



CLEARVIEW
ESTATE WINERY

5 June 2012

PHOTO STORY – to accompany photo taken today by Warren Buckland of handpicking harvest of Chardonnay grapes at Te Awanga.

Clearview Estate final harvest for 2012 vintage in Hawke's Bay

A decision to “push the limits” by holding Chardonnay grapes on the vines for the longest time ever in its history, could see Clearview Estate produce wine of the likes “never tasted before”.

Tim Turvey, co-owner and co-founder of the winery located at Te Awanga, and a team of around 10 handpicked the grapes today, ahead of the bad weather forecast for the week, and four weeks after the normal limit of picking.

“The fact that a good portion of the grapes are still in immaculate condition is a wonderful surprise and adds a positive rush to the end of the vintage,” says Mr Turvey, who is also one of Clearview's winemakers.

The grapes are destined for Clearview's Nobel Chardonnay, one of the most prestigious dessert wines in the country, and its award-winning Reserve Chardonnay.

“It's been a wonderful end to a pretty average summer and as we've never had such an elongated season, there will be more flavours that will create wines like we've never tasted before,” says Mr Turvey.

Pickers today included a number of the winery's infamous Golden Girls, a group of older women described as colourful characters, who have worked for Clearview for many years.

The operation was overseen by Grant Housten, Clearview's vineyard manager for 27 years, who has been keeping a watchful eye on these grapes, believed to be the longest hanging in Hawke's Bay this vintage.

ENDS

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