TEXAS Albarino
Tasting Session - TWGGA 2019 Conference

Moderated By Penny S. Adams

Will TEXAS Albarino be Sustainable?
Outline Today

- Introduction of Panelist
- Texas Albarino 2017 USDA-NASS Survey Results
- Sustainability of Albarino in Texas - Quirks in the Vineyard & Cellar?
- Albarino Characteristics - My Experiences
- Panel Experiences with Albarino in the Vineyard & Cellar
- Q & A?
Texas Albarino Wines - Panelist Today

- **2018 Wedding Oak Winery Albarino**: Texas Hill Country
  Grower-Ryan Thomas - Wildseed Farms Vineyard
  Winemaker- Seth Urbanek - Wedding Oak Winery

- **2017 Llano Estacado Winery**: Texas High Plains
  Grower Representative- Bree Nelson - Maw Vineyard
  Winemaker- Greg Bruni

- **2018 Lost Draw Vineyard**: Texas High Plains
  Grower Representative- Bree Nelson - Maw Vineyard
  Winemaker- Brad Buckelew

- **2018 Newsom Vineyard**: Texas High Plains
  Grower: Neal Newsom
  Winemaker: Mei Newsom
Texas Albarino Totals 2017-USDA-NASS

- 34 Bearing Acres
- 11 Non-Bearing Acres
- 119 Tons Production
- 3.5 Tons/Acre Yield
- Value of Production: $210,035
- Average Price per Ton: $1705
Sustainability in Texas?
Will Albarino be around in 40 years?

Highest Potential Varieties:
- Budbreak late for reduced risk of late spring frost
- Tolerant of extreme Texas weather conditions-Heat/Cold & Drought
- Relatively tolerant of disease issues at given site
- Require low inputs per returns

Can Albarino:
- Produce consistent yields?
- Produce consistent high quality?
- Command high interest & returns?
Albarino Sustainability?

**Quirks In the Vineyard:**

- Vigor - Training issues? Spur development good?
- Late Spring Frost Risk? Winter Hardiness Issues?
- Disease Susceptibility per Tight Clusters?
- Canopy Management Requirements?
- Longevity of Cordons & Spur Positions?
- Inputs Labor & Materials/ Acre & Returns?
- **Ability to reach TRUE phenological ripeness?**
Albarino Sustainability: *Quirks In the Cellar?*

- Ability to reach TRUE phenological ripeness?
- Chemistry Issues?
- Extra Processing Needs? Whole Cluster Press or De-stem?
- Ability to Complete Fermentation? Nutrition needs higher?
- Pinking Issues?
- Stability (heat & cold) Issues?
- Can it stand alone as varietal or require blending to achieve balance?
Albarino Characteristics

My Experiences

- Spanish Icon, First planted first in Texas ~2002
- Medium to early bud break
- High # clusters/vine (primary & secondary fruit) @ avg. 40 cl/vine
- Small tight clusters, can present rot issues
- Shoots easily broken by wind damage
- Suffers Millerandage/Shot Berries =High variation in berry size & ripening
- Very sensitive to herbicide drift damage
- Potential tons/acre: 4-5 Tons
Albarino in TEXAS-Today’s Tasting Session

Llano Estacado Winery
Lost Draw Cellars
Maw Vineyard
Lubbock Co, TX

Newsom Vineyard
Yoakum Co, TX

Wedding Oak Winery
Wildseed Farms Vineyard
Gillespie Co, TX
Wildseed Farms Vineyard Albarino
TX Hill Country
Wedding Oak Winery 2018 Albarino

Grower-
Ryan Thomas
Wildseed Farms Vineyard: TX Hill Country
Wedding Oak Winery 2018 Albarino

- **Location:** East of Fredericksburg, TX
- **Elevation:** 1,693’
- **Year Planted:** 2015/2016
- **Acreage Albarino:** 4 @ 10’ x 7’ @ 726 vines/acre
- **Soil Type:** Luckenbach Clay Loam/Pedernales Fine Sandy Loam
- **Soil Depth:** 6+ ft
- **Other Site Characteristics:** Pedernales River Valley soils long farmed by area Germans, High Shrink/Swell Capacity, 300 GPM well, permanent native row cover
Wedding Oak Winery-2018 Albarino
TX Hill Co. Fruit

Winemaker-
Seth Urbanek
Maw Vineyard - Albarino - TX High Plains
Llano Estacado Winery 2017/Lost Draw Cellars 2018

Grower Representative:
Bree Nelson
Maw Vineyard Albarino: TX High Plains
Llano Estacado Winery 2017/Lost Draw Cellars 2018

- **Location:** Shallowater, Lubbock Co, TX
- **Elevation:** 3,294’
- **Year Planted:** 2015/2016
- **Acreage Albarino:** 6
- **Soil Type:** Olton Clay Loam, 0-1% Slope
- **Soil Depth:** 5’+
- **Other Site Characteristics:** Low vigor site, brown to dark brown, very deep well drained, moderately slowly permeable soils, vine cordons incomplete
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Maw Vineyard - Albarino - TX High Plains
Llano Estacado Winery 2017 Albarino/Lost Draw Cellars 2018 Albarino

Grower Representative:
Bree Nelson
Lost Draw Cellars 2018 Albarino
TX High Plains Fruit

Winemaker-
Brad Buckelew

Maw Vineyard-
Texas High Plains
Newsom Vineyard-Albarino- TX High Plains
Newsom Vineyard 2018 Albarino

Grower-
Neal Newsom
Newsom Vineyards: TX High Plains
Newsom Vineyards 2018 Albarino

- **Location:** Yoakum Co, TX
- **Elevation:** 3,700 Ft.
- **Year Planted:** 2002
- **Acreage Albarino:** 6 @ 11’ x 4’ Spacing @ 990 vines/acre
- **Soil Type:** Amarillo & Patricia Fine sand/clay over fractured caliche 24”
- **Soil Depth:** Shallow rocky low vigor soils
- **Other Site Characteristics:** 994 v/a, own-rooted, underground drip, bi-lateral cordon
Newsom Vineyards 2018 Albarino
TX High Plains Fruit

Winemaker-
Mei Newsom
Q & A
Texas Albarino?
Thank You!