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New wines anticipated from Naggiar

Naggiar Vineyards' maiden wine release, their 2003 Sangiovese, is now available for sale. It is the first of five wines that will be rolled out in the coming months, and part of 1,550 cases made in the initial vintage.

Just 300 cases of the sangiovese were produced. Made from two clones of 100 percent estate fruit, the wine is priced at \$19. Big fruit aromas fill the nose with layers of cherries, spice and dark chocolate balanced with light aromas of oak. Big, rich mouthfeel with a lingering finish of cherry flavors and deep rich oak.

These wines will be released soon:

- 2004 Viognier, \$18, 400 cases produced. Some of the fruit was sourced from Auburn's Damiano Vineyards, the only non-estate grapes used. Sultry peach and apricot on the nose and palate; this is a beautiful expression of the local terrior in the fruit.
- 2003 Cabernet Franc, \$22, 75 cases. Get it while it lasts. Black cherry and chocolate flavors, and it is silky smooth.
- 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon, \$24, 75 cases. Another limited-supply wine that will sell out quickly. Bright cherry flavor, solid tannins and nice acid balance.
- 2003 Syrah, \$22, 700 cases. Syrah is the cash crop this



Among the wines anticipated for release from Naggiar Vineyards are the Viognier, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah. Courtesy Photo

In the Know: Upcoming wine events

- **Placer Hills Winery Tour**, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 14 Special events are planned at Ophir Wines, Secret Ravine Winery and Pescatore Winery. There is no charge to participate. For more information, call 823-8030 or go to www.placerhillswinetour.com.

year, and this wine is a winner. Co-fermenting with six percent viognier helps soften the intense flavors of blackberry and ripe plums.

- *Gary Moffat*

● **Placer County Spring Wine Tasting**, 6 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, May 16 Lattitudes restaurant in Old Town is the venue for the first cooperative tasting of local wineries from across the county. Participating wineries are Fawnridge, Green Family, Hyatt Baumbach, Mt. Vernon, Ophir, Pescatore, Rancho Roble and Vina Castellano. Cost to participate is \$15; for more information, call 885-9535.

Gary Moffat