



Winemaker's Notes

Wine: 2008 Mueller Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley, "Eastside"
Production: 217 cases
Fermentation: Aged in 100% French oak, 100% ML fermentation

General Notes: Our 2008 "Eastside" Pinot Noir is produced from three clones of Pinot Noir: Dijon clones, 667 and 115, as well as clone 2A. Clone 667 and 115 originated in France, while 2A is from the Wadensville region of Switzerland. The Swiss clone is adapted for cooler weather, and alone produces a rich, dark wine with full body, making it suitable for blending. The vineyard blocks are situated on a well drained site in the "middle reach" of the appellation, on Eastside Road. The vineyard site experiences the full impact of cooling fog which travels up the rivers banks. Fruit is harvested in the cool morning hours and transported to the winery on Starr Road (minutes away) for destemming into our small, two-ton custom designed fermenting tanks. During fermentation, we punch down the cap by hand several times each day to gently extract the grapes flavors and aromas. The wine is aged in French oak barrels, of which about 34% are new.

Tasting Notes: The 2008 "Eastside" Pinot Noir has a dark, rich ruby color with delicate red cherry and red berry aromas. Full bodied with red cherry flavors and balanced acidity. Tannins are fine grained, soft and rich. Its array of fruit flavors and aromas with subtle overtones of toasty oak will age gracefully over the next several years. We particularly enjoy this wine with Beef Bourguignon.

Technical Data:

Harvest Date: 9/08
Harvest Brix: 25.0
ph at harvest: 3.5
ph at bottling: 3.6
Alcohol by volume: 14.8%