



PESSAGNO

WINERY

2005 Syrah

Idyll Times Vineyard
San Benito County

Harvest Date

September 17, 2005

Harvest Brix

27.4

Months in Oak

Eleven

Alcohol

15.3%

pH

3.64

TA

7.42 grams/liter

Rs

0.30%

94 cases bottled

July 31, 2007

THE VINEYARD

Located at the base of the Eastern foothills of San Benito County, Idyll Times Vineyard is sheltered from the winds of “the Mistral” climate, characterized by warm, breezy days and cool nights. The soil is sparse and shallow, restricting root development and canopy growth. These conditions are ideal for the sometimes overly vigorous and cool climate loving Syrah grape.

THE VINTAGE

Due to a warmer and wetter winter than usual our Syrah was in full budbreak by March 10th, an early start to the growing season to say the least. The period of May through August saw below average summer temperatures with the warmest day only reaching 94 °F; slowing maturation in the vineyard to a snail’s pace. Harvest started in mid September, and the extended growing season resulted in very high quality fruit due to extended “hang-time” on the vine.

THE WINEMAKING

This vineyard typically produces an extremely limited amount of highly concentrated fruit, and this year was no exception. To accentuate the fruit character and soften the tannin structure, a selected yeast strain from France was used for fermentation. In the summer of 2006, the wine was racked barrel-to-barrel, to incorporate a small amount of tannin softening oxygen.

TASTING NOTES

So far, every wine we grow at Idyll Times Vineyard is opulent and showy, with forward fruit and jammy flavors. Blackberry, plum, and licorice are dominant in the aroma, while French oak nuances complement the bouquet. This wine begs a grilled steak, hearty meat, game dishes, and strong cheeses.

Steve Pessagno, Winemaker