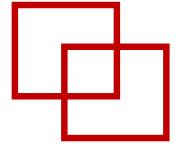




# **Harvest Update: Large & Late?**

Thursday, November 15, 2023 Glenn Proctor





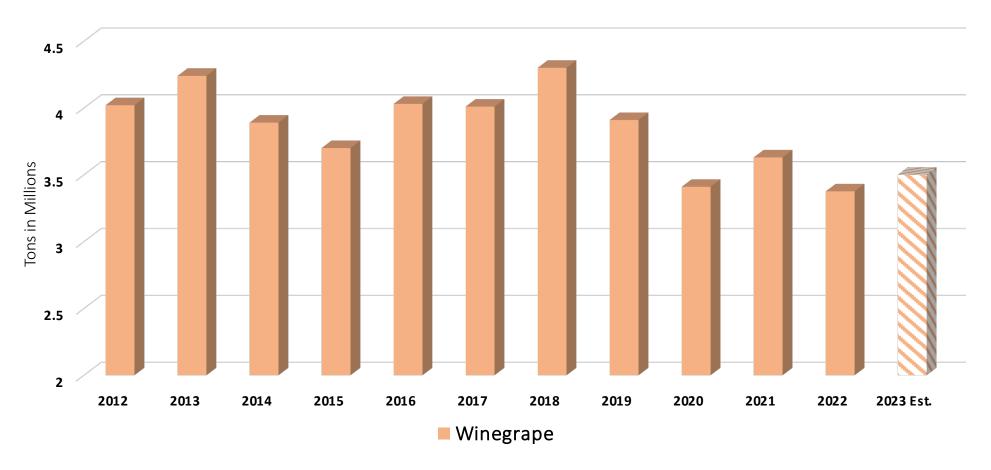
#### 25 DEDICATED BROKERS IN 10 COUNTRIES



GLOBAL REACH, LOCAL CONNECTIONS



## CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE GRAPE CRUSH



## LARGE & LATE - YES IT WAS!

- August Potential Crop Estimate 3.7-3.8M tons; Current Potential 4.1-4.2M tons
  - Assuming 500-600K tons were rejected or uncontracted
- Current Actual Crushed Estimate 3.5-3.6M tons
  - · More than we needed
- Crop Continued to Size
  - Sized in September in many cases in early September and Late September
    - o How late it Sized surprised us all
  - · Wineries started using max tons for estimates, many growers had extra in the field after contract tons
- 3-4 Weeks Late across the state
  - In general whites (Bigger Crop) tended to be later than reds but everything was behind
  - · Mendocino, Lake, East Napa where closer to normal than other areas of the state
  - Severely compacted crush Turn Tanks! start late but can't extend the back end

## 2023 HARVEST

- Weather Issues/Disease Pressure
  - Early mildew issues
  - Tropical Storm Hilary
  - Intermittent Rain affects Rot, Stalled brixes
- Significant Rejections
  - Wineries held to contract standards
  - · Central Valley and Lodi affected most but also saw issues in Coastal Areas
- Decisions regarding unsold or overage fruit
  - Leave it on the vine? Crush it into wine? Capacity to crush?
  - Future Bulk Value? are you taking large risk for only marginal return
- Quality Vintage
  - Color and intensity bigger middle than some of the wines from 22v
  - Early optimism about the potential quality





#### **GRAPE MARKET**

- Early activity was limited and weakened through the year
- Whites stronger than reds in early season
- As demand slowed and the crop sized, started to see wineries also put their own grape supply on the market
- No real spot market at harvest
  - Sellers willing to give away fruit and no real takers
  - Compaction of harvest limited interest
  - Valley wineries looked at coastal supply opportunities
  - Overages some were accepted at reduced pricing but limited

