



Wine Recommendation



Verdad

2005 Tempranillo

(Santa Ynez Valley)

Looking around for a red varietal as a counterpoint to Albarino, winemaker Louisa Sawyer Lindquist did what seemed like the only logical thing: she planted Tempranillo and, in fact, she planted it in the same Santa Ynez vineyard (Ibarra-Young) as her Albarino. The learning curve for Tempranillo has proven a bit steeper and she admits it's a work in progress.

Tempranillo is a prodigious producer and she ended up dropping over half the fruit on the ground to get the desired intensity and flavors. Since Tempranillo is a low acid varietal, the 2005 version is augmented with 15 percent Syrah (from Bien Nacido) to give the wine some snap and a lush middle palate, as well as 10 percent Grenache (from Purisima Mountain) to give an aromatic lift to the nose. Rose petal, road tar, ripe cherry and berry fruit come through on the nose, while the black cherry, cocoa powder and smoky toast

flavors are balanced and easily accessible, as the sweet oak and spice caresses the ripe fruit.

Reviewed February 6, 2008 by [Dennis Schaefer](#).