



Yamhill Valley
vineyards

2009 'Pinot Blanc'

Winemaker

Stephen J. Cary

AVA

McMinnville

Vineyard Composition

100% Yamhill Valley Estate
Casa Block, Mainfield Block
Hilltop Block

Harvest

Picked: Oct 11, 2009
Yield: 2.2 tons/acre
Brix: 22.0
pH: 3.11
TA: 7.4 g/L

Fermentation

Duration: 14-35 days

Aging

7 months

70% Stainless Steel
30% Neutral Oak

Bottling

June 30, 2010
Alcohol: 13.7%
pH: 3.28
TA: 4.6 g/L
R.S.: 0.1%
Production: 1415 cases

Vineyard

We are the oldest winery and the second oldest vineyard in what has recently been recognized as the McMinnville AVA. The unique thing about this subregion of the Willamette Valley is that eroded marine sedimentary soils dominate many of the vineyard sites. Most other Oregon vineyard areas are strongly influenced by volcanic soils, while our site consists primarily of marine sediments and heavy clay soils that produce a Pinot Blanc with great intensity of flavor and complexity.

Vintage

The 2009 growing season began with three months of above average temperatures coupled with lower than average rainfall. Bud break in the 2009 season had a one week head start compared to 2008. Rainfall increased throughout the pre-bloom period and temperatures remained higher, resulting in gorgeous bloom conditions and bountiful fruit set. Temperatures spiked into triple digits in July, but cooled to normal levels for August as we eased into veraison (when the fruit changes color). Lack of rain around our picking schedule meant grapes could hang until they reached optimal ripeness.

Winemaking

Grapes were hand-picked and delivered to the crush pad in perfect condition. They were meticulously hand sorted and lightly de-stemmed. The fruit was gently pressed, settled overnight and transferred to stainless steel tanks for a cool fermentation that encouraged an array of flavors.

Tasting Notes

The nose expresses the ripe fruit with notes of honeydew and peaches. When it enters the mouth playful notes of pear dance on the tongue with background flavors of kiwi, starfruit and melon and an exuberant spice that adds something that makes this wine great for any season.