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PROCEDO SANGIOVESE

Red Willow Vineyard, Columbia Valley AVA

WINEMAKER NOTE

The 2015 growing season in Eastern Washington will go down as one of the hottest on record. Average high temperatures for June that year were 104 in the Columbia Valley. Had it not been for record heat in 2013 and 2014, growers may have been caught on their heels as their grapes could have cooked under the summer sun. But this was not the case as canopies were kept heavy and crop load was managed to carry all the photosynthetic activity the vines would give. A late season cool down kept natural acidity relatively balanced and allowed flavors to catch up with elevated sugars.

Sourced from the East Chapel and Bluff Blocks of the famed Red Willow Vineyard in the western Yakima Valley, this Sangiovese is considered one of the oldest plantings of its kind in Washington State. Picollo and Grosso clones were thinned to 2-3 tons per acres to carry the massive clusters Sangiovese is famous for. Depending on the sun exposure, these massive clusters produce both ripe and underripe berries creating a balance and complexity found in few vinifera.

VARIETAL: 100% Sangiovese PRODUCTION: 203 cases ALCOHOL: 14.9% by volume

PROFILE

Scarlett and Ruby hues gradually thin to crimson and candy red before a hint of the usual "bricking" oxidation shows around the rim. This blood of Jove is a mouthful, filled with rich layers of candied cherry, saddle leather and dark cocoa. Flavors from the entry to midpalate are deep and intense, with a combination of sweet dark cherries, dried rose petals and the signature Red Willow minerality. Built for food or longevity, the massive tannin structure lingers far beyond the first sip, gripping and pulling at every last protein your tongue has to offer. Your only defense against the onslaught should be a wheel of parmesan, braised short ribs or a cool cellar until 2023.