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ISSUE 75 June 2019

Domaine Edmond Cornu (Ladoix-Serrigny)

2017 ☞ Bourgogne Aligoté white 87

2017 Chorey-lès-Beaune white 87

2017 Ladoix white 88

Pierre Cornu humorously described the 2017 growing season as “oof and finally!” He was referring to the potentially fatal bullet dodged with the April frost scare and the relief with finally having a vintage that delivered good yields. He went on to say that “we burned wet hay on the 29th of April and while I’m sure that made us all feel better, it’s not clear whether it was the smoke we created or the lower levels of humidity that made the difference in the end. Either way, I’m more than relieved to say that we suffered no frost damage to speak of. After that the season was pretty straightforward as the vines had just enough of everything and not too much of anything. Moreover the relatively dry conditions prevented disease pressure from developing though it did engender a bit of hydric stress in certain parcels. It was clear that yields were going to be high and I was afraid that they might be too high so we dropped some fruit here and there. I like the 2017 vintage as it’s classically styled and should offer much pleasure including some wines that should drink very well young.” Cornu noted that for those wines that are bottled were put there in August 2018. I found the quality of the Cornu 2017s to be consistently good if not outstanding compared to what I generally found elsewhere in the Côte de Beaune. (Rosenthal Wine Merchant, www.madrose.com, NY, USA; McKinley Vintners, www.mckinleyvintners.co.uk, UK).

2017 Bourgogne Aligoté: An overtly spicy and exuberantly fresh nose exhibits plenty of citrus-influence that carries over to the delicious, round and racy flavors that exude a fine bead of minerality on the wonderfully refreshing, clean and dry finish. This is really quite good for what it is and would make for a very good summer sipper. 87/now+

2017 Chorey-lès-Beaune: A ripe and agreeably fresh nose features mostly notes of pear and apple along with a citrus top note. The fleshy and plump middle weight flavors possess a succulent mid-palate while the citrus-tinged finish is also nicely refreshing if not particularly complex. To enjoy young. 87/now+

2017 Ladoix: A whiff of matchstick character is present on the citrus and spice-inflected green apple scents. There is both more volume and richness to the caressing yet nicely intense medium-bodied flavors that possess good minerality as well as better overall depth and persistence. This too could easily be enjoyed young. 88/2020+