Welcome to the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance’s (CSWA’s) first Certified California Sustainable Winegrowing (CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE) Annual Report, a yearly update on statistics and progress in grower and vintner adoption of sustainable practices.

**CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE FROM GRAPES TO GLASS**

Through annual third-party audits, CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE provides independent verification of stringent requirements that ensure key sustainability areas such as soil health, water and energy, habitat, human resources, etc. are addressed. Certified vineyards and wineries must also measure resources and performance and improve year after year.

**CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IS KEY TO SUSTAINABILITY**

Continuous improvement is a core tenet of sustainability. All certified vineyards and wineries identify, prioritize and achieve practice improvements annually, which are verified during third-party audits. These enhancements help the vineyards and wineries improve while benefiting the broader community and long-term viability of the California wine industry.

**NEW CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE WINE LOGO**

CSWA updated the program in 2017 to enable use of a new logo on wine labels. This logo signifies that wine was made in a CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE winery with 85% or more of winegrapes from certified vineyards and 100% of grapes from California.
1,099 VINEYARDS CERTIFIED

130,375 ACRES
OF THE 602,000 TOTAL CALIFORNIA WINEGRAPE ACRES 22% ARE CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE

127 WINERIES CERTIFIED

211.5M CASES
OF THE 286 MILLION WINE CASES PRODUCED IN CALIFORNIA 74% ARE MADE IN CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE WINERIES

BY THE NUMBERS

GROWING RAPIDLY

+46%
increase in the number of CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE vineyards in 2017

+20%
increase in the number of CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE wineries in 2017

COMMITMENT TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

2,500
Successfully completed action plans by CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE vineyards and wineries in 2017, which increased their overall sustainability. Some examples of issues addressed in action plans in 2017 are listed on the left.
**VINEYARDS**

*I truly believe great wines are grown in the vineyard. Certified Sustainable Vineyards demonstrate a commitment to care for the land and people that provide the high quality grapes for the wines we love in an economically viable manner.*

—Jim Collins, E & J Gallo Winery

The following 2017 data demonstrates the 1,099 CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE vineyards’ commitment to sustainable practices, many of which go above and beyond minimum certification requirements.

### WATER EFFICIENCY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Developed comprehensive water management plans to optimize water use efficiency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96%</td>
<td>Measured their water use using flow meters or other methods such as calculation based on duration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88%</td>
<td>Used drip irrigation systems to deliver the optimum amount of water to each vine.</td>
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</table>

### PEST MANAGEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Monitored for pests as part of an Integrated Pest Management program to prevent and manage pests responsibly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Explored low risk alternatives before applying pesticides and established buffer zones to protect sensitive areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86%</td>
<td>Used cultural practices, such as cover crops and leaf removal, to naturally manage pests and reduce the need for pesticides.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HEALTHY SOILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Allowed vegetation to grow in the vineyard, used cover crops and/or composted to improve soil health and structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90%</td>
<td>Used plant tissue analysis results to help make nutrient application decisions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66%</td>
<td>Reduced or eliminated tillage to lower the rate of organic matter breakdown and improve soil structure.</td>
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### ENERGY EFFICIENCY

<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>88%</td>
<td>Reduced energy use through water pump improvements, which targeted the largest energy saving opportunity in the vineyard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67%</td>
<td>Conducted an energy audit of the vineyard irrigation pump within the last five years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>Tracked the fuel used and utilized practices and technologies to increase fuel efficiency.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STEWARDSHIP

94% of certified vineyards created or maintained nesting habitat such as bird boxes or natural perches.

91% of certified vineyards used practices such as cover crops to minimize or eliminate rainfall runoff, and added drainage systems on slopes if needed.

83% of certified vineyards preserved or created vegetative buffer strips on banks of watercourses to protect water quality.

99% of certified vineyards and 91% of certified vineyards provided contact information and responded to community concerns to create meaningful relationships.

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98% of certified wineries understood how winery operations may have affected neighbors and community stakeholders.

