

Lail Vineyards



2007 MOLE HILL CABERNET SAUVIGNON, NAPA VALLEY

THE STORY

John Daniel, Jr., Renaissance gentleman and wine statesman, loved puns. In the late 1940's one of his industry friends released a 'Mountain Red' wine. Daniel thought the name was amusing as the wine came from a rolling hillside vineyard, versus the precipitous mountain vineyards of Europe.

That year he made an in-house wine at Inglenook called "Mole Hill Red". The front label featured a mole with a magnifying glass checking a pile of dirt. The flowery back label concluded with "...and this is a wine you will truly GO FER!"

THE VINEYARD

Today, Mole Hill is our three-acre Cabernet Sauvignon vineyard with loam soil approximately two feet deep. Planted in 1993, it is nestled beside a gorge on Howell Mountain at 1700 feet with a western exposure. The gorge acts as a vacuum pulling summer fog up from the valley floor, creating a unique microclimate for the vineyard. Small rocks are prolific and rise to the surface like cream in coffee. In combination with soil depth, this creates a spartan home for the vines, generating a concentration of flavors in the grapes.

THE WINE

"Reminiscent of the great wines from Howell Mountain appellation, this wine is showing deep red color, a complex nose of dried herbs, sweet oak, dark chocolate and Asian spices. Beautifully balanced with powerful tannins, complex aromatics of currant, sage, cigar box and sweet vanilla, this 2007 Mole Hill finishes with great vibrancy and finesse. A grand vin which should age for a long, long time."

—Philippe Melka, Winemaker

PROPRIETORS: The Lail Family
—Robin, Jon, Erin and Shannon

THE WINE: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

WINEMAKER: Philippe Melka

PRODUCTION: 320 magnums
(1.5L bottle)

VINEYARDS: Mole Hill, Howell Mountain

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