



PRESS RELEASE

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Stellar Winery wins Gold at Swiss International Airline Wine Awards

Stellar Winery, makers of organic wine from Trawal in Namaqualand, added another bow to their string of awards, by clinching a gold medal for their Sensory Collection Organic Shiraz 2003, at the recent Swiss International Air Line Wine Awards.

"We are delighted to receive this award, as the Sensory Collection is our flagship range," says winemaker Dudley Wilson. "This award confirms our belief that our organically produced wines can compete with the best conventional wines."

The Wine spent 18 months in new barrels. It was selected from a trial of French vs American wood, 2 year vs 3 year air dried wood and MT vs MT+ toasting levels. The barrels were evaluated blind and the selection made. The only treatment to stand out was that 3 year air dried wood (Mistral barrels) showed better than 2 year air dried. All barrels were from Tonillieria Nacional. The grapes came from a single vineyard in Trawal.

"Being one of the medal winners of only thirteen Golds awarded is not only a powerful motivator for us to continue producing top quality wine, but also shows that sustainable organic farming is most viable in terms of quality."

According to Derek Smedley, UK based Master of Wine, and President for the 2005 Swiss International Wine Awards, the competition's judging criterion complied to international levels, with very strict judging standards. "A gold medal awarded at the Swiss International Air Lines Wine Awards is equivalent to a double gold awarded at a South African competition."

The Stellar Organic Sensory Collection Shiraz sells for R59.28 (incl VAT) at the cellar and the range also includes Organic Pinotage 2003, Organic Merlot 2003 and Organic Cabernet Sauvignon 2003.

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