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Endangered Wine

The Challenges of Climate Change

Authors: Valéry Laramée de Tannenberg - Yves Leers

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The impact of global warming on vineyards and its profound transformations of viniculture.

No doubt about it: climate change has a very real impact on grapes and wine.

The last 30 years have seen wine's alcohol content rise one percent per decade. More sunlight delights winegrowers, enhancing northern wines and making those from the south even stronger. But the long term effects are different. Varietals will change, as will AOC, France's geographical authenticity certification system. Tomorrow's wine will be altogether different wherever vineyards have survived or reemerged.

De Tannenberg, editor-in-chief of *Journal de l'environnement*, studies issues of energy and climate change, while Leers, a specialist in sustainable development, is a former consultant for L'Atelier du climat.