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2003, SYRAH BLACK LABEL RESERVE

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

For the second year in a row this Black Label Syrah has been influenced by soils rich in limestone. In a word, it has the influence of Paso Robles.

This wine is not the dense spectacle that some of its predecessors have been; it's not the syrup. The tannins seem to gently wade through the luscious blackberry fruit as the wine feathers out luxuriously across your palate. Like the 2002 bottling, there is something about this wine at its core that is very captivating. The flavors are simply beautiful. Being a blend, you don't taste the pedigree of a great single vineyard; you taste the upward potential for the variety Syrah as it is grown on California's Central Coast. Being slightly more slender than past bottlings, this one will ultimately be more versatile with more kinds of food. While this Black Label Syrah captures a little bit of the powerful ripeness of the past, it also captures a more transparent expression of varietal character and the coming together of great terroir.

FACTS

name:	2003, Syrah "Black Label Reserve"
item number:	03SYBL
composition:	100 % Syrah
alcohol:	13.9 % by volume
production:	1 294 cases
release date:	Fall 2005
price:	See pricelist