

DRY CREEK PRODUCES WINNERS

— by Bob Hosmon

“**W**hen David Stare moved to California in the late 1960s he was working for the B&O Railroad but quickly realized his real interest was in the wine industry. So he abandoned a plan to build his own chateau in the French Loire Valley, purchased an old prune orchard in Sonoma County’s Dry Creek Valley, and planted vines. The result: Dry Creek Vineyard.

It is one of California’s most important and best wineries, initially known for its superb sauvignon blancs, but now also recognized for its rich, full-flavored Zinfandels.

Consider the 2003 Dry Creek Vineyard Beeson Ranch Zinfandel. Producing grapes grown on vines well over 100 years old, Beeson Ranch is arguably Dry Creek Valley’s oldest active vineyard. Although at 8 acres, the single grape vineyard is small, the red zin it produces is just about as good as it gets.

The Somers Ranch vineyard in Dry Creek Valley, at just 5 acres, is even smaller, but the 2003 Dry Creek Vineyard Somers Ranch Zinfandel that comes from that small plot is extraordinary, elegant, rich and loaded with full-fruit flavor. It’s a classic red zin with ripe fruit flavors and a lingering finish.”

... SERVE WITH: *With lots of outdoor barbecuing in South Florida, these two fantastic reds are perfect with grilled steaks, hamburgers (with onions), and baby back ribs. I also like both with pizza (preferably with mushrooms and sausage), spaghetti with meat sauce and old-fashioned macaroni and cheese.* ...



Dry Creek
V I N E Y A R D