## Coming in 2003

The many requests for a Terra Blanca wine club means it is finally underway.

CLUB **ONYX** will make it's debut along with the release of our

1999 artist series Bordeaux style blend, **ONYX**.

Membership details are under construction now to make CLUB **ONYX** not just another wine club but a very special experience, with much more than great discounts. Stay tuned to www.terrablanca.com for details.

CLUB ONYX members have taste!

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# Terra Blanca

Red Mountain, Washington

34715 N. DeMoss Rd. Benton City, WA 99320 509-588-6082

Terra Blanca Vintners is easy to find, and easily accessible from Interstate I-82

y Holidays From Terra Blanca

Greetings from Terra Blanca,

Once again another year has been picked from the vine and we just can't believe that we are about to enter 2003. We have been very busy this fall with our 6th harvest from our estate vineyard and a little expansion project that is underway (assuring that I won't be sleeping on barrels' next year).' We of course could not be making such great strides if it were not for you, our Terra Blanca supporters.

The 2002 growing season was another spectacular year for grapes in Washington and especially in our Red Mountain estate vineyard. Since we live by the motto "We make our wines in the vineyard, then gently handle the fruit in the winery to the bottle, allowing the power, structure, and elegance of our estate vineyard to shine in the bottle." I thought it might be informative to talk about why we feel 2002 was an" awesome" vintage.

To start off some basics about wine grapes that are not necessarily intuitive, first unlike almost everything else in this country and certainly almost every other farm crop, those vineyards that grow the biggest

and the largest quantity are not the best. The best wine grapes generally come from plants with fewer grapes and smaller grapes. If you look at it as if the grape plant can produce a set amount of flavor, you can decide whether to divide that flavor into a larger quantity of grapes, diluting the flavors into a larger quantity of wine or a smaller quantity of grapes, thereby concentrating the flavors. The size of the grape berries themselves also has a great impact on the resulting wine. The increased surface area in relation to juice in each of the small berries translates into more skins and less juice. Since all of the color and much of the flavor in red wines comes from the grape skins (remember most red wine grapes the pulp of the grape is white and only the skin of the grape is red) then smaller berries are much preferred to larger berries.

We manage our estate vineyard to produce a small crop size with small berries by pruning the vineyard for smaller crop sizes, then thinning plant shoots and individual clusters as necessary to obtain the desired crop size. Stressing the grape plants throughout the growing season, mainly by withholding water, controls berry size. Our estate-grown grapes this year were spectacular; we have harvested some of the smallest most intense berries we have grown to date. Our low yields and small berry size has let to extremely dark, concentrated red wines from the 2002 vintage. Goes to show that things that come in small packages really are preferred!

We have enjoyed having an opportunity throughout the year to visit and share a glass of wine with many of you, and look forward to visiting with you again soon. From our family to yours, we wish you all Happy Holidays and wine filled New Year. Cheers,

Red Wine and Chocolate February 15th-17th Yakima Valley Winery Association

Sweet Retreat March 8th and 9th Columbia Valley Winery Association

Spring Barrel Tasting April 25th - 27th Yakima Valley Winery Association

Classic Wine and Cars June 28th and 29th Columbia Valley Winery Association

Catch The Crush September 27th and 28th Columbia Valley Winery Association

Thanksgiving In Wine Country November 28th - 30th Yakima Valley Winery Association

Terra Blanca's New Releases

1999 Terra Blanca Cabernet Sauvignon - Red Mountain 2000 Terra Blanca Syrah - Red Mountain 2000 Terra Blanca Chardonnay- Red Mountain 2001 Terra Blanca Viognier - Yakima Valley



### Seasons Greetings From Our Assistant Winemaker - Dave Harvey

I'm sorry I have to write this article in such haste, but in a few minutes I have a very important meeting with a "giant" forklift representative.

You might be wondering what the heck I need a "giant" forklift for. Well, you see, we have already begun procuring barrels for the 2003 vintages and we are already getting short on space, so its time to start cramming stuff in. Why, you might ask, do we put all of our Terra Blanca wines in barrels? Obviously we don't do it for the health of our backs or for our mental well-being. We ferment our Chardonnay completely in 60-gallon French oak barrels to concentrate flavors, while adding touches of toastyness, in addition to a creamy texture that comes directly from the barrel. We ferment our red wines in large stainless steel tanks, press them, and age them for 24 months in 60gallon French oak barrels. This process concentrates the fruit flavors while mellowing the harsh tannins found in youthful red wines.

Currently, we have somewhere in the neighborhood of 1500 barrels, which are full. So the need for a giant fork lift is obvious. Next year, a crane goes on the Christmas list. Happy Holidays!!! Dave Harvey





These shipping rates include the cost for shipping, handling and the reusable wine shipping container.

#### Region 1

Washington - Oregon - Idaho 7- 12 bottles.....\$22.00 4- 6 bottles.....\$18.00 1- 3 bottles.....\$15.00

#### Region 2

Colorado - California - New Mexico 7- 12 bottles.....\$30.00 4- 6 bottles.....\$20.00 1- 3 bottles......\$15.00

#### Region 3

Illinois - Missouri - Nebraska - Wisconsin 7- 12 bottles.....\$45.00 4- 6 bottles.....\$30.00 1- 3 bottles.....\$20.00

We ship Via UPS ground - call the winery for air rates 509-588-6082



## Nearly Gone

1999 Block 8 Syrah

- Red Mountain -

1998 ONYX

Red Mountain -



#### Just In Time For Christmas

Terra Blanca's "Killer Reds" T-Shirts \$16.00 for short sleeve \$20.00 for long sleeve see at

www.terrablanca.com

call the winery to order 509-588-6082

Wine Order	Form	Quantity	Total
2000 Chardonnay - Red Mour	ıtaln	\$15x	•
1999 Block 5 Chardonnay	= Red Mountain	\$20x	
2001 Viognier - Yakima Vailey	****	\$20x	
1998 Merlot - Red Mountain	•••••	\$20x	
2000 Syrah - Red Mountain	********************	\$20x	<b>-</b>
1999 Block 8 Syrah - Red Mo	untain	\$35x	<b>-</b>
1999 Cabernet Sauvignon	Red Mountain	\$20x	<b>-</b>
1998 ONYX - Red Mountain	***************************************	\$40x	<b>-</b>
1997 Late Harvest Muscat	Ottonel - 375ml	\$15x	
1997 Botrytized Semillon -	375ml	\$20x	
1997 December Harvest Gewu	ırztraminer- 375ml.	\$25x	<b>-</b>
		Sub Total	
*Case Discount (see below for details on discount)  Washington Residents apply 7.7% tax			
	everse side for ship		
	·	Total Order	
* Huge Case Dis	counts Up	To 30%	,
Yes! You o	can mix and r	natch!	
20% for a case-25% for t NOTE - Chardonnay Block discount per case, or pe The only discount	k 5 and Syrah Blo er mix with other for ONYX Is \$216	ck 8 are given Terra Blanca v for a 6-pack.	a 10%
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Exp. Date			
Telephone Number			_
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