

# RIDGE 1996

# CALIFORNIA

# LYTTON SPRINGS®

## 96 Lytton Springs Vineyard, bottled Jan 98

A late spring with difficult weather during flowering and set severely limited yields from the outset of the 1996 growing season. Quality, however, was excellent. Five percent more petite sirah than in any previous vintage contributes to the lush, full-bodied character. The wine was put in air-dried american oak in December after vintage, and racked every four months until bottling fourteen months later. We held the number of new barrels to roughly fifteen percent of the total, as the percentage of one-year old oak was quite significant. With its black fruit and lively spice, this fine zinfandel will be enjoyable at the time of its release, and at its best (as an explosively fruity wine) over the next five years. PD (12/97)

For information on the wines, or visiting us at our Monte Bello (Santa Cruz Mountains) and Healdsburg (Sonoma County) wineries, call (408) 867-3233.

® REGISTERED TRADEMARK

**78% ZINFANDEL IN A TRADITIONAL VINEYARD BLEND WITH 19% PETITE SIRAH, 2% CARIGNANE, AND 1% GRENACHE**  
**DRY CREEK, SONOMA COUNTY** ALCOHOL 14.5% BY VOLUME  
PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY RIDGE VINEYARDS, INC. BW 4488  
17100 MONTE BELLO ROAD, BOX 1810, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA 95015

GOVERNMENT WARNING: 1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. 2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS. CONTAINS SULFITES 7

