



## 2009 Sawyer Lindquist Grenache

This wine is 87% grenache and 13% syrah from grapes grown at the Sawyer Lindquist Vineyard in the cool Edna Valley. The grenache portion is 73% Alban clone and 27% Tablas clones. The syrah portion is from neutral barrels that were selected for our single vineyard syrah bottling. A little over half of the grenache was fermented with 33% whole clusters which adds a definite layer of spice and tannin and gives more complexity as the wine ages. All of the grenache was aged in neutral French oak, on the lees, for 17 months. The syrah was blended in to the wine just before bottling. This young vineyard is showing the tremendous potential for grenache and works well with the style of grenache I like to make, spicy with wild cherry and hints of fresh herbs frame the aromas. The flavours follow in the same vein with the savory fruit notes and balanced alcohol. It is difficult for me to predict ageability on this wine but I'm confident it will benefit from a good 8-10 years in the cellar. 24 barrels, just under 600 cases were bottled at the end of March 2011. I almost forgot to mention, in 2009 we certified the vineyard and winery under the Demeter guidelines for biodynamic farming and winemaking and this wine carries the Demeter stamp.