

2011 Anne Katherina Vineyard Pinot Noir, Carneros

Case Production: 300 SRP: N/A

This wine shows great depth of fruit in the nose, with ample black cherry and spice aromas giving way to raspberry and earthy wild strawberry notes. On the palate, sleek and supple textures carry ripe black cherry flavors mingled with hints of forest floor and sandalwood on an enduring finish.

Fruit: 100% Carneros Pinot Noir.

53% Dijon 115 clone, 21% Swan selection,

18% 667 Dijon clone, 8% Dijon 777 clone

Case Production: 300 cases

Oak: 55% New French (Francois Freres and Remond)

Alcohol: 14.1%

pH: 3.69

TA: 6.0g/L

Fermentation & Aging Details

The perfectly ripe clusters were destemmed and put into tank to cold soak for five days. Fermentation was slower than is typical for our red wines with up to four punch downs per day for extraction. The pinot noir spent another 21 days in tank on its skins. Each lot was fermented and aged separately. Once the wines were dry they underwent malolactic fermentation in a combination of new and used French oak barrels. The wines rested on their lees for 15 months.

Weather Attributes

After a warm, sunny start to the 2011 growing season, predominantly cool, rainy weather prevailed through June. Flowering was delayed three weeks and somewhat disrupted by rain, so crop yields were 10% to 30% lower than normal, depending on the vineyard block. Below normal temperatures persisted all summer and into the fall, allowing slow ripening and flavor development without high sugar levels. We harvested some 115 clone on September 26 and picked the rest of our fruit on September 30, great timing because a big storm arrived on October 2, bringing several inches of rain. This was an educational vintage as we experienced weather conditions often encountered by our colleagues in Burgundy and Oregon, and we produced wines with remarkable elegance and finesse.

Blue Farm

Founded on Anne Moller-Racke's 30-plus years of winegrowing in Sonoma, Blue Farm was conceptualized in 2001 during her planting of Anne Katherina, Blue Farm's first estate vineyard. Blue Farm believes that an intimate understanding and connection to our vineyards is core to making site-specific Chardonnay and Pinot Noir of the highest quality.

www.bluefarmwines.com