



NEWS RELEASE

SIRROMET WINES WINS SECOND GOLD MEDAL OVERSEAS WITHIN A WEEK

FRIDAY, APRIL 22: Sirromet Wines of Queensland has won a gold medal at the XIII Wine Masters Challenge in Portugal - the company's second gold medal in an overseas competition within a week.

The Mount Cotton-based winery claimed its latest gold medal in Portugal for a 2009 Le Sauvage Chardonnay, which is part of a newly-released 'wild yeast' range of products.

The Chardonnay fruit was harvested from Sirromet's 102-hectres Seven Scenes Vineyard at 850-metres altitude at Ballandean on the Granite Belt, and the wine was produced and bottled at its Mount Cotton headquarters.

Sirromet was the only Australian winery to win a gold medal in the Portugal competition, which attracted 5,013 entries. Tasting and judging was held in Estoril from March 21-27 and results were announced this week.

The success by Sirromet comes hard on the heels of the announcement on April 15 its 2007 St Jude's Grand Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon won a gold medal in the 2011 Challenge International du Vin competition in France.

"It's great to win any gold medal overseas, but to get two of them in a week is fantastic," said Sirromet Chief Winemaker Adam Chapman.

Sirromet has now won a total of 20 gold medals in international and Australian competitions since opening in 2000.

Chapman said the Chardonnay that won gold in Portugal was aged in French oak for 13 months before bottling.

"After crushing, the juice was transferred to barrel for full barrel ferment and aging on lees," he said.

"This is a rich, creamy Chardonnay and the 'wild yeast' gives the wine added complexity, and the acidity and flavours are more intense."

Sirromet produced 4,000 bottles of the Chardonnay, which is available at Restaurant Lurleen's for \$55 a bottle and to participants in the company's Wine and Food Safaris on its 255-hectares property at Mount Cotton.

Sirromet also won a silver medal in the Portugal competition for a Bordeaux red blend style 2009 Private Collection Cabernet Sauvignon (55-percent)-Petit Verdot (20-percent)-Merlot (25-percent).

Chapman said 4,290 bottles had been produced, but the wine had not yet been released to the market.

Sirromet, which is owned by Gold Coast businessman Terry Morris, has now won more than 450 medals and awards since opening.

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PHOTOGRAPHS: 300-dpi jpeg bottle images of Sirromet's gold medal-winning 2009 Le Sauvage Chardonnay and Chief Winemaker Adam Chapman are available for media/editorial use