

## PRESS RELEASE

## Donnafugata among the top 7 Italian wineries in all the guides

The survey made by <u>www.winews.it</u> reports that the Sicilian winery is one of the best according to the ratings of Italian wine guides.

Only seven wineries have all Italian wine critics in agreement: Gaja and Braida in Piedmont, Caldaro in Alto Adige, Trabucchi and Corte Sant'Alda in Veneto, Masciarelli in Abruzzo and Donnafugata in Sicily".

This is the response from a survey published at <a href="www.winenes.it">www.winenes.it</a>, the reference website for Italian wine. The survey was conducted by comparing the ratings of the 2009 editions of Italy's five top wine guides: Gambero Rosso-Slow Food; L'Espresso; AlS-Bibenda, Veronelli and Maroni.

Donnafugata's excellent results were based once again on top ratings given to the red **Mille e una Notte** and the Passito di Pantelleria **Ben Ryé**.

Mille e una Notte 2005 was awarded "Tre Bicchieri" (Gambero Rosso-Slow Food) and the "Super Tre Stelle Blu" (Veronelli). Ben Ryé 2007 was cited as "Wine of Excellence" (L'Espresso and Maroni) and given "Cinque Grappoli" (AIS-Bibenda).

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From <u>www.winenews.it</u> Oct. 30, 2008 - And if there's only one wine on which the five best-read guides in Italy were in accord (the Moscato Giallo Passito "Serenade" Castel Giovanelli 2005 from Cantina di Caldaro in Alto Adige), ratings for the highest-ranking wineries were pretty "skimpy", too, whatever the wines given top honors by critics writing for the famous five guides.

In fact, only on seven wineries were the critics all in agreement and these are Gaja and Braida in Piedmont, Caldaro in Alto Adige, Trabucchi and Corte Sant'Alda in Veneto, Masciarelli in Abruzzo and Donnafugata in Sicily.

However, if we limit ourselves to ratings in the guides that are generically closest in rating methods (in other words, Gambero Rosso-Slow Food, Veronelli, AIS-Bibenda, L'Espresso) the numbers take a leap, rising to praise for 33 (including the 7 common to all the guides). From north to south these are: Cantina di Caldaro and Josef Niedermayr in Alto Adige; Tenuta San Leonardo and Ferrari in Trentino; Ca' del Bosco and Bellavista in Lombardy; Corte Sant'Alda, Romano Dal Forno, Allegrini and Trabucchi in Veneto; Lis Neris in Friuli. Then a big group in Piedmont: Angelo Gaja, Fontanafredda, Bruno Giacosa, Giacomo Conterno, Braida, Massolino, Sottimano, Enzo Boglietti, Giovanni Manzone, Luciano Sandone, Elio Grasso, Ettore Germano and Vietti. Only two in Tuscany: Tenuta San Guido and Castello del Terriccio. And further down the boot we find Villa Buchi in the Marches, Valentini and Masciarelli in Abruzzo, Galardi in Campania, Tenute delle Terre Nere and Donnafugata in Sicily and finally Cantina di Santadi in Sardinia.