



## TASTING NOTES



Isenhower Cellars

[www.isenhowercellars.com](http://www.isenhowercellars.com)

[@isenhowercellars.com](mailto:@isenhowercellars.com) 509.526.7896

3471 Pranger Road

Walla Walla, Washington 99362

### 2003 Columbia Valley Wild Alfalfa Syrah

*53 percent Vincent Rea Vineyard • 28 percent Six Prong Vineyard • 13 percent Ranch at the End of the Road  
• 5 percent Cougar Hills Vineyard*

#### Harvest and Fermentation

*All grapes were hand picked when flavors were judged optimal for the variety and the vineyard. Hand sorting of the grape clusters to remove imperfect grape clusters and material other than grapes then a gentle destemming. Fermentation was conducted “whole berry” with a variety of commercial yeasts, each lot was punched down three times daily, and temperature of fermentation varies from vineyard to vineyard. Pressing of the grapes was determined strictly by tasting the fermenting wine. The malo-lactic fermentation was completed in barrel.*

#### Élevage

*Each lot is individually assessed for the proper cooperage. Cougar Hills Syrah was aged in 100 percent used Seguin Moreau cooperage. Six Prong and Ranch in French 228 liter used Burgundy barrels from Billion and Dargeau Jaegle. Vincent Rea Syrah was aged in 500 liter French Oak Puncheons from Billion, Vicard, and Demptos. The blend was created in April 2004 and placed in used French Oak Puncheons for the remainder of élevage. The Wild Alfalfa was bottled in February 2005 with a polish filtration but no fining.*

#### Winemakers' Notes

*2003 continues Washington's streak of excellent vintages. Brilliant dark red hue. Complex aromas of lavender, raspberry/bing cherry jam, and white pepper overlay tones of mowed hay, smoke, and mocha. Muscular and mouth filling with a cascade of jammy red fruits, lavender, rosemary, and white pepper. Wild Alfalfa will develop elegance with bottle age however now it is all about power, richness, and length. Acidity will give the Wild Alfalfa a long life. Enjoy now through 2013.*

*14.5% alcohol • 820 cases bottled*