A passionate winemaker who aims to make a drink with great texture

Daniel Honan Business









All about the texture: Atsuko Radcliffe with a selection of wines from Small Forest. Picture: Daniel Honan

It feels good to drink wine, especially if the wine you're drinking feels good to drink. Winemaker Atsuko Radcliffe of Small Forest wines in the Upper Hunter knows all about that.

"I think texture is a very important feature of wine," Radcliffe says. "In Japan, we not only think about the taste and flavour of food, we think about the structure and feeling of the food in your mouth ... which, I think applies to wine as well."

Most people, when confronted with a glass of fermented grape juice and asked how they would describe it, will land somewhere superficially between good and bad. If pushed, they may begin to remark on certain smells or tastes that the wine elicits from the sensory compartments of their memory; "tropical fruit flavours like honeysuckle, melon and lemon" for some whites, or "black cherry, plums, spice and liquorice" for some reds.

Seldom will you hear people talk in terms of texture; the way a wine feels in their mouth - quite literally, the mouthfeel of the wine - slick, supple,



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