

# HARVEST REPORT 2020 DWI

## The 2020 vintage in the German winegrowing regions

### Franken

#### 6,137 hectares

The good grape quality is the greatest consolation for the Franconians in view of a historically small harvest yield. With an estimated 267,000 hectoliters, which is around 38 percent less than the long-term average, the vintners are recording the smallest harvest in 35 years. This is due to the fact that a double challenge was waiting along the Main River and Steigerwald this year: First, late frosts in May caused immense damage, especially on the loop of the Main River. This was followed by a prolonged period of drought in the entire growing region. As Beate Leopold from Weinbauring Franken reports, the moisture reserves in the soil were used up after the drought years of 2018 and 2019. "The soil is no longer saturated," she says. The winemakers are therefore arming themselves for the coming years. Wind machines should help against frosty nights in the future. And winemakers are installing irrigation systems in many places against the drought. It is well worth the effort and this can be seen by looking at the young Franconian wines: They are rich in fruit with an animating acidity. "2020 is a small vintage, but the Silvaner shows itself to be a climate winner and knows very well how to put the Franconian Triassic terroir in the limelight", says viticulture president Artur Steinmann.