



Vineyards

From the beginning, C.G. Di Arie Vineyard and Winery has based its approach to winemaking on a simple premise: implement meticulous viticultural practices in order to grow and source the finest fruit from the Sierra Foothills. High in the rolling hills, this region is graced with hot days, temperate nights, cool moderating breezes, and excellent loam soils that give it a natural capacity to produce mountain grapes of character and concentration. C.G. Di Arie proprietor and winemaker Chaim Gur-Arieh believes that with the proper attention to detail, this rugged and untapped region is capable of producing world-class Zinfandel, Syrah, Petite Sirah, Barbera, Primitivo and Sauvignon Blanc to name a few.

With 45 acres already planted, Chaim plans to add another 35 acres in the coming years. One of the main goals of the vineyard is to develop consistency of fruit from vine to vine. To achieve this, the vines are on a bilateral cordon with a spacing of eight feet between rows and five feet between plants. Vertical shoot positioning has been used to maximize sunlight on the grapes, leading to earlier and more uniform ripening. In addition, the fruit is limited on every vine, with each arm containing about five spurs, *each spur two shoots and each shoot a maximum of two clusters.*

With subtle variations from red, granitic rocky loam, to sandy loam, the soil at C. G. Di Arie is ideal, offering good root penetration to the vines. Early on, lime was added to the vineyard to increase the (PH) *pH* levels. Because Chaim wants to limit foliage to direct the bulk of the plants' energy to the fruit, deficit irrigation is used in the vineyard.

Estate Vineyards:

Elisheva Vineyard: This 12-acre parcel located on a hilltop southeast of the winery at 1700 feet, offers great sun exposure and superb drainage. It features two acres of Cabernet Sauvignon, four acres of Syrah, four acres of Zinfandel and two acres of Primitivo. This vineyard started producing in 2005. Seven additional acres have been prepped for planting in 2007. The varieties planted were: 2 acres of Tempranillo 2 acres of Barbera, 2 acres of Cabernet Sauvignon and 1 acre of Zinfandel..

Sivan Vineyard: Named after Chaim and Elisheva's daughter, this nine-acre, south-facing parcel is located across the creek from the Elisheva Vineyard. It is comprised of two acres of Cabernet Franc, two acres of Syrah, two acres of Petite Sirah, one acre of Cabernet Sauvignon, and two acres of Touriga Nacional. This vineyard started procuring in 2005. One additional acre has been planted with Cabernet Sauvignon.

Leon's Vineyard: Named after Chaim's father, this vineyard planted in 2007 has 2.5 acres of Tempranillo, 2.5 acres of Barbera and 2 acres of Cabernet Sauvignon.

Helwig Vineyard: Owned by a neighbor, but under long-term contract to C. G. Di Arie and considered an Estate Vineyard, this 11.5-acre, southwest exposure site is also located southeast of the winery. It features two and a half acres of Petite Sirah, five and a half acres of Syrah, and three and a half acres of Primitivo. 5.5 additional acres have been prepped in 2007 including 2 acres of Tempranillo, 2 acres of Barbera and 1.5 acres of Grenache.