

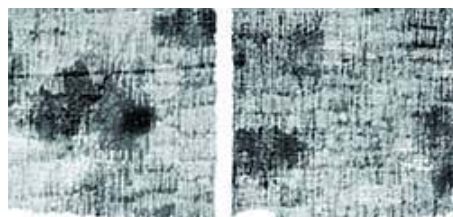
Coyam, Symphony Riesling and Spartico

## Organic & Proud – Coyam, Symphony Riesling and Spartico

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The majority of organic winemakers want to be known for the quality of their wines first and their practices second. Some downplay their organic credentials by keeping it off their label and marketing items altogether. This leaves open the door to new wines and labels proud to broadcast their organic credentials – but does that mean they are less concerned with the final product? We did a tasting of wines targeted to organic consumers and were quite happy with the results.



# COYAM

*Emiliana*

Coyam was the word used for "oak" by the Mapuches, the original inhabitants of central and southern Chile. Ancient oaks surround the Emiliana vineyards in the Colchagua Valley, where our grapes are organically grown and hand picked. French and American oak are used judiciously to age this skillfully crafted blend of carefully selected Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Carménère, Merlot and Petit Verdot. The result is a unique wine, with lush fruit and subtle oak, that echoes its harmony with nature.

WINE MADE WITH ORGANICALLY GROWN GRAPES

### Coyam 2009

Emiliana is an organic wine powerhouse from Chile, releasing a number of lines across different price categories. Coyam, which means “oak forest” in the indigenous Mapuche language, is a blend of 41% Syrah, 29% Carmenere, 20% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Mourvedre and 1% Petit Verdot. The grapes were hand picked and are certified organic and biodynamic. This is nicely made and crafted wine. Perfectly balanced and layers of berry upon berry. Give it a wintery night and roasted meats and it will fit in perfectly.



### **Symphony German Riesling 2010**

The first thing you notice about the *Symphony German Riesling 2010* is its very un-german wine label. Simple logo, country and grape type. And it lets you know it's organic. Two simple headaches avoided right off the bat for most wine drinkers. For those of you sticklers for info, however, the rest is on the back. Symphony wines are made by the Lorenz family in the Rheinhessen. This vintage is 85% Riesling with 15% Rivaner to top it off. We enjoyed it very much – found it very spicy, in a good way, and dry with honey and lemon tones. They also produce a *Symphony German Red Wine 2010* made from the german grape Dornfelder.



### **Spartico Organic Wine Tempranillo**

For those of you who thought the *Symphony* labels above still presented too much info, you'll hopefully be happy with the *Spartico* – this one doesn't even have *Spain* on its front label, but it does have *organic* as well as the USDA seal right on top of the screw cap. They clearly know the audience they're trying to reach, so how does the wine measure up? Nicely. Full bodied, spicy with a long finish.

So, we think there's good news out there for the average wine drinker. It's up to individual wineries to decide their marketing strategy, and it would be great if everyone were able to research the practices behind their favorite wines. But many consumers are turning to organics and they want to walk into a store and see it on the label. We're glad some quality

choices are available to them.

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