



2003 Estate Grown
Third Alarm Chardonnay
RESERVE
Russian River Valley

TECHNICALLY

HARVEST DATE:
**SEPTEMBER 24-30,
OCTOBER 1**

pH:
3.47

TOTAL ACIDITY:
.77

ALCOHOL:
14.5%

WINEMAKER:
CECIL DE LOACH

CASES PRODUCED:
1,500 CASES

RELEASE DATE:
AUGUST 2005

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE:
\$25

THE VINEYARDS

Cecil De Loach has been farming Russian River Valley Chardonnay for 30 years and was among a small group of vintners that helped define this region as premier Chardonnay country. This 2003 RESERVE "Third Alarm" Chardonnay was made from grapes grown in two vineyards. The first sits in the Piner-Olivet area, a region located in the southern part of the appellation. The other vineyard is located in a more northerly section of the appellation on benchland overlooking the river.

THE WINEMAKING

"Third Alarm" Chardonnay is a lot-selection Reserve wine. After tasting through every barrel of Chardonnay in the winery, the winemaking team chose the lots exhibiting the greatest complexity, intensity of flavor and overall balance to be bottled with the "Third Alarm" designation.

THE WINE

In choosing the lots to blend together for Third Alarm Chardonnay, we sought out complexity combined with intensity. We got it. Beginning with a light straw color, the wine shows off a distinctly tropical and creamy nose with notes of caramel and citrus, framed by melon and pineapple aromas. On the palate we enjoy the streak of crispness that runs across the palate carrying with it rich, long flavors of deep pear, ripe figs, notes of allspice and summer peach, all harmoniously melded together.