

Strawberry Mullet Rosé, Columbia Valley AVA 2022

Grape: Zinfandel

Vineyard: Hillside

Region: Columbia Valley AVA

Elevation & Exposition: 620-680 ft

Soil: Deep, unconsolidated silty loam soils derived from both the Missoula floods as well as volcanic mudflows and debris from ancestor volcanoes to Mount Hood about 6 million years old.

Low in water retention and organic material.

Vineyard Age: Planted in 1983

Spacing: 4 x 10

Pruning: Lyre

Farming: No synthetic herbicides or fungicides are used at any time. Practicing Organic.

Terrior Notes: Surrounded by the cherry orchards and wheat fields central to Wasco County agriculture, Hillside Vineyard is an arid, warm and windy locale. Planted in 1983-5 by Harold Haake and Lonnie Wright, Hillside is 80 miles east of Portland along the Columbia River in the loamy, sandstone foothills south of The Dalles. Approaching the high desert of central Oregon and the Columbia Basin, there is a rugged beauty here that few connect with the image of Oregon, or at the very least, Oregon viticulture.

Winemaking/Vintage Notes: Due to a cool, wet spring and mild early half of the summer followed by the warmth and dryness that lasted well into October, the 2022 vintage offered us fruit with very high quality and balance. The fruit for Strawberry Mullet was picked on October 7th and was crushed by foot followed by a brief soak before being loaded into the press whole cluster. Once pressed and settled overnight, the wine was racked into tank and barrel where it remained on the lees for six months. Moved only once before bottling with 25ppm of sulfur added with no filtration or fining prior to bottling. Along with #1 Grandpa, these wines are the most immediate and raw of the vintage's offerings, often with a hazy patina and slight sediment present in the bottom of the bottle. Not related, but is also good with grilled steak and asparagus type of stuff, or just drink while the grill is warming up. 247 cases produced.