66% of certified wineries implemented a conservation strategy to reduce dust from roads to improve air quality.

NEIGHBORS

EMPLOYEES

97% of certified vineyards and wineries benchmarked compensation levels within the industry and/or by location to ensure competitiveness.

89% of certified wineries and 74% of certified vineyards conducted safety audits and employee safety training meetings at least quarterly.

78% of certified vineyards and 94% of certified wineries encouraged employees to attend educational events to enhance their skills.

99% of certified wineries and 91% of certified vineyards volunteered or provided other contributions to enhance their local community.

95% of certified wineries and 82% of certified vineyards enhanced the arts and culture in their community through financial contributions or volunteering.

74% of certified vineyards and 82% of certified wineries donated resources or volunteered to benefit the environment.

CONTRIBUTIONS

COMMUNITY

“OUR GUESTS, BOTH RETURNING AND NEW, APPRECIATE THAT SUSTAINABILITY IS ONE OF OUR CORE VALUES. WE STRIVE TO CONTINUALLY IMPROVE AND THE PROCESS IS PRACTICAL AND SUPPORTIVE ON MULTIPLE LEVELS.”

—CLAUDIO PONTE, PONTE WINERY
WINERIES

“THE PROGRAM HELPS ME UNDERSTAND MY OPERATIONAL SHORTCOMINGS, AND OFFERS TOOLS TO CORRECT THOSE, SO THAT AT THE END OF THE DAY I AM A BETTER FARMER.”
—DOMENICK BIANCO, HALL WINES

The following 2017 data demonstrates the 127 CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE wineries’ commitment to sustainable practices, many of which go above and beyond minimum certification requirements.

WATER EFFICIENCY

100% pre-cleaned their equipment and used high pressure/low volume nozzles to save water during cleaning.

92% measured total water use and monitored water use throughout the year as part of water conservation efforts.

81% reused winery water by applying it in the vineyards and/or landscaping if permissible.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

95% made energy efficiency improvements to refrigeration systems, which is the largest energy user in the winery.

91% conducted an energy audit of their winery to save energy, control costs and increase profitability.

47% implemented a renewable energy system such as solar power and/or received power from a third-party renewable power source.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

100% separated glass into recyclable glass and non-recyclable lab glass, and disposed of nonrecyclable lab glass as solid waste.

81% conducted a solid waste audit within the last five years and monitored solid waste generation throughout the year.

65% composted pomace and lees onsite for use on vineyards or landscaping.

SUPPLY CHAIN

98% included environmental considerations in purchasing decisions, and undertook research into alternative materials and products.

93% reused packaging material from suppliers at the winery, such as cardboard boxes.

90% asked service providers about their environmental practices and included environmental consideration requirements for procured services.
CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE MEETS INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS REQUIREMENTS

SCS Global Services – a leader in third-party environmental, sustainability and food quality certification, auditing, testing and standards development – issued the following assurance statement:

CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE has undergone a robust third-party assessment of its standard development process and assurance program by SCS Global Services, and has successfully demonstrated overall compliance with the requirements of an assessment framework based on the requirements of internationally recognized standards and assurance systems, including ISO/IEC Guide 59:1994, ISO/IEC 17065:2012, and ISEAL Credibility Principles.

GET INVOLVED

CHOOSE CALIFORNIA WINES
By choosing California wines, you are supporting an industry dedicated to environmental stewardship and socially equitable business practices.

PLAN A CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE TOUR
Plan a CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE tour of wine country by using our interactive map.

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR!
Learn more about sustainability and take our free one-hour online certificate course for wine lovers and wine professionals.

LEARN MORE ABOUT CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE
View a detailed description of what it takes for vineyards, wineries and wine to be CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE.

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CSWA IS CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF EDUCATION AND OUTREACH!

CSWA is a nonprofit organization that has been promoting the benefits of sustainable winegrowing practices, enlisting industry commitment, and assisting in implementation of the Sustainable Winegrowing Program for the past 15 years. CSWA administers CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE.