



NEWS RELEASE

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TOP WINES OF ORIGIN HONOURED AT SA TERROIR WINE AWARDS 2009

Winners of the fourth annual SA Terroir Wine Awards were announced at the Meerendal Wine Estate near Cape Town yesterday after a record 205 entries to the exclusive competition that portrays the country's different wine growing areas.

This year, three wineries made their mark by each entering two national winners: Bon Courage Estate near Robertson; Springfontein Estate near Stanford; and Strandveld Vineyards near Elim.

Sponsored by Novare, the implemented investment consulting firm, the SA Terroir Wine Awards are unique in their approach to classifying the origin of grapes - making soil and climate part of each wine's distinctive identity. The awards, with the cooperation of the Wine and Spirit Board, strictly apply the rule that only wines certified from a specific ward, estate or vineyard can participate.

Bon Courage delivered the top Cabernet Sauvignon with the Bon Courage Inkara Cabernet Sauvignon 2007, and top Colombar with the Bon Courage Andre's Fame 2009. Both are estate wines. Springfontein's two national winners were also estate wines: the Springfontein Jonathan's Ridge Pinotage 2007 for the top Pinotage, and Springfontein Jil's Dune Chenin Blanc 2008 for the Top Chenin Blanc.

Strandveld Vineyards' national winners were Strandveld Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc 2008 and First Sighting Shiraz 2007. Both are certified as wines of origin from the Elim ward.

The bordering wine growing areas from Hermanus to Elim, namely Walker Bay and Cape Agulhas, this year delivered seven of the 20 National Certificate winners.

This year was the first time a Rosé received a National Certificate - a Pinotage Rosé from the Goudini ward in the Breedekloof, the Avondrood Blush Pinotage Rosé 2009. Another first National Certificate winner was for a red Muscat d'Alexandrie dessert wine from Prins Albert in the Klein Karoo, the SoetKaroo Red Muscat d'Alexandrie 2008.

The three wines which were rated highest of all the wines entered were the Klein Constantia Vin de Constance 2005, Springfontein Jil's Dune Chenin Blanc 2008, and Diemersfontein Thokozani 2008.

Most entries were Shiraz (30), followed by Sauvignon Blanc (25), Red Blends (22), Chardonnay (17), Pinotage (14) and Cabernet Sauvignon (14). Ten natural sweet wines were entered, of which most were Noble Late Harvest wines.

The judges for the 2009 SA Terroir Wine Awards were Charl Theron, Dave Hughes, David Biggs, Elsa Carstens and Clive Torr.

Johan Henn, CEO of Novare Actuaries and Consultants: "This sponsorship fits in well with our business philosophy, which is to look for unique opportunities that contribute to the development of the South African investment environment and economy. Novare's vision of entrepreneurial spirit, continuous innovation and creativity is reflected in the SA Terroir Wine Awards that recognise wine-making excellence."

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Notes to Editors

- Novare is owned by the Mvelaphanda Group Limited (50.1%) and currently manages assets of over R70 billion. The group consists of Novare Actuaries & Consultants, Novare Investments, Novare Botswana, Novare Actuaries Africa and Novare Equity Partners.

SA Terroir Wine Awards National Certificate winners

Top Cabernet Franc: Hermanuspietersfontein Swartskaap 2007
Top Cabernet Sauvignon: Bon Courage Inkara Cabernet Sauvignon 2007
Top Colombar: Bon Courage Andre's Fame 2009
Top Malbec: Signatures of Doolhof Malbec 2007
Top Chenin Blanc: Springfontein Jil's Dune Chenin Blanc 2008
Top Pinotage: Springfontein Jonathan's Ridge Pinotage 2007
Top Rosé: Avondrood Blush Pinotage Rosé 2009
Top Semillon: David Nieuwoudt Ghost Corner Semillon 2008
Top White Blend: De Grendel Winifred 2008
Top Viognier: Fort Simon Platinum Collection 2008
Top Chardonnay: Glenwood Chardonnay Vignerons Selection 2008
Top Red Blend: Diemersfontein Thokozani 2008
Top Petit Verdot: Anura Petit Verdot Limited Release 2007
Top Shiraz: First Sighting Shiraz 2007 (Strandveld)
Top Sauvignon Blanc: Strandveld Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc 2008
Top Natural Sweet Wine: Klein Constantia Vin de Constance 2005
Top Sparkling Wine: Wildekrans MCC 2007
Top Port: Bergsig Cape LBV 2000
Top Muscadel: Nuy White Muscadel 2004 en Nuy Red Muscadel 2003
Top Red Muscat d'Alexandrie: SoetKaroo Red Muscat d'Alexandrie 2008

