## HESPERIAN NAPA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA



Philippe Langner grew up in Africa and was always fascinated with plants and how to grow them. His love of agriculture led him to the University of California at Davis where he graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Agronomy and two Masters, in Agronomy and Agricultural Economics.

He then returned to his family in France, and started working at Chateau Clarke, a Rothschild property, in Bordeaux. In 2001, Philippe moved. to California, where he met the Sullivan Family in Rutherford. He started work at Sullivan Vineyards during the harvest of 2001; from 2002 to 2010 he was viticulturist and winemaker at Sullivan Vineyards.

In 2004, Philippe started Hesperian and produced 170 cases from impressive Cabernet Sauvignon grapes from Coombsville. Building on this initial success and demand, Philippe now produces different Cabernet Sauvignon wines from various appellations in the Napa Valley. Having trained in Bordeaux, he loved blending and appreciated the added complexity one can obtain by blending. Interestingly the Hesperian Napa is blended from the fruit of various Napa vineyards.

The NAPA VALLEY appellation received its AVA designation in 1981. It is California's first recognized AVA and the second in the United States. Approximately 4\% of California's vineyard acreage is in Napa Valley, and it encompasses sixteen sub-AVAs, named for the surrounding mountains and towns of the valley.

The valley stretches northward from the San Pablo Bay past the principal towns of Napa and St. Helena to Calistoga. The valley is formed by the Mayacamas Mountains to the west, which mark the border with Sonoma County, and the Vaca Mountains on the east. The valley has a remarkable diversity of volcanic, alluvial and maritime soil types, ranging from well drained gravel loam to dense clays to the thin, rocky soils of the hillside vineyards.

