

DAMAS VINEYARDS WINE CLUB NEWSLETTER

October 2025

Don't miss our Anniversary 25% off Case Goods Sale, good through the end of October.

As expected, we harvested our zinfandel in mid-September. The upper vineyard ripened ahead of the lower vineyard, necessitating two separate picking events, which occurred on September 6 (five tons) and September 14 (three tons). We were happy with the quality of the fruit this year, and so were both our Napa Valley buyer, Tres Sabores, and our El Dorado County winemaker, Eric Hays. We felt fortunate to have



found homes for all of our grapes this year, as many of our neighbors were stuck. Without a buyer, they did not pick. It's sad to see so much fruit left hanging around here and all over California.

We received a couple of unusual sprinkles in September, but not enough to interfere with harvesting. Fall sure arrived with a bang on October 1, however. The weather service predicted

1/4 to 1/2 inch of rain, so we were surprised when it rained cats and dogs and filled our rain gauge to the 1.2 inch mark. And then repeated the same feat the following day! As usual, the arrival of rain after the long, dry summer months is a cause of joy here in the foothills, erasing the danger of wildfire and painting our golden hills an Irish Spring sort of green.

We're busy now doing the usual fall tasks: fertigating the vineyard (feeding fertilizer and micronutrients through the irrigation lines), ordering compost to spread over the winter months, and getting ready to plant our winter cover crop in the vineyard as soon as the vines are fully dormant and it's wet enough to germinate the seed.



We're also monitoring the olive crop with an eye to harvesting the olives sometime in November. It looks like a relatively heavy crop this year, but you never know until the olives are loaded into bins and weighed at the mill. We sold out of our olive oil early this year, so we are looking forward to a new supply before Thanksgiving. We're also eager to taste "olio nuevo," that newly pressed, green, spicy oil, once again.

There's not much other news to report at this time, but we wanted to remind everyone that our anniversary special of 25% off all case orders of our wines is good through the end of October. So, it is a good time to stock up for the holidays.

We'll let you know when the new olive oil becomes available.

Happy fall to all,

Mara & Deborah

