



LEE FAMILY FARM

2015
GRENACHE

MONTEREY
APPELLATION



<i>appellation:</i>	MONTEREY
<i>vineyard:</i>	MEADOR
<i>soil:</i>	SANDY AND SHALY LOAM
<i>climate:</i>	COOL, REGION I+ TO II
<i>alcohol:</i>	14.4%
<i>acidity:</i>	6.4 G/L
<i>pH:</i>	3.52
<i>cooperage:</i>	10 MONTHS IN FRENCH OAK BARRELS; 10% NEW
<i>production:</i>	95 CASES
<i>retail price:</i>	\$24.00

THE GRAPE

Grenache is the world's most widely planted red grape and is responsible for some of the finest wines, from France's southern Rhone Valley to the Priorat in Spain. Monterey is now on the list for producing great Grenache.

THE PLACE

The appellations of Monterey County are planted and farmed based on their proximity to Monterey Bay. Wind and fog moderate and extend the growing season, resulting in fruit of superior flavor and balance.

THE WINE

The fruit for this Lee Family Farm bottling is sourced from the Meador Vineyard where daytime temperatures reach the mid to upper 80's. The vineyard is cooled by fog and wind drawn in off the cold waters of nearby Monterey Bay.

The 2015 growing season saw a continuation of the long drought in California. The lower than normal rainfall totals and very dry winter led to early budbreak. The vineyard's proximity to Monterey Bay mitigated the few heat events, allowing for a fairly normal, gentle, long ripening period. Fruit quality from the 2015 vintage was excellent, given the earlier than normal harvest and lighter crop yields.

The grapes were hand sorted in the vineyard and again at the winery before being completely de-stemmed. Whole berries were fermented in small open-top tanks. Manual punch downs provided for optimum extraction while maintaining an elegantly structured wine. The wine was aged for ten months in French oak barrels, 10% of which were new.

We select our best barrels of Grenache for this very limited bottling; only 95 cases were produced. The wine brims with bright fruit and spice. The 2015 Grenache is a beautiful red-garnet color with aromas of raspberry, mocha and cassis. On the palate, flavors of sweet spice, mulberry, and black cherry are joined by a hint of floral tones. This is a medium to full bodied wine which is delicious by itself or with grilled meats and vegetables.