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2010 Reserve Red Wine

VINTAGE

The 2010 Columbia Valley growing season was comparable to 1999, a cooler than average vintage that produced wines with excellent color, flavor and varietal character. Spring temperatures were moderate and stayed that way through the summer and early fall, with the warm weather finally arriving in late September just in time to finish ripening the grapes to produce this delicious, balanced wine.

VINEYARDS

Weinbau Vineyard is located on the Wahluke Slope and is one of the oldest vineyards in the area. All of the merlot and cabernet franc come from this vineyard as well as 59% of the cabernet sauvignon. This vineyard is known for its rocky soil and gives this wine its lengthy finish. Champoux Vineyard is located in the Horse Heaven Hills and contributes the final 41% of the cabernet sauvignon to this blend. One of the state's most revered vineyards, Champoux contributes great power and concentration which along with the Weinbau wines makes a blend which is elegant and complex.

WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, grapes were fermented on their skins for eight days. After being pressed off, this lot was aged for 22 months in predominantly new French Oak barrels to improve its already lengthy finish. Racking the wine every three months created pliant tannins and bold, stylish structure.

TASTING NOTES

Heady aromas of black cherry, cassis, currant and spice fill the glass. Full bodied, concentrated and layered on the palate with lush dark fruit and cocoa that lend focus to the balanced, generous finish. Cellar worthy.



ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity0.55g/100ml
 pH.....3.74
 Blend.....81% Cabernet Sauvignon;
 16% Merlot;
 3% Cabernet Franc
 Cases.....135
 Bottling Date..... June 14, 2012

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker