

RIDGE 1997

CALIFORNIA

LYTTON SPRINGS®

97 Lytton Springs Vineyard, bottled Feb 99

Anticipating El Niño by a year, the winter of 1996/1997 brought serious flooding throughout California—but with a difference: almost no rain fell after February. The mild, storm-free spring allowed the earliest and largest set in our twenty-six-year history with this vineyard. To ensure intensity and full ripeness, we dropped a third of the crop on the young vines, and ten percent on the old—still achieving record yields. Taking advantage of unusually rapid color and tannin extraction, we let the skins float during fermentation, rather than keeping them submerged. Delicious now, the 1997 is ripe and rustic—classic, "old-style" Lytton Springs. Its lush fruit will be most appealing over the next five years. PD (1/99)

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

® REGISTERED TRADEMARK

**80% ZINFANDEL IN A VINEYARD BLEND WITH 15% PETITE SIRAH,
2% CARIGNANE, 2% MATARO AND 1% GRENACHE**

DRY CREEK VALLEY ALCOHOL 14.9% 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

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