

## 2022 Conduit

### Fair Play, Grenache Noir

Production: 175 cases

**Cuvée:** 70% Grenache - Tablas clone, 21% Grenache - Alban clone, 9% Syrah - clone 99 & 383 from the organic 'Gold Dust Vineyard'.

**Vine Age:** 5-23 years

**Planted Area:** 90% Fair Play AVA which is a sub AVA of El Dorado Co and the greater Sierra Foothills AVA/ Amador Co AVA, 10%

**Soil Type:** decomposed granite & quartz 2300-2700 feet elevation

**Vintage Notes:** We started the year off with a major snow storm that kept the power off for 8 days! It was a long, cold spring with bud break in mid April. We then contended with a deep freeze, with some of our neighbors losing 90% of their crop, a wintry mixes in late May and a touch of hail for fun. By harvest, we were approaching a historic heat wave, with temperatures climbing into the 110+ degrees. We made picking decisions to pull the fruit prior to the heat wave. We added some body to the final blend by incorporating a small amount of our Estate Syrah.



**Fun Facts:** Let's talk about clones!

#### Grenache

**Tablas clone** -In the 80s Table Creek imported new cuttings from Beaucastel, where Jacques Perrin had worked tirelessly to regenerate high quality Grenache vines. These vines are head trained with small, clusters and berries.

**Alban clone** -Grenache grown on a trellis, larger clusters. Drought tolerant and fuller canopy.

#### **Syrah**

**99** - This late-ripening French clone was taken directly from the famous Beaucastel Vineyard in the Southern Rhone of France. Showing bigger berries and clusters than most other clones.

**383**- A very balanced Syrah clone, this gives ample fruit, solid structure, and a lovely cool-climate Syrah flavor profile. This clone's small, round, marble-shaped berry has a tight skin, which results in more structured wines.

**Winemaking:** 50% whole cluster and 50% whole berry which was natively fermented for 25 days. We pressed off into old French Oak and aged it 8 months before bottling unfiltered & unfiltered.

