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Meet my cousins Antonello & Ciro Urciuolo from Campania who are currently looking for representation in B.C. Below is their story:

"We were the last generation - tells Ciro - of a well known family working in the production of chestnut trees poles to be used in the wine yards. In time our father, Nicola, began to sell wine grapes and wines not produced by us, already willing to fulfill his dream of his own wine yard to look after and his bottles to drink. The first part of his dream was fulfilled in 1992, when 3 hectares in Forino (at the foot of mt. Faliesi, nearly 650 meter of height), within one of the most evocative areas in Irpinia, all surrounded by mountains."

A lot of people told us we were crazy, says Antonello - and that Forino was a land only meant for hazelnut growing, and that it had been considered a Fiano D.O.C. area only by mistake. That explains why ours was the first D.O.C. wine yard implanted in Forino fourteen years after the disciplinary regulations approval.

It was 1992. The choice of vinifying those grapes and therefore proposing themselves on the market with their own trademark was the consequence of this new adventure, which would have not been simple. At that time Ciro and Antonello were just 23 and 20, and were facing the question marks regarding their future and their life. "We didn't have any other income nor, secondary commercial activity. So Ciro remembers "We were to find out if it was worth undertaking our father's project, trying to live on what we were able to produce and sell with our own hands". The dice were tossed and the Fiano 1996 ends up in the bottle named under the mark of Urciuolo. Together with the Fiano of Avellino were made Greco of Tufo, Irpinia's Aglianico and Taurasi: "Our spirit is always to learn proceeding one step at a time with great humility."

I am Marina Beck of Marina's Wines Ltd. in Alberta and have been representing my cousins for 7 years. I welcome the opportunity to bring the family wines to British Columbia.

For further information on the wines please contact me at 403-619-6779 or marina@marinaswines.com