

2022 Vieux Chenin Blanc

Vineyard:

The Baranek Vineyard is located in a land-locked portion of central Clarkburg in silty clay loam soils. It's the oldest planting of Chenin in the AVA (1978) by the first people to plant grapes in Clarksburg. In 1960 they planted Chenin Blanc and Colombard. John Baranek, the second generation, wrote the Clarksburg AVA. He tells me that the budwood used is of Wente origin and free of virus. This is a very exciting find for us and we are trying to secure a lease on the last 4 acres of this delta gem. Trained VSP, these old vines are still producing an abundance of fruit; about 4 tons to the acre in '22.

The Cellar:

Hand harvested, basket pressed to tank for an overnight settle, the must was racked to neutral puncheons and barriques for an unaided fermentation. Malolactic fermentation occurred spontaneously. The wine was aged on gross lees without batonage and bottled without fining or filtration.

The Numbers:

Harvested August 22 22.1 Brix 3.5pH 84 cases bottled August 15, 2023