

# Tomasello Wins Winery-of-the-Year Competition, New Jersey Wineries Capture 152 Medals

**Rich Small**

*Garden State Wine Growers Association & The Small Agency*

The Tomasello Winery of Hammonton has been named Winery of the Year in the annual New Jersey winemaking competition held by the Garden State Wine Growers Association ([www.newjerseywines.com](http://www.newjerseywines.com)).

Tomasello took three gold, five silver and two bronze medals in the annual competition. Twenty four New Jersey wineries participated in the competition, taking 18 gold, 36 silver and 98 bronze medals for a wide variety of different wines.

Tomasello won three gold medals for its 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon, its Vidal Ice Wine, and its Raspberry Wine. The state's largest winery also took five silver medal for its 2007 Petite Verdot, 2007 Cabernet Franc, its non vintage Blanc de Blanc champagne, a non vintage Sparkling Blueberry Wine and its 2007 Nevers Oak Cabernet. Tomasello's Vidal Ice Wine also won the Governor's Cup for best dessert wine. The winery also took two bronze awards for its 2008 Pinot



TOP WINNERS—Charlie and Jack Tomasello, second and third from left, accept top honors for Winery of the Year and Best Dessert Wine, from Doug Fisher, New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture, right, and Dr. Gary Pavlis of Rutgers University, left, during presentations at Blues & Wine Festival Memorial Day weekend in Peapack Gladstone.

Noir and its 2007 Outer Coastal Plain Villard Noir.

Other top winners in the competition include Alba Vineyards of Milford which took the Governor's Cup for best grape wine for its 2007 Heritage Cabernet Franc and Plagido's Winery of Hammonton which won the Governor's Cup award for best fruit wine for its non vintage Blueberry Wine.

Other award winners and their wines in alphabetical order are:

**4 JG's Orchards & Vineyards** of Colts Neck took two bronze medals for its 2007 Chambourcin and its 2007 Celebration Cab, a cabernet franc.

**Alba Vineyard** won two gold medals for its 2007 Heritage Cabernet Franc and its non vintage Raspberry Wine, three silver medals for its non vintage Old Mill Red, its non vintage Dolcina dessert wine and its 2008 Pinot Noir. The winery also won eight bronze medals for its 2008 Chardonnay, 2007 Port, 2009 Gewurztraminer, 2009 Riesling, 2007 Chambourcin, non vintage Forbidden Ice Apple Wine, non vintage Mainsyl White and its 2008 Barrel Reserve Chardonnay.

**Auburn Road Vineyards** in Pilesgrove took three silver medals for its 2008 Chambourcin, 2009 Pinot Grigio and for the 2009 White Bottle chardonnay. It also took a bronze for its Blessington cabernet sauvignon and concord blend.

**Bellview Winery** of Landisville took a gold medal for its 2008 Petit Verdot, two silver medals for its 2009 Viognier and its 2008 Cabernet Franc and six bronze medals for its 2008 Lemberger, 2007 Merlot, its non vintage Jersey Devil Red, its 2009 Traminette, non vintage Jersey Devil White and its 2008 Syrah.

**Cape May Winery & Vineyard** took a gold medal for its 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon and three silver medals for its 2009 Pinot Grigio, 2008 Cabernet Franc and its 2008 Cape May Cabernet Sauvignon. The Cape May winery also won seven bronze medals for its non vintage Isaac Smith Port, its 2009 Cape May Riesling, its non vintage Cape May Red, its Isaac Smith Apple Wine, its 2009 Cape May Chardonnay, its 2008 Cape May Barrel Chardonnay and its 2008 Isaac Smith Red Reserve.

**Cedarvale Vineyard** in Logan Township picked up two bronze medals for its 2008 Chardonnay and its 2008 Cabernet franc.

**Coda Rossa** of Franklinville won a silver medal for

its 2009 Cabernet Franc and three bronze medals for its 2009 Chambourcin, 2009 Pinot Grigio and its 2009 Meritage.

**Cream Ridge Winery** of Cream Ridge won six bronze medals for its wines including a non vintage Fredonia, a non vintage Lemberger, a non vintage Cabernet Sauvignon, a non vintage Cranberry Wine, a non vintage Chambourcin and an AlmondBerry Wine.

**DiMatteo Vineyards** in Hammonton won a silver medal for its Cranberry Wine. DiMatteo also picked up six bronze medals for its wines including a Strawberry Wine, a non vintage Chambourcin, its Pasquale Red, its Jersey Red, a non vintage Chardonnay and its Madison, a Cayuga Concord blend.

