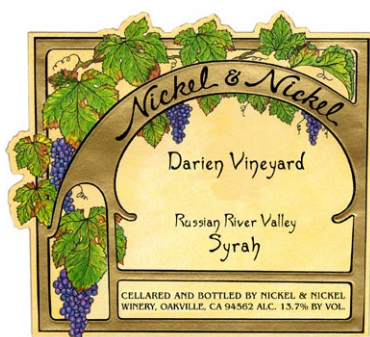




DARIEN VINEYARD

Syrah, Russian River Valley, Sonoma



APPELLATION

Russian River Valley, Sonoma

YEAR PLANTED

2000 and 2001

VARIETAL

Syrah

ACREAGE

4 acres

CLONE & ROOTSTOCK

Syrah clones 7 and 877
on the 101-14 rootstock

TRELLISING

Vertical shoot positioning (VSP)

GEOLOGY

This vineyard is composed of loam derived from the Huichica soils series, which provide moderately well-drained alluvial soils that are developed from mixed sedimentary, volcanic ash and basic rock sources.

VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Tucked into the gently rolling hills of Sonoma's Russian River Valley, Darien Vineyard enjoys a moderate climate and well-drained, loamy soils. The Syrah vines were planted in 2000 and 2001, and benefit from cool, foggy mornings that give way to warm afternoon sun from the southeast, allowing the exposed fruit to ripen evenly. The clusters tend to be fairly long in size and tightly packed. There are two different clones planted in the vineyard, each contributing its own unique flavors to the wine. Nickel & Nickel selects fruit from less than four acres of the 25-acre vineyard.

TASTING NOTES

Very dark in color, this wine seduces the senses with a perfume of plum, violet, tar, coffee and spice. It is packed with intensity, opening with a mouthful of jammy fruit, meat, spice, earth and a gamey quality that is true to the varietal. Big and bold, it fills the palate with layers of flavors, finishing with coffee and roasted nuts enveloped by elegant, coating tannins.