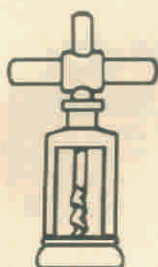


The WINE ADVOCATE

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The WINE ADVOCATE®

The Independent Consumer's Bimonthly Guide to Fine Wine

COPPO	1999	BARBERA D'ASTI CAMP DU ROUSS	PIEDMONT	(\$16.00)	RED	88
COPPO	1998	BARBERA D'ASTI POMOROSSO	PIEDMONT	(\$56.00)	RED	92

It is unusual for a Piedmontese winery to accept advice from someone outside the region. The renowned Umbrian oenologist, Riccardo Cotarella, has been a consultant at Coppo for several years. As a result, the wines are taking on more ripeness, texture, and complexity. The **1999 Barbera d'Asti Camp du Rouss** sees 20% new oak, and is bottled unfiltered. Sweet black jammy cherry and earthy aromas emerge from this supple, medium to full-bodied, lush, sexy Barbera. Enjoy it during its first 3-5 years of life. The stunningly

complex **1998 Barbera d'Asti Pomorosso** (2,500 cases) was aged in French barrels, of which 80% were new, and also bottled unfiltered. This full-bodied, thick, awesomely concentrated Barbera boasts abundant quantities of black fruit, licorice, tomato skin, and spice box scents. Powerful, rich, and concentrated, it has completely soaked up its exposure to new oak, something the better Barberas seem to do with surprising ease. Drink it over the next 5-7 years. A Leonardo Locascio Selection, Winebow, Hohokus, NJ; tel. (201) 445-0620

QUORUM	1999	BARBERA D'ASTI	PIEDMONT	(\$95.00)	RED	95
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This cooperative effort from a group of Piedmontese producers displays the spectacular quality that can be achieved with Barbera. The brilliant oenologist, Riccardo Cotarella, is the magic behind this wine. Made from modest yields of 35 hectoliters per hectare, the 1999 Quorum experienced malolactic in barrel, with pump-overs and punch-downs, and was bottled without filtration after spending 10 months in 100% new French oak. A spectacular achievement for this varietal, it may not have the nobility to

age longer than 6-8 years, but for drinking over the next 7-8 years, there is no doubting its explosive qualities as well as its extraordinary ripeness and richness. Its opaque purple color is followed by a sumptuous bouquet of black fruits, coffee, vanillin, chocolate, and licorice. This super-endowed, full-bodied, rich, intensely-concentrated, opulent Barbera is prodigious. Anticipated maturity: now-2010. A Leonardo Locascio Selection, Winebow, Hohokus, NJ; tel. (201) 445-0620