KEN BROWN

THIS IS A LIMITED BOTTLING OF 392 CASES

2005 PINOT NOIR
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

14.7% ALC. BY VOL.

WINEMAKER: Ken Brown

VINEYARD SOURCES: 82% Rio Vista, 18% Cargasacchi, Santa Rita Hills. This wine showcases the range of Pinot Noir expression in the cool Santa Rita Hills appellation, combining fruit from Rio Vista Vineyard in the east with Cargasacchi Pinot Noir in the western edge of the appellation. Rio Vista Pinot Noir brings a rich, round mouth feel and ripe fruit flavors to the blend, while grapes from Cargasacchi contribute exceptional depth, complexity and structure to the wine.

VINTAGE: The 2005 vintage was characterized by plentiful winter rainfall, mild temperatures and a gradual ripening of the grapes, which allowed us to pick each block at optimum maturity. The growing season began with above average rainfall, resulting in vigorous spring vine growth and healthy canopies. Growers helped keep yields in balance with careful farming, including shoot and cluster thinning and leaf pulling, to ensure excellent flavor development and concentration in the grapes. Temperatures throughout the growing season were characteristically cool with no prolonged heat spells. Pinot Noir from Rio Vista was harvested on September 8, while fruit from the cooler Cargasacchi Vineyard was picked on September 30.

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS: Pinot Noir clusters for this wine were hand sorted before being de-stemmed and gravity fed to fermenters. The must was immediately chilled for a pre-fermentation cold soak where the most beneficial extraction of color, aroma and flavor occurs. During fermentation, concentration was enhanced by gently punching down the cap several times per day. The wine aged 10 months in French oak barrels with 33% new French oak.

Rich aromas of red cherry, dark plum and blackberry are accented by a touch of cinnamon and smokiness from subtle French oak expression. A lush mid-palate features red cherry and plum flavors with a soft touch of tannins. The wine culminates in a rich, lingering finish.

TECHNICAL DATA
T.A.: 5.62 g/l
pH: 3.64
Alcohol: 14.7%
Sugg. Retail Price: $30.00
Production: 392 cases