



201 Wines

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Media Release

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2010 Vintage Report

The 2010 vintage in the Hunter Valley has been a challenging yet rewarding one given we harvested our Durif for the first time in 5 years.

A warmer than usual start to the season saw good early budburst and flowering across the entire vineyard. Rainfall was lower than average over spring however our fully-stocked dam gave us ample water to irrigate the vineyard over that time, giving us good canopy growth and fruit set.

The highest recorded temperature during the season (around 44 degrees celcius) occurred on the 20th November 2009, however it also coincided with an isolated low pressure system which gave way to a short but savage hail storm that destroyed around a third of our crop. Whilst it saved us the labour of thinning the crop manually, it also meant having to manage the threat of infection from airborne mould even more intensely. On the balance I think we'd much prefer to do the thinning on our terms!!

The Semillon was picked on the 21st January 2010 after a couple of dry, warm weeks of optimal ripening conditions. This year we've elected to purchase some Sauvignon Blanc from the Adelaide Hills and we expect to release our 2010 SSB some time in June.

A late January downpour along with the threat of more rain in February meant we had to decide whether to harvest early or risk losing the red vintages entirely. In the end we opted to reap both the Chambourcin and Durif in early February, with the result likely to be medium-bodied reds with lower alcohol levels. As we speak they have both been transferred into French oak barriques for maturation, the Chambourcin in old oak and the Durif in a mix of old and new. Both should be ready for release around the beginning of next year.

Established in 2006, 201 is a boutique vineyard located in the Lovedale region of the Hunter Valley. We offer a select range of premium wines and gift baskets via our website, www.201.com.au, and selected retail outlets. Refer to the 201 website for stockist details.

For further enquiries, please contact Geoff Schippers on 0420 905 608.