

# NEFER

OBELISCO ESTATE



It appears that ancient Egypt had the equivalent of the French Appellation Controlee laws. There was a "Royal Sealer of Wine" who overlooked the honest labeling laws, and much of what you find on wine labels today was on the wine labels of ancient Egypt. These included:

- Name of the Estate
- Location
- Type of wine
- Date of vintage
- Vintners Name
- Assessment of Quality

An example of such a wine label is Star of Horus

on the Height of Heaven (this vineyard estate started around 2600 BC, or the time of Zoser, and lasted to 300 AD). The Northern Xoïs District, Chasut Red was reputed to be not ready to drink until it had aged 100 years!

Keeping a wine for years to mature was not all that uncommon. In the annex of Tutankhamen's tomb 36 wine jars were found and each bore a docket in hieratic giving the date, place, and vintage of the wine and showing the Aten Domain Vineyard wines to be maintained for at least 21 years.

There were many other vineyards throughout the country. Evidence shows that it is possible that ancient Egyptians cut up Egypt into wine growing districts, much like France does today.



Egyptian wines were graded as good (nfr), twice good (nfr,nfr), and three times good (nfr,nfr,nfr) as being the finest.

Ancient Egyptian writing contained no vowels. To aid in pronunciation, it is common to add the letter 'e' between consonants, therefore, nfr becomes nefer. Nefer stands for all that is good and beautiful.