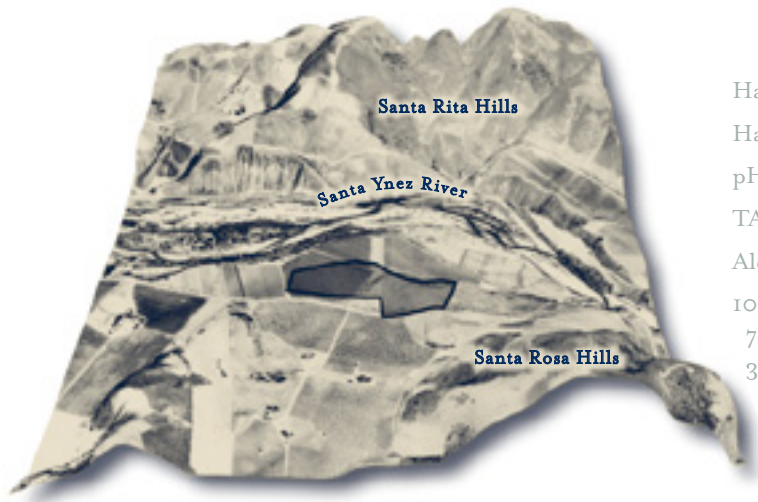


TAZ VINEYARDS
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
PINOT NOIR 2003



Harvested August 25 - September 5, 2003

Harvest Brix: 25.0 - 25.8

pH: 3.68

TA: 0.56

Alcohol 14.8%

100% Pinot Noir

70% Fiddlestix Vineyard

30% North Canyon Vineyard

In blending this 2003 Santa Barbara County Pinot Noir, we pulled together fruit from Santa Maria Valley and the Santa Rita Hills—two very different sites with contrasting signatures. The Fiddlestix Vineyard in Santa Rita gives dark fruits and brooding flavors, a concentrated and rich expression of Pinot Noir. The North Canyon Vineyard in Santa Maria Valley delivers more delicate accents, with soft, pretty cinnamon and strawberry notes. When blended, you get a blackberry burst in the wine with cola spice and juicy jammy berry notes supported by a balancing act of tannins and structure. The resulting wine has breadth and an evenness we strive for with this tricky variety.

TAZ represents an exploration of small sites within Santa Barbara County, and the blended county wines in the line-up give a broader sense of what the appellation has to offer. For Pinot Noir this means a nuanced, elegant wine, one influenced by the coastal fog and late afternoon breezes the area is known for. The 2003 growing season started with a cool, rainy spring, and we had to slow down vine growth, training the energy into the clusters. At harvest we waited carefully for full maturity in the fruit. That's the secret with Pinot—picking when the flavors have developed to just where you want them.

Limited Release of 3200 cases.

