed. Generously juicy attack to a surprisingly muscular palate. Plenty of opulent fruit, assertive, chewy tannins. Concentrated and powerful, perhaps not the most elegant, but with the balance and structure to develop over the medium term after waiting a couple of years. From 2008.

Score 16

**Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Les Valozières, Domaine Sénard**

Dark brooding aromatics with ground coriander and black fruit. Low key palate, richly textured, supple, ripe and plumply rounded. The vintage has softened the rougher edges of this wine. Fullish with a generous fruity finish. Quite approachable and so from now onwards.

Score 16

**Corton Grand Cru, Domaine Bonneau du Martray**

The aroma is unctuous, heady and very spicy. A rich attack to a thickly textured, warmly fruity palate which is ample and rounded with rich, strong tannins, quite a lot of assertive wood and a decent chocolatey finish. It is bullish, but contained. I would wait 2-3 years and drink over the medium term.

Score 16.5

**Corton Clos des Cortons Grand Cru, Domaine Faiveley**

Christmas pudding aromas and flavours. Big strong attack with a concentrated, full-bodied palate. It is massively structured and austere, broad, masculine and rather impenetrable. There is a lot of assertive oak here and it will take a long time to come around, perhaps wait 4 or 5 years, but it may last a long time.

Score 18

**\*Corton-Bressandes Grand Cru, Domaine Chandon de Briailles**

A very heady and plummy aroma, but on the palate there is an attractive tightness to this wine and excellent pace. Forthright attack, powerful and intense with very firm tannins and an assertive long finish. I like this for its energy. Wait perhaps 4 years and may well develop over a decade.

Score 18

**Corton-Bressandes Grand Cru, Domaine Tollot-Beaut et Fils**

Big, rich and stewy. Quite heavy on the palate as well. Substantial tannins, but massively ripe and rounded. Thick and densely textured. Chewy and concentrated with notes of chocolate and coffee. From 2010 and for maybe another 8 years.

Score 17

**Corton Clos du Roi Grand Cru, Domaine Senard**

Two impressive wines from Senard. This is bold and ripe aroma, but with lovely energy. Glossy attack to an ample palate, deep, dense and rich with black plums, but also well balanced with sufficient acidity. Very soft, velvety tannins and a succulent long finish. A very attractive wine, accessible quite soon and should drink over a decade.

Score 17.5-18

**\*Corton Clos des Meix, Grand Cru, Domaine Senard**

Lovely aromatics, not too heavy, with plenty of Pinot perfume. Sweet, yet some tautness here and a slight minerality. A touch lighter, perhaps more elegance than the Clos du Roi. Lovely balance, not just rich fruit and the tannins although very ripe are well defined and finely grained. It has a persistent perfumed finish. Nicely harmonious for 2003. Wait until 2008 and then over 10 years.

Score 17.5

**Marsannay Les Longeroies, Domaine Bruno Clair**

Attractively bright with ripe raspberries. Very sweet fruit attack, almost too sweet and raisiny. However a lovely fruit-driven palate follows. Medium-full, soft and ample. Not very typical, but very appealing and delicious village wine for the vintage. Soon and over 5-8 years.

Score 15

**Vosne-Romanée, Domaine Jean Grivot**

An exceedingly plummy aroma. Unctuous and purple palate, full bodied with sweet supple tannins and a plumply rounded body. Rather exotic and showy with a glossy texture. From 2008 and for 8 years.

Score 15.5

**Vosne-Romanée, 1er Cru Les Suchhots, Domaine Jean Grivot**

Rich, ripe and prune-y with a deep, velvety thick texture. There is good intensity and balance here. It is dense and spicy and the tannins are pretty assertive. Wait 3 or 4 years and drink over 10 plus.

Score 17

**\*Nuits-Saint-Georges, Domaine Henri Gouges**

Attractively perfumed with notes of black pepper. Sweet fruit attack, black, tarry and burly with assertive, chewy tannins. There is a bitter 'chichory' edge to this wine. Although rather four square, it is a very decent village wine with good typicity. Wait a couple of years and drink over the following 8.

Score 15.5

**Nuits-Saint-George 1er Cru Clos des Pruliers, Domaine Jean Grivot**

Very perfumed aroma and a strong tarry attack. This is a full, bullish, masculine wine. It is succulent and full-bodied, structured and layered with good taut character for the vintage. An impressive full finish with a touch of minerality. Wait perhaps 3 years. Drink over the following 10 or more.

Score 17/17.5

**Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Clos des Porrets Saint Georges, Domaine Henri Gouges**

Big, black, perfumed aroma. Prune-y attack, chewy and compact. Dense, fruit (but medium bodied), burly tannins and firm balancing acidity. It is an assertive wine with decent ageing potential. Wait 2 or 3 years and drink over 10-12.

Score 18

**\*Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Les Saint Georges, Domaine Henri Gouges**

This is more tannic, structured, layered and austere than the Clos des Porrets. A full, robust, concentrated palate with a sinewy texture and a full-throated and very persistent finish. I like this a lot. From 2008 and over the following 10-15 plus.

Score 18.5/19

**Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Boudots, Domaine Méo-Camuzet**

A heady wine. Supple tannins with abundant ripe fruit and an ample body. This is very glossy and sweet with a persistent fleshy finish. It carries the vintage well. It is quite accessible and will be ready soon. Drink over the next decade.

Score 17.5

**\*Morey-Saint-Denis, Domaine Dujac**

Rich purple fruit, well contained and showing a touch of anise. It is medium-full with well-toned tannins and very attractive palate coverage and length for a wine at this level. An excellent village wine, showing good typicity despite the vintage. Drink from 2008 and for 5 years or so.

