

## The other Cabernet

Jon Bonne, Chronicle Wine Editor

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"The profile of a Cab Franc drinker? They usually have a great cellar," says Pam Starr, who makes a smoky, ripe Franc under her Crocker & Starr label. (She's a Joguet fan.) "They get it that life is full of diversity. They can't have the plain box of Crayola crayons. They have to have the mega-box of colors."

## From the notebook

2006 Crocker & Starr St. Helena Napa Valley Cabernet Franc. No green meanies here. A hulking, extracted profile, with gobs of flavor - smoke, coffee, tangy raspberry atop black-fruit undertones, with a slightly aggressive kick at the finish. Plenty of sultry appeal (Starr calls the style "powerful, sexy, sappy") though its Franc roots aren't immediately apparent.



Craig Lee / The Chronicle

Crocker & Starr winemaker makes a smoky Cabernet Franc from grapes grown in a Napa Valley Vineyard.