



## PRESS RELEASE

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## **A clean sweep for Stellar Winery at the BioFach 2006 Wine Awards**

Stellar Winery, South Africa's largest organic wine producer, has swept the board at the 7<sup>th</sup> annual International Wine Awards 2006 at the BioFach international Organic Trade Fair in Nürnberg, Germany.

This innovative producer, situated 275 km north of Cape Town in the semi-arid Namaqualand region, has once again proven it can hold its own against stiff competition from the international organic wine contingent.

Building on the success of last year's BioFach awards where Stellar walked away with a gold medal, this year the dynamic Stellar team was awarded a Double Gold for their Stellar Organics Reserve Shiraz 2004 as well as a Gold for the Stellar Organics Reserve Merlot No SO2 Added 2005, Moonlight Organics Shiraz 2003 and Stellar Organics Pinotage 2003.

They clinched a Silver medal for their Stellar Organics Shiraz No SO2 added 2005, Stellar Organics Shiraz No SO2 added Reserve 2005 and Stellar Organics Shiraz 2004.

In the category Recommended (Bronze) they were awarded medals for their Stellar Organics Cabernet Sauvignon 2003, Stellar Organics Merlot 2004, Firefly Organics Chenin/Sauvignon Blanc 2005, Stellar Organics Colombard/Sauvignon Blanc 2005, Moonlight Organics Shiraz Rosé 2005 and Stellar Winery Straw Wine "Heaven on Earth 2003". This is no mean feat considering only 10 double gold and 39 single gold medals were awarded overall.

BioFach is the world's largest organic wine and food exhibition. This year's wine awards attracted 777 organic wines from all over the world, almost 70% more than last year. BioFach takes place from 16 to 19 February 2006 and will feature more than 250 producers. The show attracts around 2000 exhibitors and 33 000 trade visitors from some 100 countries.

"The many awards spread across different wine styles, coupled with the fact that each year we have improved our showing at BioFach, demonstrates that we are beginning to understand our vineyards and the environment, whilst continuously improving on our quality," commented Stellar Winery winemaker Dudley Wilson. "The excellent performance at BioFach also proves we have successfully created a style which appeals to our European clients," said Wilson.

Stellar's fully accredited international organic status means that no chemicals, herbicides or pesticides were used in the growing of their grapes and only natural compost and organic materials are utilized in their vineyards. A team of dedicated ducks regularly patrols each row of vines for errant snails!

### **ENDS**

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