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2006 Reserve Red Wine

VINTAGE

The 2006 growing season was quite warm with overall heat accumulation rivaling the high numbers posted in 2003. While spring was a little rainier than usual, July and August were hot prompting concern the grapes might ripen before the flavors had time to fully develop, but a perfect Indian summer slowed ripening just enough to give the grapes extra time on the vine to soften the tannins and produce mature, richly flavored grapes.

VINEYARDS

Champoux Vineyard is located in the Horse Heaven Hills, adjacent to the Red Mountain region and its Cabernet is 45% of the blend. Champoux contributes elegance and complexity to this reserve blend. The Weinbau Vineyard is responsible for the remaining 55% of the blend. Located on the Wahluke Slope with rocky soil, high elevation and heat, Weinbau Cabernet gives this wine its lengthy finish.

WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, grapes were fermented on their skins for eight days. After being pressed off, this lot was aged for 20 months in all 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

Made from some of the finest vineyards in the Columbia Valley, this wine is well structured showing layers of black fruit, smoke, and subtle tannins.



ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity0.52g/100ml
 pH.....3.72
 Blend..... .88% Cabernet Sauvignon;
 7% Cabernet Franc;3 % Malbec; 2% Merlot
 Cases..... 94
 Bottling Date..... June 18, 2008

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker