

The 9N

Single Vineyard

2016 Shiraz

McLaren Vale

Our founder, Richard Morton Shaw, loves tractors. One example that takes pride of place in the tractor “breeding shed” (named by a neighbour due to tractors just “appearing” in it) is a carefully restored Ford Ferguson 9N. Named in honour of this faithful workhorse, this is a classic McLaren Vale shiraz exhibiting aromas and flavours of vanillin, plums, black cherry, pepper and spice, integrating with a full fleshy palate that finishes with soft tannins. Enjoy now or cellar for 7-10 years to release its full potential.

Vintage 2016 will be remembered for a warm and dry spring, which promoted shoot growth and flowering, followed up by heavy rain immediately before harvest which helped boost vineyard yields. At harvest vines produced some of the bigger crops we have seen since 2004, but they generally weren't overcropped as vine growth was balanced. The warm spring and early summer days and nights ensured that vines grew well and then set well. The 2015/16 growing season had some similarities with the lean 2006/07 and 2007/08 seasons. In all three, growing season rainfall was less than 50% of the long term average. Overall, rainfall for winter was lower than average, due to a dry June 2015, and this was followed by long dry periods where no effective rain fell until the first week of February. Disease pressure was generally low due to the long dry periods, following on from dry 2013 and 2014 springs as well. Irrigation application was vital to crop health and the local recycled water system, that supplies 45-50% of the region's irrigation water, was stretched. Rationing of this water source was flagged in January but fortunately full allocations were maintained. Growers were able to compensate for the shortfall in rainfall with improved irrigation techniques and an uninterrupted supply.

REGION	McLAREN VALE
VINEYARD	T TRELLIS
VINE AGE	45+ YEARS
SOIL PROFILE	IRONSTONE/LOAM CLAY
ALCOHOL	15%
pH	3.49
TA	6.16

