

Holmberg Orchards & Winery

12 Orchard Lane Gales Ferry, CT 06335

— Story —

OUR FARM CELEBRATES A HERITAGE OF EXCELLENCE IN HORTICULTURE SINCE IT WAS FOUNDED BY SWEDISH IMMIGRANTS ADOLPH AND HULDA HOLMBERG IN 1896. SECOND GENERATION BROTHERS, HAROLD AND HENRY, BEGAN RAISING POULTRY AND PLANTED THE ORIGINAL ORCHARDS IN 1935. A MOVE TOWARDS BECOMING PRIMARILY A RETAIL FARM WAS GRADUALLY IMPLEMENTED THROUGH THE LAST PART OF THE 1900S BY THIRD GENERATION RICK, AND HIS WIFE, DIANE HOLMBERG. BY 2004, RICK AND DIANE WERE JOINED BY TWO OF THEIR CHILDREN, AMY AND RUSSELL, IN THE FAMILY BUSINESS.

WHILE AWAY AT COLLEGE FROM 2000-2004 PURSUING A DEGREE IN HORTICULTURE, RUSSELL GAINED AN INTEREST IN THE CULTIVATION OF GRAPES AND THE SUBSEQUENT PRODUCTION OF WINE WHILE WORKING WITH A CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR WHO SHARED HIS INTERESTS. UPON ARRIVING BACK ON THE FARM IN 2004, RUSSELL DECIDED THAT REALISTIC BEGINNINGS TO HIS INTEREST INVOLVED PRODUCTION OF FRUIT WINES, AS THERE WAS A SURPLUS OF APPLE AND PEAR CROPS AT THE TIME. THIS ALSO INCLUDED THE APPLE'S MOST NATURAL EXPRESSION AS AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE: THE ENGLISH STYLE HARD CIDER. OUR FIRST PRODUCTS, AN APPLE WINE AND SEVERAL HARD CIDERS WERE LAUNCHED IN 2007 AND IMMEDIATELY PLACED HIGHLY IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS. WE HAVE EXPANDED IN THE PAST FEW YEARS TO INCLUDE SEVERAL OTHER FRUIT WINES AS WELL.

IN MAY 2010, RUSSELL PLANTED THE FIRST TWO ACRES OF VINEYARD ON OUR FARM. PASSIONATE ABOUT THE GROWING OF FRUITS, RUSSELL WILL PURSUE GRAPE VARIETALS WHICH CAPTURE THE ESSENCE OF OUR REGION, MAINLY ALSATIAN STYLE WHITE GRAPES TO HONOR CONNECTICUT WINEMAKING AT ITS FINEST. WE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR FIRST MODEST GRAPE HARVEST IN 2011!



— Facts —

Established:	Farm in 1896, Winery in 2007
Owners:	Richard and Diane Holmberg
Winemaker:	Russell Holmberg
Acres:	35 APPLE, 10 TREE FRUIT, 3 SMALL FRUITS, 2 WINE GRAPES
Produced Cases:	1000
Varietals:	Pinot Blanc, varietal ciders include Macintosh, Cortland and Russett.
Awards:	-Best in Show and Double Gold Medal: 2008 Eastern International Wine Competition: Three Sheets Apple Wine -Silver Medal: 2009 Finger Lakes International Wine Competition: Three Sheets Apple Wine, Cortland Hard Cider -Bronze Medal: 2010 Finger Lakes International Wine Competition: Three Sheets Apple Wine -Bronze Medal: 2010 Eastern International Wine Competition: Macintosh Hard Cider & Pearfection Pear Wine -Bronze Medal: 2008 Finger Lakes International Wine Competition: Macintosh Hard Cider -Silver Medal: 2008 Finger Lakes International Wine Competition: Russett Hard Cider -Bronze Medal: 2009 Finger Lakes International Wine Competition: Bleuphoria Blueberry Wine

— Wines —

Pearfection
Three Sheets Apple Wine
World Peach
Bleuphoria Blueberry Wine
Russett Hard Cider
Cortland Hard Cider
Macintosh Hard Cider

