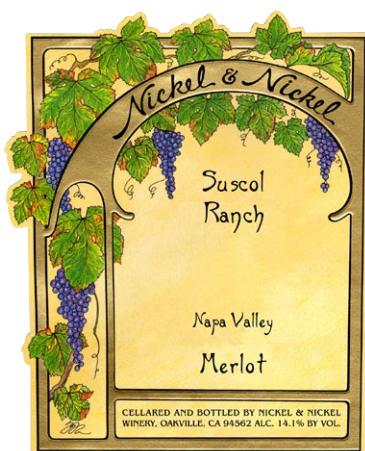




SUSCOL RANCH

Merlot, Napa Valley



APPELLATION

Napa Valley

YEAR PLANTED

1999

VARIETAL

Merlot

ACREAGE

9 acres

CLONE & ROOTSTOCK

Merlot clone 314
on the 3309C rootstock

TRELLISING

Vertical shoot positioning (VSP)

GEOLOGY

The Haire soil series are moderately well drained and found on old terraces and alluvial fans. Deposits of weathered sedimentary rock are typical and help create a deep, loamy soil in this vineyard.

VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

The nine-acre Suscol Ranch vineyard is located in Jamieson Canyon, south of the city of Napa. The area is very cool, with dense fog early in the season and windy conditions all year long. The vines are planted on a gentle, north-facing knoll of deep, loamy soil and are cordon trained to give the grapes maximum sun exposure. The cool conditions allow the fruit to mature slowly, gracefully developing flavors and mature tannins.

TASTING NOTES

This Merlot offers ripe flavors of dark plum and wild berry, enhanced by underlying layers of herb and tea, coupled with sweet oak. The unique character of this vineyard produces a density on the palate that few Merlots can offer. This wine is enjoyable today, yet also rewards those who choose to lay it down in the cellar.