

RIDGE 2011

PASO ROBLES

ZINFANDEL

100% ZINFANDEL BENITO DUSI RANCH
 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY 14.5% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

HISTORY

The Benito Dusi Ranch is the only vineyard in the Central Coast Viticultural Area from which we source grapes. Our Monte Bello vineyards are in the Santa Cruz Mountains Viticultural Area which is not in the Central Coast. The 1967 vintage was our first wine from this vineyard. It was planted to zinfandel in 1922 which is unusual because Prohibition had started two years earlier. Purchased by Sylvester and Catarina Dusi in 1924, the property has been farmed since the 1940s by their son Benito, the owner.

FIRST RIDGE PASO ROBLES: 1967

GROWING SEASON

Rainfall: 18 inches (average)

Bloom: Mid May

Weather: Spring frost reduced crop, dry summer and fall.

VINTAGE

Harvest Dates: 17 - 23 September

Grapes: Average Brix 25.4°

Fermentation: 100% natural primary and secondary fermentation. 62% submerged cap; pressed at eight days.

Barrels: 100% air-dried american oak barrels (19% new, 32% two years old, 35% three and four years old, and 14% five years old)

Aging: Twelve months in barrel

WINEMAKING

Benito Dusi Vineyard grapes, hand harvested. Destemmed and crushed. Fermented on the native yeasts, followed by full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria. A total of 1.4 percent rehydration (added to one fermentor during fermentation). Minimum effective sulfur (35ppm at crush, 90 ppm over the course of aging). Pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



2011 Zinfandel, Paso Robles, bottled Dec 2012
 Despite a small crop on the ninety-year-old Dusi vineyard, another cool growing season delayed harvest by a month. To enhance extraction of color and tannin, skins were held submerged during fermentation. The press was included for additional structure and complexity. Malolactic finished early, and the wine was in barrel by mid-November. For clarity, it was racked off its lees quarterly. This fruit-forward, approachable zinfandel will be at its best over the next four to six years.

EB (10/12)



Benito Dusi's Vineyard is located three miles south of Paso Robles on the east side of Highway 101.

Soils: Rocky and gravelly, with areas of light soil.

Age of Vines: Zinfandel, 40 acres, eighty years old, planted in 1922.

Training: Head trained (no trellis), spur pruned.

Yields: 1.5 - 2.0 tons per acre

RIDGE
 VINEYARDS

408.867.3233

www.ridgevine.com

Exceptional single-vineyard wines since 1962.

17100 Monte Bello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014
 650 Lytton Springs Road, Healdsburg, CA 95448