

## Winemaker's Notes

**Wine:** **Mueller "Cousins Cuvée"**  
**Red Wine**  
**Russian River Valley**

**Release Date:** January 14, 2012

**Production:** 185 cases

**Fermentation:** Aged in 100% French oak, 100% ML fermentation

**General Notes:** This is a new release for Mueller Winery, and represents a new style of wine for us as well. In order to produce an everyday red wine with complexity and consistency, we borrowed from an idea used in Portugal for producing nonvintage Port wine. In this system, multiple vintages are blended to produce a wine which does not change dramatically from year to year. Our first release of Cousins Cuvée Red is a blend which spans ten years of Pinot Noir, Syrah and Zinfandel. The majority of the blend is Pinot Noir. The name "Cousins Cuvée" is an homage to three cousins; **Emily, Kevin and Tyler** are the cousins and family members all closely involved in producing Mueller wines.

**Tasting Notes:** "Cousins Cuvée" has a sparkling medium cranberry color. The wine is loaded with blueberry and black cherry aromas; medium bodied with tangy raspberry flavors and balanced acidity. Tannins are soft and fine grained, with a finish that is long and flavorful. This delicious wine is ready to enjoy today.