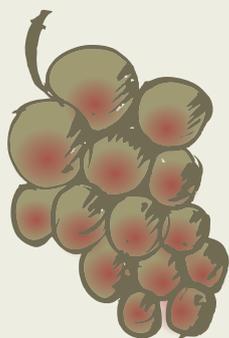


Painted Wolf Roussanne recently won a silver medal at the Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show. Many people are not familiar with this unusual grape, which is not surprising as it is quite rare, a bit of a prima donna in the vineyard, but a stalwart in the cellars.

We are known for our love of African Wild Dogs. We support Wild Dog conservation throughout Southern Africa. It occurred to us that Roussanne grapes have a lot in common with Painted Wolves. Here is our comparison.

ROUSSANNE

LYCAON PICTUS



Roussanne grapes were named for their colouring. Although they are white grapes, they take on a reddish colour when ripe, earning them the French name for redhead or russet.

NAME

Painted Wolves are named for their colouring, Their scientific name is Lycaon Pictus which is derived from the Greek word lykaios which means "wolf-like" and the Latin word pictus ("painted").



1880s

PLANTED
IN CALIFORNIA

1920s

UPROOTED
DURING PROHIBITION

1980s

RESTORED
WITH CONFUSION*

SCARCITY

ABOUT

450 IN SOUTH
AFRICA

ABOUT

5500 ON THE WHOLE
CONTINENT

1960s ONLY 54 HECTARES
GROWING
IN FRANCE

Roussanne almost became an extinct grape varietal, but was pulled back from the brink in the 1960s with stronger genetic stock.

The vines fall prey to powdery rot and mildew and are erratic producers. Planted in a few wine corners of the world including the Agter-Paarl and Perdeberg area, where we source our grapes.

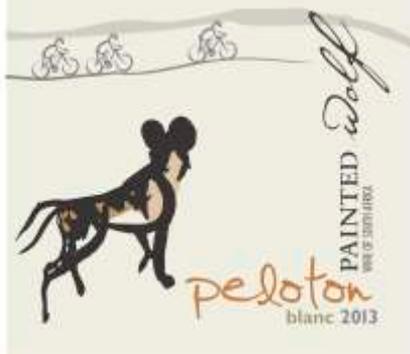
* The Roussanne vines originally restored in California, proved to be Viognier after DNA testing.

FOR EVERY 1000000

PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA
THERE IS ONLY 1 WILD
DOG

Painted Wolves are South Africa's most endangered carnivore with an estimated 450 individuals living in small pockets of wilderness.

They fall prey to lions, snares, habitat loss and disease. Each pack only produces one litter of pups a season.



Roussanne has been viewed as a superb blend grape by adding backbone structure and longevity to other varietals that need a little oomph.

Our white blend, Peloton Blanc is a

delicious mix of complementary whites with Roussanne a constant member of the pack. Chenin Blanc, Roussanne and Viognier (in almost equal quantities) made up the 2013 blend and Viognier, Chenin Blanc, Roussanne, Chardonnay and Marsanne is the composition of the not yet launched 2014 edition.

PLAYS NICELY with OTHERS

Wild Dogs are only found in packs, some as small as three individuals, others much bigger. They live together, hunt together and play together. They have been observed displaying true altruism by taking care of and feeding injured members of the pack, a trait not usually associated with wild animals and the idea of "survival of the fittest".



Our Roussanne is sourced from the Agter Paarl/Perdeberg region – a warm grape growing area. When grown in warm areas, Roussanne has a reputation for producing high quality potentially age-worthy wines of richness, with

flavors of honey and pear, and full body.

Roussanne wine can be enjoyed 3-4 years after bottling and if kept longer, should be set aside until it reaches at least 7 years from bottling. Many wine experts believe that the aromas in the wine hit a "dumb" period in the middle of that time, where the scents are thin and disappointing. All they need are a bit more time to develop more depth and complexity. They can be enjoyed up to 15 years after bottling. We can't tell if this will happen to our wines as we haven't been producing Roussanne long enough to test the theory and we bottle small quantities of extremely delicious wine which means they tend to be enjoyed in their youth.

A STAR ON ITS OWN

LIGHTNING



Researchers and conservationists who monitor packs know the individual dogs in their areas. Each dog has a unique pattern of markings and colour which makes them perfectly recognisable to those in the know.

For instance, Lightning, the alpha dog of the Skukuza Pack in Kruger National Park is easily identified by the lightning bolt white patch on his left side, and well-known by Grant Beverley from The Endangered Wildlife Trust. Similarly, Eye Spot is the "poster dog" for Painted Dog Conservation in Zimbabwe.



EYE SPOT

Like red wines, Roussanne has a body and ages well, due to a combination of richness, minerality and balancing acids. It can be laid down and enjoyed up to 15 years after bottling which is rare for a white wine.

STAMINA

Wild Dogs have stamina and persistence when they hunt. What they lack in speed they make up for in teamwork and doggedness, running down their prey to the point of exhaustion.