

DRAGONETTE CELLARS



DRAGONETTE CELLARS 2008 SAUVIGNON BLANC, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

VINEYARD SOURCES:

GRASSINI FAMILY VINEYARD, HAPPY CANYON, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

CLONE: 1

AVERAGE YIELD: 1.94 TPA

CASA BLANCA/KOEHLER VINEYARD, FOXEN CANYON, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

SOME OF THE OLDEST SAUVIGNON BLANC IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, PLANTED ON ITS OWN ROOTS IN 1973. DRY FARMED.

CLONE: UNKNOWN

AVERAGE YIELD: 1 TPA

VINEYARD AND WINEMAKING NOTES:

WE ARE THRILLED TO INTRODUCE OUR FIRST WHITE WINE, THE 2008 SAUVIGNON BLANC. THE GRAPES FROM THIS WINE LARGELY HAIL FROM THE SOON-TO-BE-FAMOUS GRASSINI FAMILY VINEYARD, WHICH WAS EXPERTLY PLANTED (HIGH DENSITY) AND MANAGED BY THE RENOWNED VITICULTURISTS AT COASTAL VINEYARD CARE ASSOCIATES. WE PURCHASE GRAPES FROM TWO SEPARATE BLOCKS AT GRASSINI ON A PER ACRE BASIS AND THEREFORE ARE INTIMATELY INVOLVED WITH FARMING, LIMITING YIELDS, MANAGING THE CANOPY AND PICKING AT OPTIMUM RIPENESS AND ACIDITY LEVELS. THE CASA BLANCA/KOEHLER VINEYARD IS AN OLD VINE, DRY FARMED, NATURALLY LOW YIELDING SECTION AND PRODUCED GRAPES OF FASCINATING COMPLEXITY.

WE HARVESTED THE 2008 SAUVIGNON BLANC IN INDIVIDUAL LOTS, CAREFULLY FIELD SORTING TO ELIMINATE ALL BUT THE BEST CLUSTERS. WE GENTLY PRESSED THE GRAPES THEN SEPARATELY FERMENTED THE RESULTING JUICE, AND AGED THE WINE ON ITS LEES IN A MIX OF STAINLESS STEEL AND FRENCH OAK BARRELS, 20% NEW, FOR 8 MONTHS. WE SETTLED THEN BLENDED THE INDIVIDUAL LOTS AND BOTTLED THE WINE WITHOUT FILTRATION, SO AS TO AVOID STRIPPING THE FLAVORS (WE VALUE FLAVOR OVER PERFECT CLARITY).

BOTTLED UNFILTERED IN APRIL 2009

ALCOHOL: 13.5% CASES PRODUCED: 350 SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE: \$30.00

REVIEWS

92 POINTS CONNOISSEURS' GUIDE, FEB 10

FROM ITS SLIGHTLY PULPY, WELL-EXTRACTED, RIPE-MELON AND FIG-LIKE AROMAS TO ITS BROAD, SWEETLY OAKED, MOUTHFILLING FLAVORS, THIS BIG AND VERY WELL-BALANCED SAUVIGNON BLANC STANDS APART FROM THE CROWD BY DINT OF ITS STRUCTURE AND SHEER SENSE OF RICHNESS. WHILE OPEN AND EASY TO TASTE, THIS IS STILL A YOUNGSTER, AND IT IS SO DEEP AND SO VERY WELL-COMPOSED THAT IT IS GUARANTEED TO IMPROVE FOR ANOTHER FEW YEARS.

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