

FACT SHEET

Semillon 2011

Alc: 13.18%/vol

RS: 2.1g/L TA: 5.2g/L VA: 0.26g/L pH: 3.32

WINEMAKERS COMMENTS:

Franschhoek's first Semillon vineyards were planted in 1902 on the alluvial soils of the Franschhoek riverbed with its high loam content. In 1942 there were more plantings on the sandy sites. These bushvines are planted 1.4m x 1.4m and yields 3.6ton/ha. The skin:pulp ratio of these old bushvines produces wines that are intensely complex, well-structure and have an unbelievable aging potential. The 1942 block was harvested on February 7th with the 109 year old vineyard ripening exactly two week later. The grapes are pressed as whole bunches with the juice settling for 24–48 hours. CKS is used for inoculation and the fermentation starts in tank for 2–3°B before it is transferred to barrel where it finishes alcoholic fermentation. Before MLF starts, the barrels are topped and stored at 5°C. 100% new French oak is used, but because the maturation is done at such low temperatures, the extracting from the oak is minimal. During these 13 months the wine is never sulphured and no battonage is done. 5% Sauvignon blanc from the 2012 vintage is blended back to ensure an higher natural acidity and freshness.

TASTING NOTES:

Lemon zest, white peach, roasted spice on the nose with dominant floral notes that just adds to the lifeliness of this wine. The palate shows tremendous complexity with cassis, citrus, a chalky minerality and a gripping waxy mouthfeel. It shows a remarkable structure and tight mineral acidity underneath its weighty texture accentuated by the extended lees contact.