**Four Sisters Winery of Matarazzo Farms** in Belvidere won two bronze medals for its 2008 Leon Millot Reserve and its non vintage Papas Red.

**Hawk Haven Vineyards** of Rio Grande won a gold medal for its 2007 Merlot and three bronze medals for its 2007 Red Table Wine, its 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon and its 2007 Pinot Gris.

**Heritage Vineyards** of Mullica Hill won three gold medals for its wines including a 2007 Chambourcin, 2007 Cabernet Franc and a 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon. The winery also won a silver medal for its 2007 Merlot and three bronze medals for its non vintage Blueberry Wine, a 2007 Syrah and a 2007 Dry Rose.

**Hopewell Valley Vineyards** of Pennington took home four silver medals for its wines including a 2005 Port, its 2007 Dolce Vita, a non vintage Vidal Blanc, a 2006 Porto Bianco, a 2008 Pinot Grigio, its 2007 Rosso della Valle and its 2007 Barbera.

**Laurita Winery** of New Egypt won a silver medal for its non vintage Chambourcin and four bronze medals for its 2006 Chardonnay Reserve, 2007 Merlot, its non vintage Cabernet Franc Bistro and its 2006 Chardonnay Naked.

**Natali Vineyards** of Cape May Court House won a silver medal for its non vintage Merlot and four bronze medals for its non vintage Sauvignon Blanc, non vintage Tempranillo, non vintage Goshen White and its non vintage Shiraz.

**Plagido's Winery** of Hammonton won two gold medals for its Blueberry Wine and its Niagara Wine and two silver medals for its Cranberry and Cherry Wines. The winery also took home eight bronze medals for its wines including Plagido's Choice, a non vintage

Cabernet Franc Oaked, a non vintage Cabernet Franc Reserve, its Antonio Rossi, Concetta's Sasalinga, an Apple Wine, Cory's Zocchero and a non vintage Chambourcin.

**Renault Winery** of Egg Harbor captured five silver medals and 11 bronze. Silver award winners included a 2007 Merlot Prem, a 2008 Garden State Red, a 2007 Cab Premium, a 2006 Cynthiana, a non vintage Fresello, a non vintage Pink Champagne, a 2007 Cynthiana, a 2008 Chardonnay Premium, a non vintage Louis R. Prem Champagne, a 2008 Burgundy, a Roya Rouge, a 2007 Sauterne, Fleur de Blanc, a non vintage Chablis, a non vintage Chardonnay and a non vintage Blush Wine.

**Sharrott Winery** of Blue Anchor won a gold medal for its 2009 Vidal Blanc and a silver for its 2008 Cabernet franc. The winery also won four bronze medals for its wines including a Raspberry Wine, a 2009 Chardonnay Unoaked, a 2008 Shiraz and a 2008 Chambourcin.

**Silver Decoy Winery** of Robbinsville won a gold medal for its 2007 Cabernet Franc. The winery also won five bronze medals for its wines including its 2008 Marechal Fach, its 2008 Retriever Syrah, its 2007 Retriever Sangiovese, its 2007 Chambourcin and its 2007 Traminette.

**Turdo Vineyards & Winery** of North Cape May took a silver medal for its 2009 Barbera and a bronze medal for its 2009 Moscato.

**Unionville Vineyards** in Ringoes won a gold medal for its Portvat#15 and three bronze medals for its wines including its 2007 Riesling, 2008 Revolution Red and its 2008 Lafayette Pride.

**Valenzano Winery** of Shamong took a gold medal for its non vintage Shannon Red Rose. Valenzano also took eight bronze medals for its wines including its 2008 Merlot, its Jersey Devil Port, a 2008 Vidal, its Cranpagne, its Pinelands Blush, its Blueberry Wine, its 2008 Utche's Red and its 2008 Cab/Merlot Reserve, a blend of Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot.

**Westfall Winery** in Montague won a gold medal for its MidSummer White traminette/chardonnay blend and two silver medals for its Cranberry and Apple Wines. The winery also won bronze medals for its Blackberry and Raspberry Wines and its Skylands Blush. For more information on the winning wineries and their medal winning wines, go to GSWG Wineries ([www.newjerseywines.com/wineries.html](http://www.newjerseywines.com/wineries.html)).

View the NJ Wine Competition Gallery at [www.newjerseywines.com/gallery-nj-wine-comp-2010.html](http://www.newjerseywines.com/gallery-nj-wine-comp-2010.html).



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