



SCARECROW 2004 VINTAGE

Vineyard Manager Michael Wolf:

The 2004 California grape harvest was among the fastest and earliest in recent memory, producing lighter yields of exceptional, almost decadent fruit. This 100% Cabernet Sauvignon was harvested from 4 separate blocks of vines on the J.J. Cohn Estate in Rutherford between September 3 and September 12, 2004. Production for the 2004 Scarecrow totaled 312 cases.

Grapes from the oldest vines were fermented in an open-top tank and punched down three times daily, while the other fruit was fermented using pump-overs and cap irrigations. The wines were transferred into small, 100% new French oak barrels directly after pressing and aged separately for the first year. In summer of 2005 the separate lots were carefully combined and spent the following 13 months as a final blend in barrels. The finished wine was bottled without fining or filtration in late July of 2006.

TASTING NOTES

Winemaker Celia Welch writes of the 2004 Scarecrow:

Initial aromas of this ink-dark Scarecrow vintage are deeply ripe raspberries on the vine, black cherries and milk chocolate. With time, notes of root beer, anise and sweet forest-floor emerge. The palate is exceptionally soft. Smooth at entry with an intensely fruit-driven midpalate, the finish lingers in cherry and mocha flavors as the silky texture slowly dissipates.

VINEYARD NOTES

The J.J. Cohn Estate is located on the western bench lands of the Napa Valley and yields fruit redolent of both the forest above and the lean soil below. The vineyard occupies 23.86 planted acres of almost entirely Cabernet Sauvignon, with roughly two acres devoted to the esteemed Old Men vines. Estate elevations run from 225 feet on the eastern edge to 300 feet in the hillside block. Soils range from Bale clay loam and Pleasanton loam in the eastern section of the vineyard to gravelly loam at the base of the mountains—a miserly soil that doesn't easily give sustenance to the vines. But the fruit proves the struggle is worthwhile. The differing vine ages and rootstocks and the variations in soil, exposure and trellising all combine to produce the rich complexity of Scarecrow.

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