



d'Arenberg



## THE LOVE GRASS

### Shiraz 2021

McLaren Vale, Shiraz (85%) Other Varieties (14%)

#### The Name

Lovegrass is a weed that grows in the vineyards and its sticky flowers affectionately attach themselves to vineyard workers' socks. This Shiraz will linger with you in the same way that the flowers do!

#### The Vintage

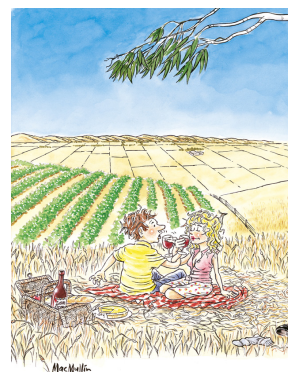
The preceding winter was beautifully wet, flushing the soil of salts and filling the soil profile. Spring too was above average, with rainfalls up until November which was almost completely dry. November was hotter than normal which upset the setting of berries. Just as well as the bunch number was way up. Two inches of rain in early February was much appreciated by the relatively large crops. Where crops were smaller, berry size grew. The heat produced a fast flowering, set, and speedy berry development leading to an early veraison and the equal earliest start of vintage on record. A few days in a row around 35°C in February rapidly ripened early lower cropping vineyards. From then on, the vintage was mild and dry. Average temperatures for autumn were down. Some nice 30°C days late March and early April helped finish ripening of bigger crops and late ripening varieties.

#### The Winemaking

Small batches of grapes are gently crushed and then transferred to open fermenters. Foot treading is undertaken two-thirds of the way through fermentation, the wine is basket pressed and then aged in French oak for up to 18 months.

#### The Characteristics

This wine is very aromatic, revealing its full character after some time to breathe. Deep and intense red and dark fruits are highly prominent such as boysenberry and mulberry that are complemented by ripe plum and bramble. Hints of anise and vanilla add delightful complexity while extended cellaring will beautifully soften the firm grippy tannins that a quite prominent in this youthful wine.



Harvest dates	22 Feb -13 Apr	Alcohol	14.5%
Residual sugar	1.2 g/l	Titrateable acid	6.8
pH	3.44	Oak maturation	18 months
Chief Winemaker	Chester Osborn	Senior Winemaker	Jack Walton