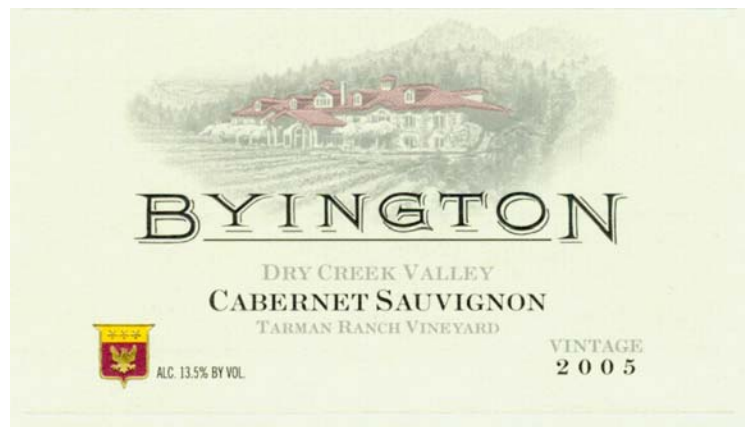


# COLLECTOR'S RED



**Appellation:** Dry Creek

**Vineyard Designate:** Tarman Ranch

**Production:** 250 cases

Tarman Ranch is in the Dry Creek district of Sonoma, an area better known for Zinfandel than Cabernet. However, this vineyard is perfectly suited for Cabernet, located on the western side of Dry Creek, high on a plateau with deep, intensely red clay soil. The vines are over forty years old, and we are seeing the decrease in yield that often happens with older vineyards. But the decrease in yield is accompanied by increase in concentration which we are delighted to see with the Tarman Ranch.

The 2005 Tarman was harvested relatively early, on October 24. The wine was only minimally handled with only one pump over and one punch down a day during its two-and-a-half week fermentation. We aged the Tarman Ranch in American Oak for 21 months and racked the wine only twice during that time. I chose to leave the wine unfiltered at bottling, because the body was so lovely I couldn't bear to part with any of the structure.

The Tarman Ranch Cabernet has a plum jam nose with a lovely vanilla character and a hint of clove. It is a wine that is very subtle and approachable right now, and it opens beautifully in the glass.