

PEDRONCELLI

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2000 FAMILY VINEYARDS PETITE SIRAH DRY CREEK VALLEY

FAMILY VINEYARD SOURCES

This richly flavored grape, long known for its intense characteristics, has been grown in Dry Creek Valley for over 100 years. John Pedroncelli planted our first Petite Sirah vineyard 10 years ago on our Home Ranch in eastern Dry Creek Valley. His intention at the time was to blend the Petite Sirah with our Mother Clone Zinfandel, boosting the flavor and tannin backbone of this fine wine.

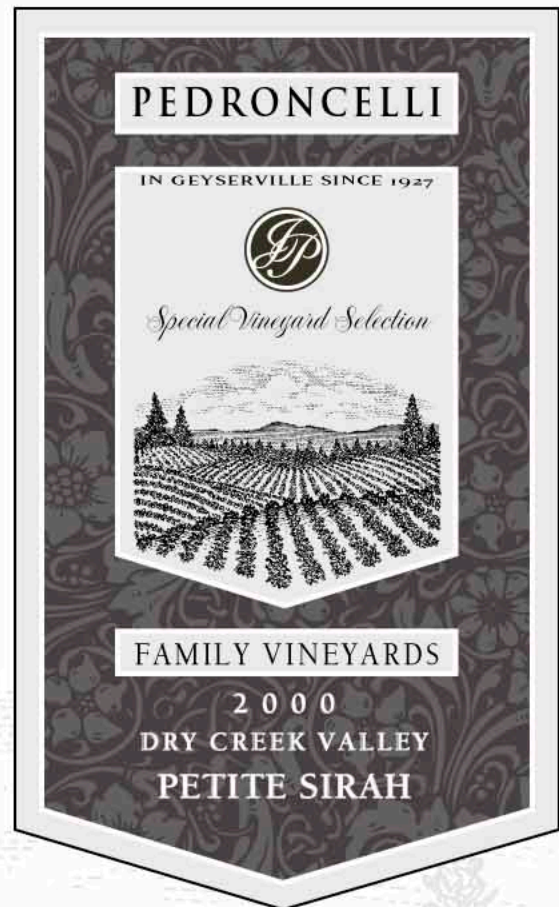
In 1997, John decided to blend this lot with the fruit from the Pedroni-Bushnell Vineyard. This vineyard is located four miles south on the same side of the valley. Along with Zinfandel, Petite Sirah has been grown on this vineyard for over 60 years. The "Family Vineyard" connection comes from the fact that Carol Bushnell is John's niece and she and her husband tend the vineyards she inherited from her father, Al Pedroni.

WINEMAKING

Harvested in late September from a great vintage, the grapes were brought in at full maturity. The fruit was crushed into stainless steel tanks where frequent pumping-over of the juice during fermentation allowed the young wine a substantial increase in flavor. The color extraction in this wine turns it a very deep purple-garnet color. The wine was aged for thirteen months in American oak barrels, 25% new oak with a complement of older barrels. This blending of barrels helps to bring the fruit forward while supporting it with subtle oak complexity.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Appellation: Dry Creek Valley
Composition: 80% Petite Sirah, 20% Zinfandel
Barrel Aging: 13 months in American oak
Alcohol: 14.15% pH: 3.5 Acidity: .56g/100ml
Bottled: August 2002 Production: 2300 cases



WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES

*Aromas of blackberry with a hint of tobacco.
Bold flavors of black fruit with undertones
of chocolate and black pepper. All this with
a lingering, meaty and complex finish.
Enjoy now or this full-bodied wine can
benefit from 10 to 15 more years in the cellar.*

Mandy McCord
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