THE BEVERAGE PEOPLE 840 PINER RD., #14 SANTA ROSA, CA 95403 (707) 544-2520

"Golden Bells" Apricot Mead - 5 gallons

17 1/2 lbs. Apricots

12 lbs. Honey (light and delicate)

5 gallons Water

2 oz.. "The Beverage People" Yeast Nutrient for Meads

2 1/2 tsp. Pectic Enzyme

5 tsp. stock Sodium Metabisulfite Solution

3 oz. Tartaric Acid

1 tsp. Grape Tannin

5 grams Prise de Mousse Wine Yeast

Original Brix: 20 Total Acid: .6-.65%

- 1. Smash up sound, ripe Fruit (removing pits), tie loosely in a straining bag, and place in open fermentor.
- 2. Stir Honey into 5 gallons warm Water. Heat to boiling, and add Yeast Nutrient. Boil and skim for five minutes. Remove from heat, cool, and pour into the fermentor.
- 3. Add the remaining Water and other ingredients except Sodium Metabisulfite and Yeast, mixing well.
- 4. Test sugar and acid levels of the must. Raise if necessary. Slightly higher is okay.
- 5. When must temperature of the must nears room temperature, add yeast to the surface. In 10 or 12 hours, stir it in.
- 6. Once fermentation begins, stir or push the pulp down into the liquid twice a day.
- 7. After five days, strain and press the pulp. Funnel the fermenting mead into closed fermentors, filling them no more than 80% full, and affix a fermentation lock to each. Allow fermentation to finish.
- 8. When bubbles can no longer be seen rising through the mead, rack away from the settlings into an open container. Fine with Sparkolloid, add a teaspoon per gallon stock Sodium Metabisulfite solution. Siphon into a storage container, top up, and let set for four weeks.

- 9. Rack away from the settlings, top up again, and let stand for two or three months.
- 10. Carefully rack the mead into an open container, add 1 1/2 teaspoons stock sulfite solution per gallon. Sweeten with Sugar Syrup, if desired, adding also 1/2 teaspoon Wine Stabilizer per gallon.
- 11. Siphon into bottles, cap, and set aside to age for at least two months.

Copyright © The Beverage People 2008, Last revised, May, 2008.