



HILL FAMILY  
E S T A T E



2009 Napa Valley  
Sauvignon Blanc

Production: 684 cases

Composition: 96% Sauvignon Blanc, 4% Semillon

Vineyards: Windy Flats (Wooden Valley) 53%, Watson (American Canyon) 43%,  
and Yount Mill 4%

Appellation: Napa Valley 100%

Elevation: foothills about 500 ft, and Valley floor

Cooperage: mostly stainless, and some neutral oak

Alcohol: 14.2%, TA 0.58, pH 3.45

Release date: March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

Release price: \$22.00

The 2009 Hill Family Estate Sauvignon Blanc is a blend of 2 vineyards, with 4% Semillon, the same percentage as 2008. Cool foggy weather in most of 2009 made it an excellent year for Sauvignon Blanc character, and an even tempered August and September made ripening anxiety free. Windy Flats Vineyard in the eastern foothills of Wooden Valley is in a dramatic landscape of rock and cliff, with just enough soil between the marl out crops for a few acres of vines. Doug Hill chose 3 clones and carefully selected the rootstalks for this vineyard so that it offers layers of complexity and interest. We harvested on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 25.4 Brix, still with nice acidity, to get the lovely Musque character. Watson Vineyard, down in American Canyon is a cool, steep hillside vineyard with windy afternoons and great depth of flavor. It was harvested on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 23.6 Brix, so that we could preserve some of the grapefruit and fig characters.

Winemaker Alison Doran's Tasting notes: bottled Feb. 16, 2010, tasted 3/7/10

Nose has a light vanilla character, spiked with celery from the Semillon. Also wafting through are elder flower and pink grapefruit notes. Palate is full and rich, with savory texture and a classic musque nectarine flavor. Finish is remarkable smooth for such a young wine. The wine should continue to grow and coalesce, as this tasting is only 3 weeks after bottling.