

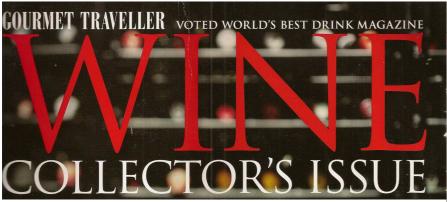
COLUECTIBLE BEAUSOLAIS

France's value red offers surprisingly high quality at the cru level.

BY ROGER VOS

THE GROWERS

Domaine du Vissoux. Although based in the south, Pierre-Marie Chermette's wines cover the gamut of Beaujolais. Many are deep, complex wines. Crus: Fleurie, Moulin-à-Vent, Brouilly. Importer: Weygandt-Metzler.



Beaujolais

2008 Pierre-Marie Chermette Vissoux Les Griottes Beaujolais (A\$29) shows intense, sweet plum and cherry on the nose, lifted by bubble-gum and with richness from fermentation. The palate's supple and fine, with plenty of juicy flavour, a touch of charcuterie and fine tannins. Otton found "good varietal character and complexity from whole bunches. Apricot, blueberry and savoury hints – earthy and smoky." It's delicious and at its best now.

2008 Pierre-Marie Chermette Vissoux Poncie Fleurie (A\$45) showed why Fleurie is considered the quintessential Beaujolais; its fresh cherry flavours and suppleness were gorgeous. Forrestal noted, "Ripe, sweet fruits, with redcurrant and mulberry. Smooth and juicy, with a gently fleshy finish." The wine nevertheless has structure and subtle dried herb overtones, but it's the suppleness that stays with you. Strongly recommended.



BEAUJOLAIS AND GAMAY

93 2008 Pierre-Marie Chermette Vissoux Poncie Fleurie

88 2008 Pierre-Marie Chermette Vissoux Les Griottes Beaujolais