



FACT SHEET

FOUNDED:	1998
PROPRIETORS:	Barry Martin Schuler and Tracy Strong Schuler
WINEMAKING PARTNERS:	Dawnine Sample Dyer and Bill Dyer
VINEYARD SIZE:	22 acres
LOCATION:	The Southeastern corner of Napa Valley where cool San Francisco Bay breezes linger, and ripening is leisurely, but assured. Soils are a mix of well-drained river rock and mineral-rich volcanic ash, ideally suiting it for Bordeaux varietals, especially cabernet sauvignon.
VINEYARD DEVELOPMENT:	Michael Wolf Vineyard Management. Michael Wolf planted the vineyard in 1999 and continues to maintain it.
DESCRIPTION:	Meteor Vineyard's bright fruit flavor is underpinned by a compilation of three clones of cabernet sauvignon grafted on specific rootstocks (Clone 4 on 110R, Clone 337 on 3309C, and Clone 7 on St. George or <i>V. rupestris</i>). These clones range from newly available plant material from European collections to selections from historic Napa Valley vineyards. Of note is the utilization of St. George rootstock on a portion of the vineyard. St. George is a deep-rooting, drought-tolerant variety, which was favored by California winegrowers in the late 19th century and is uniquely suited to this vineyard.



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FIRST VINTAGE:

2005 Meteor Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon slated for release in 2008. A small amount of 2003 was made for personal consumption in celebration of Barry Schuler's 50th birthday, and again in 2004.

DISTRIBUTION:

Principally through the Meteor Vineyard mailing list with a small allocation reserved for national distribution channels.

WINEMAKING:

Grapes are hand harvested at optimal maturity. Fruit is sorted in the vineyard and again at the winery, de-stemmed and lightly crushed. The focus is on ripe, sound fruit.

Each cabernet sauvignon clone is fermented separately and blended specifically for the Meteor Vineyard Estate Cabernet Sauvignon and Special Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon.

Only free run juice is used.

Wines are aged 20-22 months in 50% new French oak barrels.

WORTH NOTING:

Formerly pasture, Meteor was first planted to vineyard in 1999. Beginning in 2002 Meteor Vineyard's grapes have been sold to a small number of well-known Napa Valley properties including: Lail, Favia, Philippe Melka, Arietta, Etude and Vineyard 29.

In the September 2007 issue of Decanter, famed U.K. wine authority Steven Spurrier featured Meteor Vineyard's 2005 vintage in an article titled, "Better Than Bordeaux: Spurrier's Standouts," after sampling the wine at the Premier Napa barrel auction. He described Meteor Vineyard's 2005 vintage as a single-vineyard Cabernet with "smooth, spicy fruit," and "plush tannins."