

## ***2006 TEIRA Sonoma County Merlot***

**Bill Knuttel ~ Winemaking Consultant**

*(Saintsbury, Chalk Hill, Dry Creek Vineyard)*

*Fruit Sources:* Dry Creek and Alexander Valleys, Sonoma County, California

*Varietal Composition:* 81% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Cabernet Franc

*Oak treatment:* 35% new French (Demptos)

*Production:* 466 cases

*Lab data:* 13.5% alcohol, pH 3.62 , TA 5.8 g/L, VA 0.75 g/L

### *Overview and Tasting Notes:*

Produced from **Merlot**, **Cabernet Sauvignon** and **Cabernet Franc** grapes sourced from hillside vineyards in the ***Alexander and Dry Creek Valleys*** of Sonoma County, this is a classic rich, ripe and structured Sonoma County Merlot with a nod towards Bordeaux.

Aromas of blackberry, plum, vanilla, coca, cedar and cigar box on the nose. Palate follows with mouth filling fruit of blackberry, plum, vanilla and light oak spice notes. Soft, smooth tannins integrate with good structure to make this a balanced, elegant Merlot from attack through the 45-second long finish.

Drink now through 2012.

