This year's first harvest

This year's harvest began on 4th August at the University Wine Estate, the first of its kind in Hungary. This year's ripening was dominated by cosmopolitan and jasmine, and after seeing the excellent results, the Research Institute of Viticulture and Enology of the UP decided that it was time to get out the pruning shears. This year's harvest started earlier than last year's, even though it was not the same time as last year.

Alongside Chancellor István Decsi and Institute President Zoltán Madaras, the harvest was also celebrated by Frigyes Kvanduk, parish priest and diocesan vicar general, who started the grape workers on their way with a harvest blessing, and soon the fresh must was ready to be tasted.  
The university estate is satisfied with the quantity and quality of the harvest, for example the jasmine has kept its acidity quite well, but it was also worth starting to pick the zenith, which has already shown ideal parameters for sparkling wine.

The heat and the drought have of course had an impact on the vineyards, with the older vines in Pécs suffering less and the younger ones more from the weeks without rain. However, the dry weather has also warded off most of the grape diseases, so although the grapes are smaller, excellent quality can be forecast. What wineries need to watch out for is the impact of sunshine.  
Prolonged exposure to strong sun can cause grapes to burn, and burnt flavours can appear, which should be treated properly, and it is worth paying attention and intervening as must," said István Ipacs-Szabó, head winemaker at the university estate.