

Domaine le Couroulu, Vacqueyras

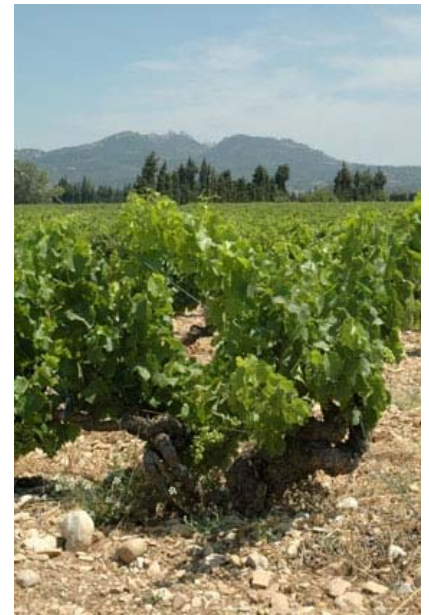
- Guy Ricard, owner & winemaker
- Couroulu old vines
- Vineyard soils and locations



A Grenache vine, planted in 1928 on limestone clay soil. This soil drains well, warms quickly, and retains heat, making it ideal for ripening Grenache.



Owner and winemaker Guy Ricard in his Vieilles Vignes vineyard. Note Mont Ventoux in the background at right of the photo above.



The Vieilles Vignes vineyard is on a high plateau with total exposure to the sun. The vines are pruned very low because of the strong Mistral wind which blows across the plateau. The upper middle photo shows a recently planted young vine which replaces a very old vine that had died. The practice of replacing individual vines ensures that the over-all vine age remains high — as opposed to totally replanting the vineyard.



At left, Syrah and at right, Grenache vines for the Vacqueyras AOC grow on limestone-clay soils covered with small, heat-retaining stones. The open plateau provides excellent exposure to the sun.

A slope with sandy soil. This is where the Merlot and Syrah are planted, for the Vin de Pays de Vaucluse.

