



Sierra Vista
VINEYARDS & WINERY. LLC

2005 Fleur de Montagne
El Dorado

Philosophy

After planting Syrah in 1979 and finding that it followed a similar pattern to wines of the Rhone valley of France, we thought we might try expanding our Rhone style collection and looked at other well-known regions in the Rhone valley. Chateauneuf-du-Pape is a region in France that is allowed to grow 13 different varietals and blend them together to produce the wine. The primary varietals grown are Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre and Cinsault. We followed that pattern and have produced a blend of our own using these four varietals.

Vineyard Source

The Cinsault and some of the Grenache are grown at the Reeves vineyard located on the western side and adjacent to Sierra Vista. Mrs. Reeves is John's sister so it is still in the family. We have put in two clones of Grenache here on the winery property. One originated in the vineyard of Chateau Reyes and the other in the vineyard of Chateau de Beaucastel both in Chateauneuf-du-Pape in the Southern Rhone Valley of France. Some of these also have gone in this blend. The Syrah and Mourvedre we use in this blend is from the winery estate

2005 Vintage

We had an early, very warm, spring leading to early bud-break. This was followed by several inches of rain, some snow, sleet and hail with colder temperatures into mid April. It wasn't until a warm spell in late May that we started seeing significant shoot growth in the vineyard. Summer was unusual with a month of cooler than average temperatures followed by a record breaking hot July and then a cool down into September. We started harvesting our estate vineyards in the third week of September – much later than the last several years but only a week behind our average start date.

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

Dark garnet in color, the aromas emerge from the glass as bright red fruits – cherry, raspberry and plum – and rose petal notes. In the mouth, the wine is smooth with flavors of cherry, blackberry, white pepper and clove. This wine can be paired with red meats as well as chicken and Turkey. It is a wonderfully versatile wine that complements roast pork as well as barbecued salmon.

Syrah	45%
Grenache	33%
Mourvedre	15%
Cinsault	7%
Time in Oak	14 months
Bottling Date	Dec 2006
Cases Produced	455

John MacCready, Winemaker