

THE WORLD'S BEST WINE MAGAZINE September 2007

Decanter



SPURRIER'S WORLD

New Zealand's great Bordeaux blend, Te Mata Estate Coleraine

DECANTER BUYING GUIDE: SPURRIER'S WORLD



Coleraine, Te Mata Estate's Bordeaux blend whose first vintage was 1982, is the **most famous** Cabernet-Merlot wine in New Zealand.

Owners John Buck and (winemaker) Peter Cowley presented a tasting of 12 vintages from 'the first 25 years' at the London Wine Trade Fair. For those who have come to NZ wine through Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc and fruity Central Otago Pinot Noir, it was **a revelation**.

The wine remains Bordeaux focused, the age of the vineyards bringing increasing complexity and depth of fruit. Of the older wines, 1998 was outstanding, fragrant, floral, with a fine future. 1995, with finesse rather than weight, was very clarety; 1991, minty with dried herbs, was *à point*; 1989, emulating Bordeaux's heat wave year, was sweet and ripe; finally 1982, a lovely wine, still full of personality.

- Steven Spurrier

