LAMBORN FAMILY VINEYARDS

Lamborn "The Pupil Vintage" Zinfandel 2011

100% estate grown Howell Mountain, Napa Valley Zinfandel

Grape farming is always interesting and 2011 was no exception. We had a normal bud break on April 13th, but Mother Nature began her trickery almost immediately. The 2011 growing season was cloudy, cool, and wet. However, both the wind and the additional sunlight we receive on Howell Mountain gave us enough advantage to achieve success. Early season Botrytis was epidemic throughout Napa and Sonoma Valleys, but it did not affect our vineyards high up on the mountain. Heidi commented that our fruit was the best she saw that season; a true testament to the mountain. Harvest was one of our latest (October 1st), but the fruit achieved perfect ripeness following several passes through the vineyard to drop clusters which were developing slower than we wanted. We picked a modest 10.4 tons and produced a moderate 757 cases.



Winemaker Heidi Barrett's tasting notes:

"Deep black cherry and raspberry in color with focused aromas of rich and opulent Howell Mountain fruit. On the nose you are greeted with heaps of jammy raspberry, currant, and cherry fruit, perfectly complemented by the Lamborn Vineyard's characteristic black pepper and spice component, all pulled together with hints of toast and vanilla. The flavors do not deviate from the aromas, and the overall effect on the palate is one of rich, ripe fruit and an overall silky mouthfeel. Structurally significant but not overtly aggressive, the finish has slight warmth and great length. A classic and beautiful Lamborn Zin!"

Winemaker: Heidi Barrett
Appellation: Howell Mountain

Varietal: 100% estate grown Zinfandel

Harvested: October 1, 2011

Cases Produced: 757
Alcohol: 15.3%
Wholesale price: \$30/bottle