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2005 ZINFANDEL *TRADIZIONALE*

WEST VINEYARD
DRY CREEK VALLEY

Fred's (Peterson) Vintaged View:

This is the kind of wine that really got me hooked on Zinfandel. A traditional, old-vine field-blend, this wine to me is the classic “raspberry jam” that differentiates the best Dry Creek Valley Zins from all others. Big, but balanced. Fruity, yet elegant. This is a wine that will go with almost any food, but you can also just pull the cork on a bottle and drink it with friends while playing cards or watching a good movie.

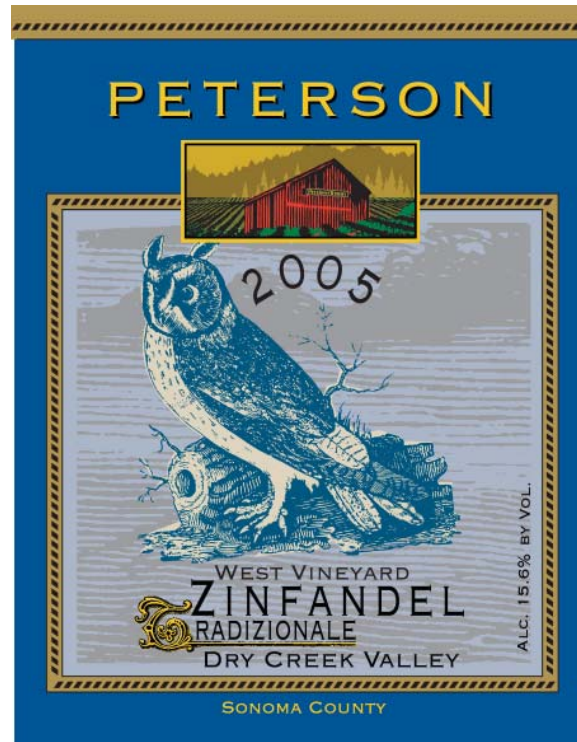
The old-vine West Vineyard Zinfandel in this wine was planted in the 1920s during Prohibition. It contains about 3% other red grapes (Petite Sirah, Alicante Bouschet, Carignane and some others I'm not really sure about) as well as 1% white grapes (Semillon, Palomino and Chasselas). All the vines are harvested at the same time and all the various varieties are cofermented, which produces a smoother, fuller wine than separate fermentations and subsequent blending can give you.

Tasting Notes:

Lush ripe blackberry intertwined with white pepper create tempting aromas in this old field-blend Zin. The blackberry and white pepper reappear on the palate along with a smooth, rich blend of mixed berries and sweet cherry flavors. Hints of orange peel, mocha and anise in the background add to the complexity of the wine. The firm acid gives structure to the layers of fruit flavors to create a food-friendly, easy-to-drink and hard-to-put-down Zinfandel.

Vineyard:

West Vineyard is an 80-year-old dry-farmed, head-trained Zinfandel vineyard located on a hillside in the southeast corner of Dry Creek Valley. A traditional field-blend vineyard; a small portion is planted with mixed black varieties such as Petite Sirah, Carignane and Mataro, along with a few white grape varieties.



Technical Data:

Composition: 97% Zinfandel,
3% Field blend of mixed red (2.5%)
and white (0.5%) grapes

Appellation: West Vineyard, Dry Creek Valley,
Sonoma County

Harvest Dates: October 7, 2005

Alcohol: 15.6%

pH: 3.40

TA: 0.72g/100ml

Barrel Aging: 13 months

Type of Oak: 30% new Hungarian oak barrels,
70% 3-5 year-old mixed oak barrels

Bottling Date: November 16, 2006

Production: 550 cases

Release Date: April 2008