

**Beekeeper**  
**Zinfandel, Madrone Springs Vineyard**  
**Rockpile Appellation, Sonoma County 2009**

**Grape:** Zinfandel (81% Zinfandel and 19% Petite Sirah)

**Appellation:** Rockpile, Sonoma County

**Vineyard:** Madrone Spring Vineyard

**Winemakers:** Clay Mauritson and Ian Blackburn

**Vintage:** Oct 15th, 2009 Bottled - January 23, 2011

**Alcohol:** 15.3%

**Aged:** 15 months in French and American Oak – lightly filtered at bottling.

**Production:** 1476 bottles (124 cases)



**Product Info & Orders**  
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## About

With an aim to promote the Rockpile Appellation and elevate the reputation of Zinfandel, we proudly present our 2009 Beekeeper. Grown on the western facing Madrone Spring Vineyard at approx. 1500-1725 feet in elevation (Rockpile Appellation – is one of the few appellations defined by altitude and hillsides), the steep slope of tightly spaced vines produces optimal hillside character.

The 2009 vintage featured low yields and very high quality. Even ripening and small berry size provided inky color and great concentration. Beekeeper will be a full-bodied wine with dark fruit and significant tannins providing a long-aging potential. Currently, a mélange of dark black, blue and red fruits are evolving around the massive core and dense concentration. An extended cold soak and 20 days of extraction, coupled with careful tannin management produced rewarding results. Madrone Spring Petite Sirah was added to enhance complexity, balance and harmony. On release, the nose shows great potential and showcases black plum, chewy cherry skins, raspberry, and cassis fruits with hints of fresh ground pepper, Asian plum, vanilla custard, dark chocolate, & robust coffee. The long structured finish reminds you that continued cellaring can provide additional rewards.

Beekeeper was designed to drink well on release, but should continue to improve for 5-10 years with proper storage. 124 cases will be sold direct through our website and featured in top restaurants. .


## Awards

**JAMES SUCKLING.COM** 

2009 Beekeeper Zinfandel, Madrone Spring Vineyard, Rockpile, Sonoma County  
Video from James Suckling <http://www.jamessuckling.com/2009-beekeeper.html>



2009 Beekeeper Zinfandel, Madrone Spring Vineyard, Rockpile, Sonoma County  
(Top Ten 3 Puff wines of the year)

**95 points - 3 Puffs Connoisseurs' Guide: **

There are more than a few Zinfandels that display impressive concentration and depth, but not many manage to combine power and polish quite the way that this stunning newcomer does. From its wonderfully rich, highly extracted aromas of optimally ripened berries and fancy oak to its lengthy, like-minded flavors, it hits all the right varietal marks, yet it gives the impression that it has not begun to really show its stuff, and it could be another five years before it finds its fullest voice. It may not be cheap, but it is one that collectors will not want to miss.

Reviewed: May 2012