



Spring Newsletter 2006, Volume 12

Tularosa Vineyards scores in the Wine Enthusiast magazine!

The Wine Enthusiast magazine, which is written for the wine consumer has recently awarded Tularosa Vineyards 2004 Viognier 84 points and the 2003 Shiraz scored 80 points. This represents another step in the recognition of Tularosa Vineyards wine on the national marketplace.

Tularosa Vineyards produces New Mexico's first blend of Cabernet-Shiraz!

Australia, like America, labels its wines with varietal names. The rules are similar: the wine is made entirely or mostly from the grape variety named on the front label. If more than one variety is named, the order indicates the predominant grape, e.g., Cabernet-Shiraz will have more Cabernet than Shiraz. Tularosa Vineyards Cabernet-Shiraz is exactly 50% Cabernet Sauvignon and 50% Shiraz all grapes are sourced from the Tularosa Basin. Although not vintage dated the current Tularosa Vineyards release is from the 2004 vintage. The wonderful fruit from the Cabernet grape and the exotic spice of the Shiraz have become a fantastic red wine blend. The idea to blend wines together is definitely not new and dates back as far as man has been growing grapes. The word synergy comes to mind in that the whole can be more than the sum of its parts. Both the Cabernet and the Shiraz used in the making of this wine were of outstanding quality, but when blended together they form a uniquely different, but good tasting wine.

Festival Time!

Memorial Day Weekend: May 27, 28, and 29th

Southern New Mexico Wine Festival

At the Southern NM State Fairgrounds, Las Cruces, NM

Albuquerque Wine Festival

Balloon Fiesta Park, Albuquerque, NM

Tularosa Vineyards planting update.

Planting a profitable vineyard (even a small one) is not a simple task. It involves a lot of planning, hard work and of course economic resources. After one has put all of the necessary components in to building a vineyard it will take 3 years before you can return a crop and usually 4 or 5 years before turning a profit! Tularosa Vineyards is in the final stages of planning a new 2 acre parcel as well as approximate 2 acres of replanting of vineyards. The replanting will be Sangiovese and Tempranillo replacing what was previously Grenache, Sauvignon Blanc, Chenin Blanc, and Chardonnay. They will be replanted using what is called a grafted vine. The graft allows the grower to select a rootstock that is more suited to the soil condition or for disease and pest resistance. Tularosa Vineyards is planning to spend almost \$4,000 dollars on vines alone to plant and replant vines. That doesn't include another \$2,000 plus for grape stakes (necessary to support the vine during its lifetime) or the labor or the cost of clearing the land. On average it takes between \$5,000 and \$10,000 to develop an acre of vineyard. The costs can vary depending on the type of vine planted, whether it is own rooted, or a grafted vine. Grafted vines can offer a better disease resistance and higher yields over the life of the vineyard. This year Tularosa Vineyards will be planting what is called a green grafted vine in the 1 acre block of Black Muscat. The vines are already green and alive when they are planted and the failure or death rate of the vines is supposed to be far less than dormant vines (we'll let you know how ours did later). The green grafted vines will have to be picked up personally in California on the back of a trailer bed so as not to damage them.



Grapevine stakes and irrigation line prior to planting.