

VARNER

Menlo Park

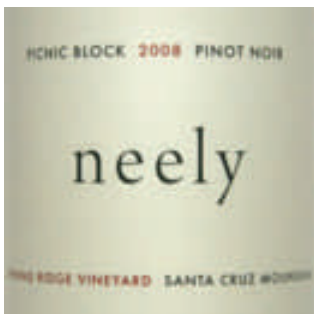
www.varnerwine.com



Bob & Jim Varner



Spring Ridge Vineyard



United States of America

CENTRAL COAST
Santa Cruz Mountains

OVERVIEW

Varner is devoted to the production of handmade, Santa Cruz appellation wines and released under both the Varner and Neely labels along with their value-oriented label, Foxglove. In 1980, twin brothers Jim and Bob Varner began their labor of love when they planted Spring Ridge Vineyard in Portola Valley in the northern part of the Santa Cruz Mountain Appellation with their partner Kirk Neely, who owns the vineyard. Spring Ridge is made up of several separate blocks of vines, each with its own microclimate and soil difference. The vineyard has been dry farmed since 1988. Insecticides have never been used. The grapes are hand-harvested only in the morning into small lug boxes to allow natural cooling of the juice. Located 10 miles from the ocean, Spring Ridge is made up of several separate and distinct blocks of vines and the Varner twins bottle their yields each vintage under 4 separate Pinot Noir designations and 4 separate Chardonnay designations. Their Varner and Neely-labeled Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs are becoming legendary and their list of wines in a special side project of value-priced Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Zinfandel under the label of Foxglove are vintage after vintage called "Best Buys" all across the country.

Varieties: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel

Average Production:

Varner & Neely wines:

about 2,400 cases

Foxglove wines: about 42,000 cases

VINEYARD/CELLAR PRACTICES (Varner & Neely Wines)

- All Varner and Neely wines come from Spring Ridge Vineyard planted in 1980 and dry farmed since 1988. The vineyard is practicing organic.
- Bob Varner works carefully in the vineyard ensuring that the sorting is done in the vineyard and not at the winery.
- Insecticides have never been used.
- Grapes are hand-harvested only in the morning into small lug boxes to allow natural cooling of the juice.
- The wine is treated as naturally as possible, using indigenous yeast and malolactic bacteria from the vineyard.
- Rather than fining and filtering, the barrels are hand-racked.

WINES

Varner Chardonnay Amphitheater Block Spring Ridge Vineyard

Varner Chardonnay Bee Block Spring Ridge Vineyard

Varner Chardonnay Home Block Spring Ridge Vineyard

Varner Pinot Noir Three Blocks Spring Ridge Vineyard

Neely Chardonnay Holly's Cuvée Spring Ridge Vineyard

Neely Pinot Noir Hidden Block Spring Ridge Vineyard

Neely Pinot Noir Picnic Block Spring Ridge Vineyard

Neely Pinot Noir Upper Picnic Block Spring Ridge Vineyard

For more information about the 3 Foxglove wines look for the sheet on our web site.

ACCOLADES

"This is one the most impressive wineries situated in the cool, high elevations of the Santa Cruz Mountains"

Robert Parker, *The Wine Advocate*

Foxglove—"These are absolutely spectacular bargains from the very high-quality Varner Winery in the Santa Cruz Mountains. This is their less expensive line-up of wines, and I encourage readers to try them – they are true winners."

Robert Parker, *The Wine Advocate*



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