Score 15.5

**Morey-Saint-Denis 1er Cru Clos de La Bussière, Domaine Georges Roumier**

This is full and opulent, but not overly so. Underlying the thick sweet plum and raspberry fruit, there is vigour and sufficient acidity to balance the richness. The tannins are supple and the wine quite accessible. The middle palate has good depth and substance and carries to a very decent finish. Wait a year or two and drink over the medium term.

Score 16.5-17

**Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Fuées, Domaine Frédéric Mugnier**

Frédéric Mugnier's style is light and delicate and not at all suited to this vintage. While he has avoided the excessive richness of 2003 and achieved subtlety, the resulting wine is sweet, fruit-driven, stream-lined and elegant, but lacks the excellent definition and delicate perfume upon which this style of wine relies. Ready and for the medium term.

Score 17.5-18

**\*Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Cras, Domaine Georges Roumier**

This is fragrant, spicy and lifted. The palate is equally elegant and fresh. This combines vigour and ripe fruit. The tannins are balanced, refined and supple. There is good extract and a hint of chalkiness about the palate. The finish is lovely - prolonged and perfumed. In this wine Roumier has handled the vintage admirably. Wait two or three years and drink over 10.

Score 18.5-19

**\*Gevrey-Chambertin, Domaine Armand Rousseau**

This is finely textured and layered. It has excellent extract for a village wine and carries the vintage very well. The fruit is relatively restrained, black and mineral. The middle palate is dense, and the tannins smooth and velvety. Absolutely top notch village and very likeable. Wait a couple of years and drink over the next 5 maybe 10 years.

Score 15.5

**Gevrey-Chambertin, 1er Cru Clos Saint Jacques, Domaine Armand Rousseau**

This wine is also finely textured and layered, but with more extract. The fruit is red and exotically spicy rather than black. It is not a big wine, but rather elegant and composed in the context of this vintage. The tannins are structural, but refined. A wonderfully defined wine with a supple and sustained finish. Wait until 2009/10 and drink over 10 years plus

Score 19.5

**\*Grand Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine Joseph Drouhin**

This combines richness and power with elegance. It has excellent extract and the fruit is expertly contained. The tannins are pronounced but sophisticated; the texture smooth and rich. It is an impressively harmonious and complex wine. It stood out at this tasting. From 2010 and for 10 years plus

Score 19.5

**Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Château de La Tour Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Labet-Dechelette**

This is very rich and concentrated. It is unashamedly a 2003. It is rounded, broad with thick, ripe tannins and is decently compact. A lot of juicy power, but a bit short on finesse and finish.

Score 16 at most

**Clos de la Roche Grand Cru, Domaine Dujac**

This is very controlled. It is muscular but refined with a good display of depth and extract. The tannins are smoothly structural. The middle palate shows plenty of ripe, black and slightly exotic fruit. It's ripe, but not lacking in focus. A most sophisticated wine. Wait 3 or 4 years and drink over the following 10 plus.

Score 19

**Bonne Mares Grand Cru, Domaines Georges Roumier**

Very perfumed with subtle nuances of orange and cinnamon. An impressive palate with relatively restrained fruit, supple, finely grained tannins, lovely intensity, pace and muscular rippling elegance. The finish is long and perfumed. Wait a couple of years and drink over the following 10 plus.

Score 19

**Musigny Grand Cru, Domaine Frédéric Mugnier**

A slightly savoury aroma. Silky attack to a supple, softly rounded and delicate palate. This has delicious ripe raspberry fruit, lovely intensity and is light and refined, despite the vintage. However it does not have the excellent pace and superb knife edge balance this wine is capable of. If I am hard on it, it is simply because this can be the quintessential Musigny. Anything short of perfection is a disappointment. Accessible to drink now and 8 years or so.

Score 18.5

**Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Faiveley**

Assertive, rich fruit aroma. A full-bodied, broad, firm and meaty palate. There is a lot of overt oak here and the tannins are a bit coarse and dry. However there is a concentration of ripe, spicy and chocolately fruit. Faiveley have decided to match the fruit opulence with new wood. Is it all too much or will it come together? It's awkward at the moment, but time will tell. To be reviewed. Wait until 2010 and potentially drink over 15

Score: a conservative 17.5

**Chapelle-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Trapet**

Lovely perfumed aroma. Elegant, reserved wine. Very firm, taut tannins and a lean and direct profile are fleshed out by ripe fruit, softening the rather austere frame of this wine. It is well defined and has good intensity and a long fragrant finish. Trapet's Chapelle-Chambertin shows well this year. Wait a couple of years and drink over 8 years plus.

Score 17-17.5

**Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Trapet**

The initial impression of a fragrant aroma and palate belie a rather aggressive palate with assertive tannins and decent acidity. It is very tight and linear, perhaps a little gaunt, but structured to mature. It finishes well. Wait 3 or 4 years and drink over the following 8 years plus.

Score 17-17.5

**Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Trapet**

I found this the least interesting of Trapet's grand cru despite the appellation. Again it starts with lovely scent and has a long, linear palate, but lacked a bit in depth and intensity expected. Again wait a couple of years.

Score 17

**\*Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Armand Rousseau**

Luscious perfume and a silky attack. A very elegant, long fluid palate for this vintage with structural but refined tannins, fragrant fruit, fine intensity, very well balanced acidity and superb depth. It is intricately layered, poised and complex with a lovely long scented finish. Wait until 2009 and drink over 10, maybe 20 years?

Score 20