

De Moines Register - Juice

Wine Guy's Pick of the Week:

2006 Dr. Konstantin Frank, Semi-Dry, New York Riesling

October 31, 2007



Cost: \$17

Find it: Fleur Wine and Ale, 4521 Fleur Drive

The taste: Distinctive aroma of honey, melon, baked apple and pear. Slightly sweet, yet nicely balanced with crisp acidity and a clean finish. A tasty example of New York Riesling.

About the wine: Riesling is traditionally known as the leading grape variety of Germany, and is now being successfully grown in other parts of the world. Riesling vines are notoriously well adapted to cold conditions, explaining why New York is now producing arguably the best Riesling in the United States.

This winery's founder, Dr. Konstantin Frank, immigrated to the Finger Lakes region of New York in 1951. A professor of plant sciences, he was determined to grow European grape varieties despite previous failures in the area. In 1962, he founded the Vinifera Wine Cellars, and quickly gained a reputation for producing world-class Riesling. Although there are now many excellent Finger Lakes wineries, Dr. Frank's continues to be a leader.

Pair it: Goes well with Asian cuisine such as Thai or Chinese. The mixture of acidity and sweetness helps to balance the spices.