



# Merry Edwards Winery

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

## GEORGANNE VINEYARD

In spring 2006, Ken and Merry met Georganne and Bob Proctor at their home on Westside Road. The Proctors had purchased a lovely estate overlooking Dry Creek to the north and Russian River Valley to the south. They wanted to replace an old Chardonnay vineyard with Pinot Noir and needed advice on rootstock and clonal selections.

Sitting on their deck that first afternoon and sharing a glass of wine, Merry asked if they would be willing to lease the site. Georganne was thrilled, but had one request — rose bushes at the end of each row. When asked her color preference, Merry intuited the answer — yellow! On the way home, Ken and Merry chatted about the exciting potential of the property. Suddenly they had to stop and look at each other — their middle names, George and Ann, combined to form Georganne. This was a project that was meant to be...

Development began immediately with some 30 pits being dug to explore soil types. An unusual type of vine spacing was used to adjust for the differences in soil vigor. Rows were spaced 8 feet apart, but the distance between vines varied from 3 to 5 feet within the row. In addition, seven different irrigation blocks were installed to accommodate variations in soil drainage. Another innovation was to orient the rows at 20 degrees off magnetic north, to allow the leaf canopy to protect clusters from sunburn.

2009 was the first vintage of Georganne. Merry says, “I have high expectations for our newest vineyard. Even at a young age, the wines are showing deep color, generous dark fruit and rich, supple tannins.”

Acres: 7.25

Exposure: Varied — rolling hilltop

Soil type: Arbuckle Gravelly Sandy Loam

Rootstock: 10114

Year planted: 2006

Scion wood clone: UCD 37 (isolated by Merry Edwards at Mount Eden Vineyard, aka the *Merry Edwards* selection)

Vine spacing: Varied — 3, 4 or 5 x 8 feet; vertical trellis

Appellation: Russian River Valley