

Domaine Dubreuil-Fontaine (Pernand-Vergelesses)

2012	Aloxe-Corton "Les Vercots" 1er	red	90
2012	Beaune "Montrevenots" 1er	red	89
2012	Corton-Bressandes Grand Cru	red	93
2012	Corton-Perrières Grand Cru	red	91
2012	Corton-Clos du Roi Grand Cru	red	93
2012	Pernand-Vergelesses "Clos Berthet" 1er	red	90
2012	Pernand-Vergelesses "Ile de Vergelesses" 1er	red	90

2012	Pommard	red	(87-89)
2012	Pommard "Epenots" 1er	red	88
2012	Savigny-lès-Beaune "Vergelesses" 1er	red	89
2012	Volnay	red	(86-89)

Christine Dubreuil told me that "I love the 2012 vintage but the problem is that there just isn't very much of it. The growing season presented what seemed like at the time an unending series of challenges. In certain sectors we had hail then a poor flowering and then severe disease pressure in the form of mildew and oidium though at least we didn't have any botrytis to speak of. When we finally got to the harvest the damaged berries had largely dried up and fallen off so there really wasn't much sorting required except in a few badly hailed parcels. Yields though were small and across all of our *appellations* we were off fully 50%. We did our normal vinification but interestingly before the malos finished it was honestly hard to see just how good the wines are as it was a night and day difference. As to the wines they're charming and rich but well-balanced and I think that they will be popular because there's not really anything to dislike." (A.P.S., www.apswine.com, Oakland, CA, DB Wine Selection, www.dbwineselection.com, Framingham, MA and Voix de la Terre, www.vdltwine.com, NY, NY; Direct Wine, www.directwine.co.uk, UK).

2012 Pernand-Vergelesses "Clos Berthet": A fresh and distinctly earthy nose of red and dark berry fruit aromas leads to fleshy, round and pliant medium weight flavors that possess good mid-palate volume. There is a touch of minerality to the dusty and delicious finish that is not especially complex though there is enough material present that more may be on the way with a few years of bottle age. 90/2016+

2012 Savigny-lès-Beaune "Vergelesses": Here the nose is both riper and earthier though it retains the same lovely freshness on the mostly dark berry fruit scents. This is also quite fleshy and generous but with better depth to the medium-bodied flavors that offer good balance and fine length on the youthfully austere and moderately firm finale. 89/2018+

2012 Volnay: (50% 1er). A somber and pungently earthy nose is clean and ripe with reticent aromas of dark currant and plum. There is lovely detail and plenty of minerality to the delicious middle weight flavors that are shaped by relatively fine grained tannins, all wrapped in a lingering if ever-so-slightly dry finish. (86-89)/2017+

2012 Pommard: In contrast to the somber character of the Volnay this is exceptionally pretty with an elegant and pure nose of very fresh red pinot fruit with undertones of earth. There is excellent detail and punch to the intense and powerful flavors that exhibit moderate rusticity on the long, serious, firm and dusty finish. This will need time. (87-89)/2019+

2012 Pernand-Vergelesses "Île de Vergelesses": As pretty as the Pommard is this is even more refined with its airy and elegant nose of red currant, spice and mineral nuances. There is a generous, even fleshy mouth feel to the mineral-inflected, vibrant and well-delineated medium-bodied flavors that possess fine intensity on the saline, balanced and solidly persistent finish. Good stuff. 90/2019+

2012 Aloxe-Corton "Les Vercots": This displays a heavy emphasis on earth and *sauvage* characters with somber yet attractively complex aromas of red currant and subtle spice nuances. There is excellent concentration to the ripe big-bodied flavors that possess plenty of power and punch on the structured, rustic and moderately austere finish. This is a classically muscular Vercots where patience will be required. 90/2022+

2012 Beaune "Montrevenots": (Dubreuil indicated that this parcel was hit hard by hail). While there is some earth character present it is much less prominent as the nose is primarily composed of essence of red pinot fruit. There is a refined mouth feel to the vibrant middle weight flavors though the mildly rustic finish definitely contrasts with the delicacy of the mid-palate. Despite the hail this seems to be ripe enough to age it with confidence. 89/2020+

2012 Pommard "Epenots": (Dubreuil indicated that this parcel was also hit hard by hail). There is just enough wood to notice framing the pure red currant, spice and strong earth aromas. The medium-bodied flavors display fine intensity and volume with good richness on the mid-palate though the finish is slightly drying. This may age out successfully but I have concerns that the dryness may become more prominent with age. Note that the structure is certainly present such that this could be aged but it's not clear that the wine will necessarily be the better for it. 88/2016+

2012 Corton-Perrières: An admirably pure nose features essence of red currant with plenty of spice, earth and game influence. There is excellent intensity to the mineral-inflected big-bodied flavors that culminate in a dusty, serious and impressively long finish. While there is a trace of rusticity this is actually more elegant than it usually is. 91/2024+

2012 Corton-Bressandes: (from vines planted in 1953). This is also very pure and slightly riper as well with an expressive nose of liqueur-like aromas of red currant, cassis and earth. There is good delineation and excellent energy to the broad-shouldered flavors that possess fine volume and mid-palate concentration as well as impeccable balance on the complex and mineral-inflected finish. This is not quite as firmly structured as the Perrières but it will still need at least a decade of cellar time before it realizes its full potential. In a word, lovely. 93/2022+

2012 Corton-Clos du Roi: Here the nose is more complex if less refined with a layered array of intensely *sauvage* red and dark berry aromas that display notes of earth, smoke and underbrush. There is a relatively refined mouth feel as the tannins are unusually fine-grained for the *appellation* though this retains the typical power and muscle of a fine Clos du Roi, all wrapped in a serious finish. This is very Corton yet less rustic than it usually is. 93/2024+