

NURSERY

Nik Weis' grandfather not only found the winery in 1947, but also established one of the first privately owned nurseries in Germany which is providing winemakers from the Mosel and all over the world with new grapevines until today.

Since the Weis family owns many very old vineyards like the Wiltinger Schlangengraben from 1905, Nik Weis is today using the possibilities of the nursery to work on a personal life task: The protection and preservation of old Riesling genetics in the Mosel.

Based on the principle of the "sélection massale", shoots from exceptionally old, well growing and partially uncrafted vines are collected from all over the Mosel valley in order to produce new Riesling clones with these old genetics.

The reason for this incredibly complex and intense work lays in history, especially in the early 20th century when Mosel Rieslings were among the most and best wines of the world. At this time, it was normal that every vineyard was a composition of different vine ages and different vine clones of the same grape variety. Around 2000, Nik Weis and his vineyard manager Hermann Jostock tried a field test with new vines that possessed these old genetics. They figured out that a higher diversity of Riesling clones and ages lead naturally to finer, more complex and thus more high-grade wines. As a result, they kept looking for other old and almost forgotten vineyards that carried such treasures of old Riesling clones. Today, Nik and Hermann have created a sort of "Arche Noah" at the nursery which not only saves the old genetics but also produces new vines for many well-known winemakers and their premium vineyards.

Just like in former times, Nik and his team do not erase whole vineyards at their estate but replace single vines only. By doing so, the diversity of the vineyards automatically increases and can be seen as part of the quality fundament of Nik's authentic, fine, well-balanced and aromatic Rieslings.

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