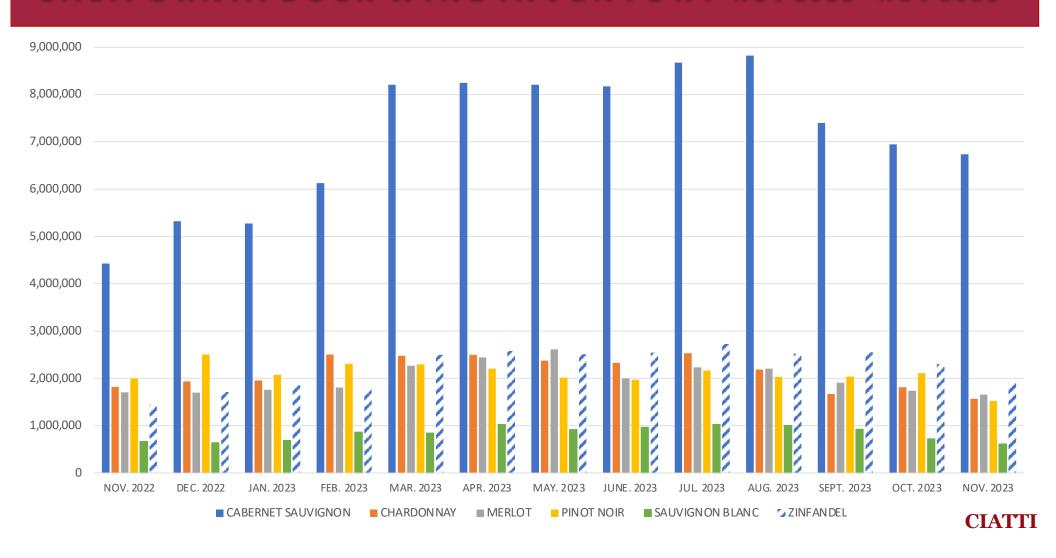




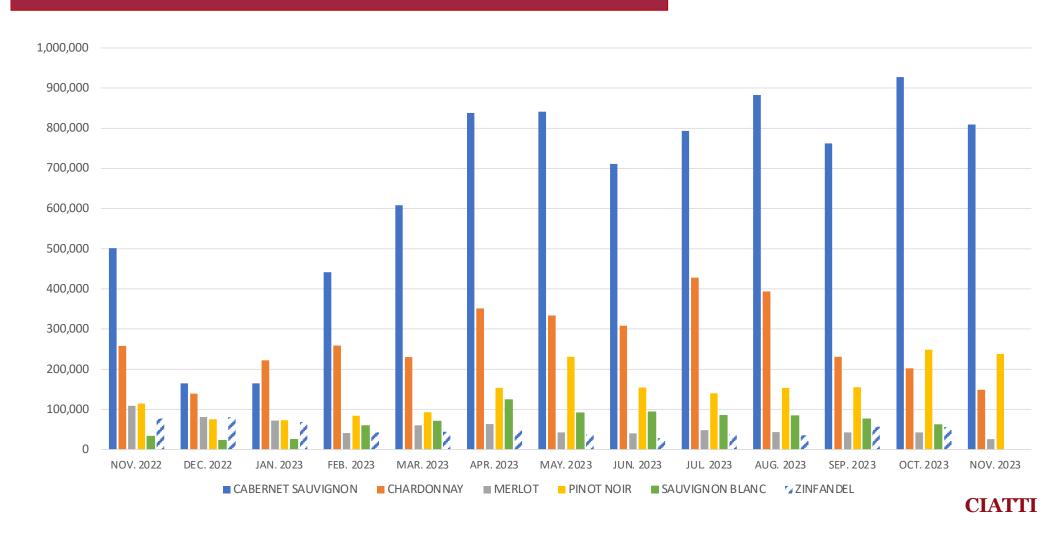
#### **BULK MARKET**

- Bulk market over the last year has been subdued
  - Some Napa CS, Napa Whites, RRV CH and PN activity rest of market extremely slow
  - Buyers are not buying until they need it and not many NEED inventory just in time (Maximize cash flow, Debt, Sales etc)
- Bulk pricing trends Expectations will move lower
  - Pricing has been weakening as the year has progressed
  - Wineries are net sellers of bulk wine so limits buyers
  - Price is not a motivator for purchase. Difficult if you need to MOVE wine

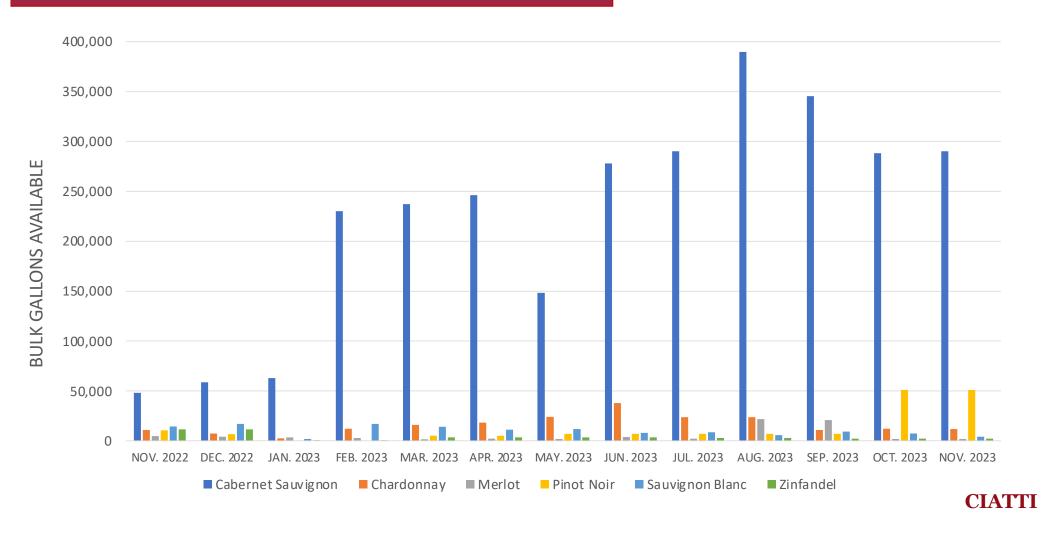
#### CALIFORNIA BULK WINE INVENTORY NOV 2022 - NOV 2023



#### SONOMA COUNTY NOV 2022 - NOV 2023



#### NAPA COUNTY NOV 2022 - NOV 2023



### **BULK MARKET**

#### • Maintaining margins

- Buyers for some premium Coastal programs are adjusting sourcing strategy and moving to a Premium
  California Appellation and removing vintage
- Affecting Price and Demand for some appellations
- Outside of Napa and a few areas of Sonoma coastal bulk wines competing with California

#### Buyers Market

- Be open to offers
- Be careful of carrying inventory
- May need to take more term and buyer risk to move wine



## OBSERVATIONS

- Bigger 2023 Crop than needed and expected
- Sales challenges Hesitant buyers
  - Flat Sales would stabilize the market (OND improvement) reduce fear
- Growers and Wineries adjusting to a harsher reality
  - Removing Vineyards (uncontracted), Improving efficiencies, Selling assets, Adjusting COGS
- Grapes will be needed in 2024 question will be how much and at what price
- Changes could also affect market to the positive
  - Light crop, Frost, New Sales Trends, etc

## SALES CONTROLING THE DYNAMIC



#### **Challenging August Hit All Price Tiers Of Table Wine**





August 2023 12-Month Rolling % Change vs. LY





#### FINAL THOUGHTS

- The wine industry is getting smaller and more competitive
- Opportunities exist but must make decisions based on the current market realities
- Creative engagement of consumers meeting their wants and needs

## THANK YOU

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