

First Drop

2006 Two Per Cent Barossa Shiraz

Winemaker Matt Gant is always looking for an edge and he plays the percentages here for a smart new take on shiraz. He splits portions of shiraz from three premium Barossa sub-regions – 43 per cent from Seppeltsfield, 43 per cent from Greenock and 14 per cent from Ebenezer (wine from each district is also available individually in First Drop's Fat of the Land shiraz series) – with a surprising two per cent addition of the white grape formerly known in these parts as albarino (disputes over the origins of this grape rootstock in Australia leave its name in dispute, but not its delicious savoury flavour). This provides a clean, sweet edge to the entry, before the rumbling power of dense, chocolatey shiraz fills your palate – which is hardly a surprise considering the brutish purple colour of this hefty customer.

Screw cap. \$35. www.firstdropwines.com