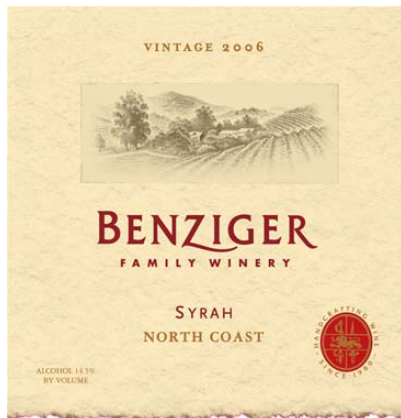


BENZIGER

FAMILY WINERY

2006 North Coast Syrah

Alcohol 14.5% | Total Acidity .52 | pH 3.89



Release Date | May 2009

Retail Price | \$16

TASTING NOTES | Our 2006 North Coast Syrah boasts earthy aromas of tobacco and herbs. In the mouth, dark fruit flavors of ripe plum and black raspberry linger on the palate. A long finish leads way to hints of pepper and spice.

VINTAGE | The 2006 vintage was truly a year won in the vineyard. A record 10-day heat spike in July had growers nervous about sunburn on the ripening grapes. Through meticulous management we tried to avoid leafing, and used the canopy to protect the grapes from direct sun exposure and high temperatures. This technique allowed the grapes to ripen more slowly and produce more concentrated flavors. Overall, this vintage produced excellent quality fruit, despite all the challenges.

WINEMAKING | Grapes from both warm and cool vineyard sites were hand-selected to bring added complexity to the finished wine. Once harvested, the grapes were crushed and

individually cold-soaked prior to fermentation to extract color and intensity while reigning in tannins. Each lot was aged in oak barrels for 14 months. The wines were then blended and bottled in January of 2007.

BENZIGER FARMING PRACTICES | At Benziger Family Winery, we are dedicated to winemaking that reveals the true character of the vineyard, the varietal and the vintage in certified-sustainable, -organically grown and-Biodynamic® wines. Our wines are defined by the individuality of the vineyard and the passion of the people who make them. Through our commitment to natural farming and environmentally and socially responsible business practices, we strive for sustainability and the preservation of our Sonoma Mountain family winery for generations to come.

This wine was made with grapes grown with **certified sustainable** farming methods. Our sustainable philosophy promotes natural vineyard management, restoration of the land and biodiversity on the estate. We believe these practices result in wines that reflect the authentic flavors, aromas and character of the vineyard.