

SPRING VALLEY VINEYARD

2004 Uriah Merlot Blend

Walla Walla Valley

Name Origin

The names given to Spring Valley Vineyard wines are a tribute to the family members who have struggled and succeeded in farming the same land where the winery now flourishes. Uriah Corkrum was the grandfather of Shari Corkrum Derby. Born in Walla Walla on June 1, 1866 he began successful farming on his own during the 1880's. Poor weather prevented him from harvesting his crop and he lost everything during the first great depression of 1893. He struggled to persevere and in 1910 acquired land in the area known as Spring Valley.

A Family Tradition

Following the tradition of Uriah, Frederick and Nina Lee Corkrum, Shari Corkrum Derby and her husband Dean Derby continue to operate the wheat, vineyard and winery. Dean's brother, Gaynor Derby, manages the vineyard. The hard work, traditional values and deep family ties that have kept the ranch going for over 100 years is mirrored in Spring Valley Vineyard's signature offerings.

The Vineyard

Spring Valley Vineyard was established in 1993 on wheat land in Spring Valley, Walla Walla County; land that has been farmed by the Corkrum family for five generations.

Evaluation of the terroir revealed an excellent environment for growing wine grapes. With elevation between 1,200 and 1,500 feet, today Spring Valley maintains a forty-acre vineyard made up of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot, Malbec, and Syrah.

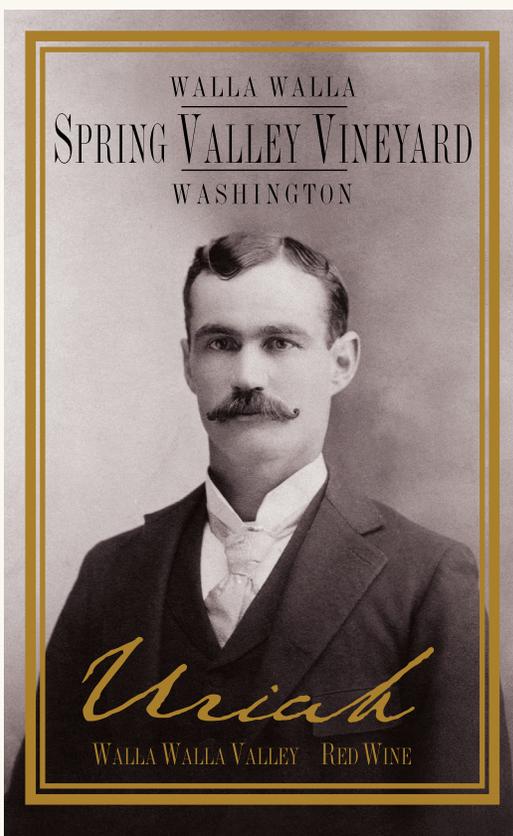
Placed on a south-southwest facing hillside, the vines follow the north-south slope of the hills in vertical rows. This orientation, coupled with the declination of slope affords the vines optimal sunshine, cold air, drainage, and takes advantage of the reflective nature of the surrounding hills.

Winemaker Tasting Notes

Aromas of ripe blackberry, plum and harvested wheat introduce a complex palate with flavors of currant, cherry and hints of liquorice and leather. Powerful and firm tannins resonate on the long, elegant finish.

~SERGE LAVILLE, WINEMAKER

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TECHNICAL DATA

Blend

60% Merlot
31% Cabernet Franc
5% Cabernet Sauvignon
4% Petit Verdot

Aging

16 months in 95% French oak
and 5% American oak barrels

Appellation

Walla Walla Valley

Vineyard

100% Spring Valley Vineyard

Case Production

2,095 cases