

WINE ENTHUSIAST

M A G A Z I N E

The Top 50 Spirits of 2005

CLASSIC (96–100)/HIGHEST RECOMMENDATION

La Favorite Rhum Agricole Vieux (Martinique; Caribbean Spirits, Inc., Chicago, IL)
40% abv

The nose offers scents of oaky vanilla, rum cake, holiday fruitcake, black pepper, cigar tobacco and nutmeg. The palate entry is sweet and moderately oily; the midpalate boasts flavors of butter cream, dark chocolate, cream sherry, cola, citrus, and honey. Ends on an opulent sweet caramel-like note.
Dark, oak-aged rum at its finest.

Neisson Rhum Agricole Blanc (Martinique; Caribbean Spirits, Inc., Chicago, IL)
50% abv

The opening aroma is marvelously beany and grassy; later, sweetish flavors of dark caramel, chimney soot, and dark, old honey make scrumptious inhaling. The palate entry is honeyed, warm, and cocoa-like; at midpalate the grassy/weedy/cane-like taste balances the honeyed sweetness. Concludes cocoa-like, intense yet smooth, and memorably sweet.