



**Francesco De Franco in the vineyard during harvest**

## **Calabria**

**The springtime was very rainy and then from mid May there was no more rain (in this area it is normal to have 4-5 months of drought). The weather was very warm in September (the temperature usually gets lower during this time of the year).**

**CIRO' MARINA (Province of Crotone)**

*Francesco De Franco owner of Società Agricola A'Vita (Cirò Rosso Classico DOC): "...the vineyards with a southern exposure were harvested two weeks early, while the vineyards with a northern exposure were harvested one week early. We started picking on the 20th of September (we usually start during the first week of October) and we finished at the end of September (on the 29th of the month). The sugar was slightly high in the grapes, but the clusters were flawless with no disease problems. The ripening of the grapes was good..The alcohol strength of the wines is slightly high, but it is balanced by a good acidity. The wines are concentrated with a lot of colour....In order to express an opinion we have to wait for the maturation phase of the wines (the wines mature in steel)...."*