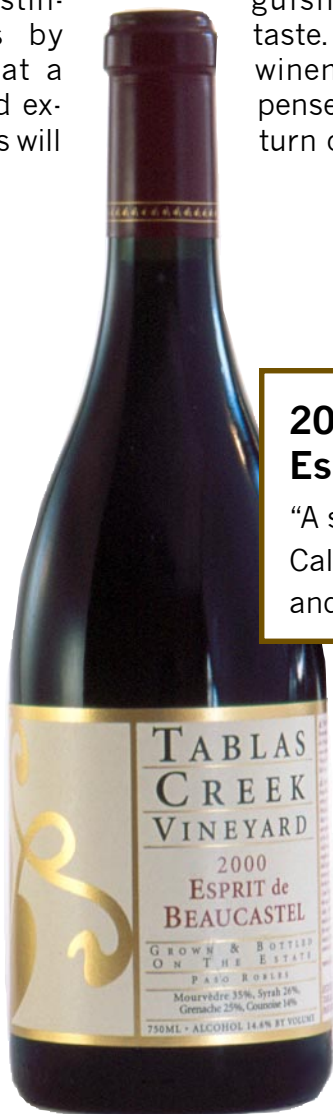
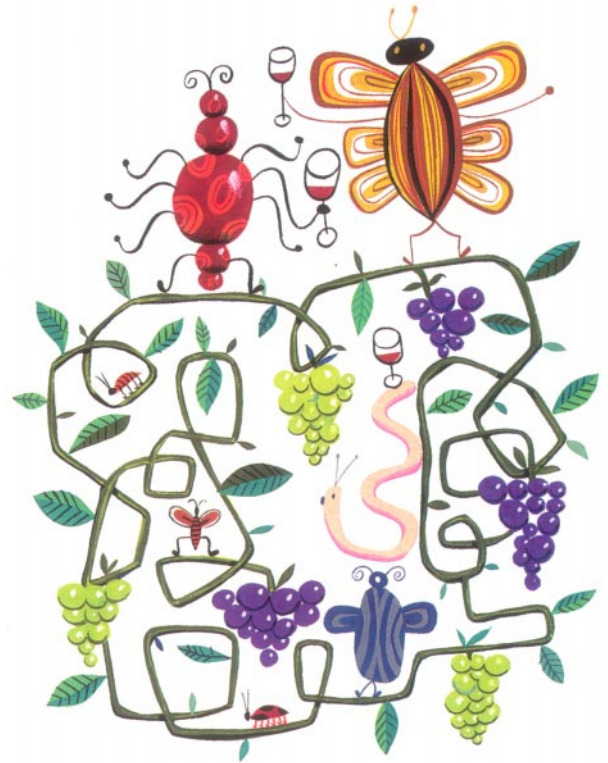


## going green

WINEMAKERS AROUND THE WORLD ARE WAKING UP TO the fact that natural farming practices produce healthier vineyards. More and more are opting for non-chemical techniques like rotating cover crops and hand hoeing weeds. Yet producers typically don't try to sell their wines as eco-friendly: Few labels say *organic*, *Demeter* (a term common in Europe) or *biodynamic* (the name of a serious-minded approach utilizing New Age-type methods that are gentle to the earth, such as farming according to the phases of the moon).

**ARE ECO-FRIENDLY WINES BETTER?** You'd be hard-pressed to distinguish sustainably produced wines by to assume that an extra labor and expense sound practices will

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### 2000 TABLAS CREEK VINEYARD Esprit de Beaucastel

"A sort of transatlantic Châteauneuf-du-Pape, this fruit-focused California red is a joint effort of American importer Robert Haas and France's Château de Beaucastel."

## wine guide 10 TOP BOTTLES

