Welcome to the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance’s (CSWA’s) 2019 CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE Annual Report. This report is an annual benchmark of major accomplishments of Certified California Sustainable Winegrowing (CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE) and certified vineyards and wineries. In 2019, wines bearing the CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE wine logo — first available for the 2017 vintage — reached the milestone of nearly 1 million cases!

**BENEFITS OF CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE:**

**Good for the Environment**
Sustainable winegrowing conserves natural resources, improves air and water quality, and protects ecosystems and wildlife habitat.

**Good for the Community**
Sustainable winegrowing promotes stewardship of natural and human resources, with growers and vintners contributing to their communities both economically and culturally.

**Good for the Grapes & Wine**
Sustainable winegrowing requires in-depth attention to detail and continuous improvement resulting in high quality winegrapes and wine.

**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 and more are addressed. Certified vineyards and wineries must also measure resources and performance and improve year after year.
Wine bearing the CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE logo or claims must be made in a certified winery, using at least 85% grapes from certified vineyards (including CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE, LODI RULES, or SIP Certified®) and 100% from California. The winery must also complete a chain of custody audit.
2019 data demonstrates 2,097 CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE vineyards’ adoption of sustainable practices, with many going beyond certification requirements.

**WATER EFFICIENCY**
- 100% developed comprehensive water management plans to optimize water use efficiency.
- 88% measured their water use using flow meters or other methods such as calculation based on duration.
- 97% used drip irrigation systems to deliver the optimum amount of water to each vine.

**PEST MANAGEMENT**
- 100% monitored for pests as part of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program to prevent and manage pests responsibly.
- 100% explored low risk alternatives if applying crop protection materials and established buffer zones to protect sensitive areas.
- 88% used cultural practices, such as cover crops and leaf removal, to naturally manage pests and reduce the need for crop protection materials.

**HEALTHY SOILS**
- 99% allowed vegetation to grow in the vineyard, used cover crops and/or composted to improve soil health and structure.
- 97% used plant tissue analysis results to help make nutrient application decisions.
- 68% reduced or eliminated tillage to lower the rate of organic matter breakdown and improve soil structure.

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY**
- 91% conducted an energy audit of the vineyard irrigation pump within the last five years.
- 92% reduced energy use through water pump improvements, which targeted the largest energy saving opportunity in the vineyard.
- 57% tracked fuel use and utilized practices and technologies to increase fuel efficiency.

“CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE CONSTITUTES A PEER-DRIVEN, SCIENTIFICALLY SOUND APPROACH FOR INTEGRATING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AND TECHNOLOGIES INTO STANDARDS THAT ENABLE GROWERS AND VINTNERS TO MEET SOCIETAL AND MARKETPLACE EXPECTATIONS. IT ALSO MAINTAINS THE FLEXIBILITY FOR SITE-SPECIFIC CUSTOMIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT.”

— JOE BROWDE, ACCREDITED AUDITOR
### Steewardship

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<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>97%</td>
<td>Of certified vineyards created or maintained nesting habitat such as bird boxes or natural perches.</td>
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<tr>
<td>98%</td>
<td>Of certified vineyards used practices such as cover crops to minimize or eliminate rainfall runoff, and added drainage systems on slopes if needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>92%</td>
<td>Of certified vineyards preserved or created vegetative buffer strips on banks of watercourses to protect water quality.</td>
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### Employees

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<td>93%</td>
<td>Of certified wineries and 79% of certified vineyards encouraged employees to attend educational events to enhance their skills.</td>
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<td>90%</td>
<td>Of certified wineries and 84% of certified vineyards conducted safety audits and employee and safety training meetings at least quarterly.</td>
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<td>88%</td>
<td>Of certified wineries and 70% of certified vineyards benchmarked compensation levels within the industry and/or by location to ensure competitiveness.</td>
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### Neighbors

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<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Of certified vineyards provided contact information to neighbors and responded to community concerns to establish open dialogue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>82%</td>
<td>Of certified vineyards understood how vineyard operations may have affected neighbors and community members.</td>
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<tr>
<td>69%</td>
<td>Of certified wineries implemented a conservation strategy to reduce dust from roads to improve air quality.</td>
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### Contributions

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<td>99%</td>
<td>Of certified wineries and 74% of certified vineyards enhanced the arts and culture in their community through financial contributions or volunteering.</td>
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<td>96%</td>
<td>Of certified wineries and 68% of certified vineyards donated resources or volunteered to benefit the environment.</td>
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<td>84%</td>
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### Community

“From companies that have many years of sustainability leadership to other companies that are just getting started on their sustainability journey, it is becoming clear that most people are beginning to recognize that sustainability is not just the right thing to do—it also creates long-term value for the business.”

— Josh Prigge, Accredited Auditor
"WATCHING VINEYARDS AND WINERIES THAT HAVE BEEN CERTIFIED FOR MULTIPLE YEARS IS WONDERFUL AS YOU ARE ABLE TO WITNESS THE SUSTAINABILITY DIALOGUE GROW AND BECOME MORE COMPLEX. CERTIFICATION ALLOWS INTERNAL COMMUNICATION AND CREATIVENESS AS A TEAM THAT MIGHT NOT HAPPEN WITHOUT OPENING THE DOORS TO SUSTAINABILITY."

— EMILY FARRANT, ACCREDITED AUDITOR

2019 data demonstrates 149 CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE wineries’ adoption of sustainable practices, with many going beyond certification requirements.

WATER EFFICIENCY

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

99% measured total water use and monitored water use throughout the year as part of water conservation efforts.

86% reused winery water by applying it to the vineyards and/or landscaping if permissible.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

98% made energy efficiency improvements to refrigeration systems, which is the largest energy user in the winery.

97% conducted an energy audit of their winery to save energy, control costs and increase profitability.

45% 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 non-recyclable lab glass as solid waste.

94% conducted a solid waste audit within the last five years and monitored solid waste generation throughout the year.

64% composted pomace and lees onsite for use on vineyards or landscaping.

SUPPLY CHAIN

100% included environmental considerations in purchasing decisions, and undertook research into alternative materials and products.

98% reused packaging material from suppliers at the winery, such as cardboard boxes.

95% asked service providers about their environmental practices and included environmental consideration requirements for procured services.
GET INVOLVED

A CALIFORNIA-WIDE COMMITMENT
In 2019, over 40% of CA vineyards were certified to CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE, LODI RULES, Napa Green, and/or SIP Certified. In addition, many vineyards and wineries are certified Biodynamic®, California Green Business Program, Fish Friendly Farming and Organic.

These logos indicate that the Vineyard, Winery, or Vineyard & Winery are CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE.

Learn more about program requirements, annual third-party audits and the 58 vineyard and 37 winery prerequisite practices by visiting www.sustainablewinegrowing.org/certification2019data

ABOUT CALIFORNIA SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING ALLIANCE (CSWA)
CSWA is a nonprofit organization that promotes the benefits of sustainable winegrowing practices, enlists industry commitment, implements the Sustainable Winegrowing Program, and administers CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE – a third-party certification program for California growers and vintners that adheres to international sustainability standards.