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Delicato Family Vineyards Partners with Château Maris

Napa, Calif. - Delicato Family Vineyards has partnered with Château Maris, a winery located in France's Languedoc wine region, to import limited production biodynamically-farmed wines.

The move is a logical step for Delicato, a company known for its successful vineyard, bulk wine and case goods divisions. With over 10 domestic brands, Delicato Family Vineyards will fill a niche in its case goods portfolio by offering hard-to-find luxury wines from around the world.

"Château Maris is a groundbreaking addition to Delicato Family Vineyards portfolio," says Chris Indelicato, CEO. "The quality of Château Maris wines, and the care with which they are farmed, supports the philosophy to which Delicato Family Vineyards has always adhered. We feel very strongly that we have chosen the right partner and the right wines at the right time to enter the imports business."

Château Maris is an 85-hectare property in the Minervois La Liviniere Appellation of the Languedoc. La Liviniere is the first village in the Languedoc to be allowed to put its name after the appellation name on its labels, indicating that the *Institut National des Appellations D'Origine* has concluded that this area produces distinct quality wines.

Château Maris is deeply committed to the principles of biodynamic farming--composting, companion planting and using vegetable oil as biodiesel fuel are commonplace.

Chateau Maris Owner Robert Eden feels that he has found an import partner that supports the Chateau Maris philosophy. "Delicato's family spirit and evident professional ability is an ideal partner for our wines and our ethical values," he says.

Delicato Family Vineyards will import 4000 cases of Château Maris 2004 La Touge Syrah (\$27), Château Maris 2004 Old Vine Syrah (\$42), Château Maris 2004 Old Vine Grenache (\$51) and Château Maris 2004 Minervois (\$17). Initial launch markets include New York, California, Boston, Oregon, Washington, Florida, Texas, and Las Vegas.

Delicato Family Vineyards has farmed premium vineyards in California for over eighty years. Delicato Family Vineyards brands include Delicato Family Vineyards, Gnarly Head, Irony, Clay Station, Night Owl, Chateau Maris and Monterra.

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