

2011 Jaquez

(Texas Hill Country AVA)

82 cases produced:

Polvado Vineyards Vanderpool, TX (owned and managed by the Slaughter Family)

Alcohol % 19.2 pH 3.99 TA 6.3

Oak-1st year French Oak 50%, 3rd year American Oak 50%

This ruby desert style wine comes from a small family owned vineyard outside of Vanderpool, TX. The varietal Jaquez is the grape which goes by many different names. Lenoir actually has many names that go back over a hundred and fifty years back into history: Jacques, Jaquez, or Jack, as well as El Paso, Burgundy and Black Spanish. The credentials of Texas Black Spanish were established in the mid-1860's when its vines were introduced by the millions into Southern France. It was found to furnish an excellent, Phylloxera-resistant root stock onto which the classic French grape vines could be grafted. Additionally, it also made a superior, deeply colored red wine. In Texas, reports of that period can be found on Lenoir grapes growing in the "Sand Hills" of Bastrop county, that were "as fine as any Zinfandel" of its day. It is thought that Spanish conquistadores brought over the original stock in TX on their quest for the seven cities of gold and left missions in their wake. The monks brought over there grape stock as well as there knowledge of viticulture and enology. This Jaquez was produced in an old world fashion with no sulfites used in production. Half way through fermentation brandy was added to arrest the fermentation naturally. Oak aged for 15 months this wine presents smooth hints of cinnamon and mocha with a long vanilla finish. The alcohol is balanced with a touch less residual sugar that your traditional ruby port wines. Enjoy as an after dinner drink with a cigar and many other rich desserts.