

Precept Wine Acquires Yamhela Vineyard in Yamhill, Oregon (Press Release)

Ultra-premium Pinot Noir site will realize its full potential as part of this rising Northwest wine company

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Underscoring its growth strategy and marking its 10-year anniversary, Precept Wine chief executive officer Andrew Browne announced the company's purchase of Yamhela vineyard, located in the renowned Yamhill-Carlton American Viticultural Area in Yamhill, Oregon, part of the overarching Willamette Valley AVA. Terms of the sale are undisclosed.

"In pursuit of being the vineyard and winery leader over the next decade in the Northwest, we will continue to develop, acquire and grow our business working from a strong foundation of Northwest vineyards and wines with powerful brand names," Browne said. "We are hunting for world-class sites that support this strategy, and Yamhela is a prime example within our Oregon portfolio."

Originally conceived by its previous ownership as a mixed-use site suited to vineyards, timber, and real estate, Precept Wine vice president of vineyards David J. Minick said the company intends to focus on Yamhela's premium winegrape-growing potential. Precept will expand the 30 planted acres to a fully realized total of 120 planted acres over five years. The property has a total of 374 gross acres; its vineyard was first planted in 2007. Its neighboring vineyards are held in the highest esteem by local industry peers.

"Yamhela is perched on one of the finest sites for Pinot Noir in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA. Its neighbors, including the legendary Shea Vineyard, are among the most sought after vineyards in Oregon," said Tim Ramey, principal of Zenith Vineyard in Salem. "Precept Wine's purchase of Yamhela is not its first venture in Oregon, but this will clearly be a cornerstone of the company's Oregon strategy."

By extension of Precept Wine's ownership through the Baty family and the family's Winemakers LLC holdings, its existing Oregon interests include the second largest winery in the state, 12th & Maple Wine Company, in Dundee, Ore., and approximately 570 acres across four vineyards in the Willamette (Howell Prairie, Battle Creek and Waldo Hills) and Ribbon Ridge (Roe) AVAs. In Oregon it produces Battle Creek, Primarius, and Windy Bay brands, all Pinot Noir, the latter sold exclusively to the on-trade. Precept Wine is the only known wine company to have vineyards and wineries in three Northwest states: Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

About Precept Wine: Seattle-based Precept Wine is a top 20 North American wine producer that owns and operates vineyards, wineries, and tasting rooms across Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and enjoys a joint venture in the McLaren Vale, Australia. Founded in 2003 by Andrew Browne, the company's wineries have garnered more than 350 combined best buys and critical scores exceeding 90 points. Learn more at www.preceptwine.com.