SA Terroir Wine Awards: Category Winners (Categorised on the ground of the variety of wines and number of producers in neighbouring areas)

Robertson District and Swellendam District Terroir Awards

Top Chardonnay: De Wetshof Bateleur Chardonnay 2007
Top Colombar: Bon Courage Andre's Fame Colombar 2009
Top White Blend: Bon Courage Gooseberry Bush 2009
Top Cabernet Sauvignon: Bon Courage Inkara Cabernet Sauvignon 2007
Top Dessert Wine: Bon Courage White Muscadel 2008

Breedekloof District and Worcester District Terroir Awards

Top Colombar: Nuy Colombar 2009
Top Chardonnay: Nuy Chardonnay 2008
Top Petit Verdot: Hendrik Lodewyk Petit Verdot 2004 (Du Preez Estate)
Top Shiraz: Jason's Hill Shiraz 2007
Top Cabernet Sauvignon: Conradie Single Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon 2008
Top Dessert Wine: Nuy White Muscadel 2004 and Nuy Red Muscadel 2003

Klein Karoo Region, Swartberg and Prins Albert Wards Terroir Awards

Top Dessert Wine: SoetKaroo Muscat d'Alexandrie 2008

Constantia Ward, Houtbaai Ward and Cape Point District Terroir Awards

Top Red Wine: Groot Constantia Shiraz 2006

Top White Wine: Groot Constantia Gouverneurs Semillon 2008

Top Natural Sweet Wine: Klein Constantia Vin de Constance 2005

Durbanville Ward and Philadelphia Ward Terroir Awards

Top Red Wine: De Grendel Shiraz 2007

Top White Wine: De Grendel Winifred 2008

Paarl District Terroir Awards (including the Paarl wards below)

Top Chenin Blanc: Bosman Family Vineyards Old Bush Vine 2008

Top Viognier: Diemersfontein Carpe Diem Viognier 2008

Top Chardonnay: Glenwood Chardonnay Vigneron's Selection 2008

Top Sauvignon Blanc: Signatures of Doolhof Sauvignon Blanc 2009

Top Red Blend: Diemersfontein Thokozani 2008

Top Malbec: Signatures of Doolhof Malbec 2007

Top Shiraz: Diemersfontein Carpe Diem Shiraz 2006

Top Pinotage: Diemersfontein Carpe Diem Pinotage 2007

Top Cabernet Sauvignon: Mount Vernon Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

Franschhoek Vallei Ward and Simonsberg-Paarl Ward Terroir Awards

Top Red Wine: Mount Vernon Malbec 2007 and Anura Shiraz Ltd Release 2007

Top White Wine: Glenwood Chardonnay Vigneron's Selection 2008

Wellington Ward and Voor-Paardeberg Ward Terroir Awards

Top Red Wine: Diemersfontein Thokozani 2008

Top White Wine: Signatures of Doolhof Sauvignon Blanc 2009 and Diemersfontein Carpe Diem Viognier 2008

Stellenbosch District Terroir Awards (including Stellenbosch wards below)

Top Viognier: Fort Simon Platinum Collection 2008

Top Red Blend: Muratie Ansela van de Caab 2006

Top Cabernet Franc: Knorhoek Cabernet Franc 2006

Top Pinotage: Fort Simon Pinotage 2006

Top Cabernet Sauvignon: Knorhoek Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

Jonkershoek Ward and Banghoek Ward Terroir Awards

None

Devon Valley, Papegaaiberg and Polkadraai Hills Wards Terroir Awards

None

Simonsberg-Stellenbosch Ward Terroir Awards

Top Red Wine: Knorhoek Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

Bottelary Ward Terroir Awards

Top Red Wine: Fort Simon Pinotage 2006

Top White Wine: Fort Simon Platinum Collection 2008

Swartland District and Darling District Terroir Awards

Top White Wine: Kumkani Lanner Hill Single Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc 2008

Tulbagh District and Ceres Ward Terroir Awards

None

Olifants River Region, Lambertsbaai and Cederberg Wards Terroir Awards

Top Red Wine: Cederberg Shiraz 2007

Walker Bay, Overberg and Cape Agulhas Districts Terroir Awards

Top Chenin Blanc: Springfontein Jil's Dune Chenin Blanc 2008

Top Semillon: David Nieuwoudt Ghost Corner Semillon 2008

Top Sauvignon Blanc: Strandveld Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc 2008

Top White Blend: Strandveld Vineyards Adamastor 2008

Top Cabernet Franc: Hermanuspietersfontein Swartskaap 2007

Top Shiraz: First Sighting Shiraz 2007

Top Pinotage: Springfontein Jonathan's Ridge Pinotage 2007