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# Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand®

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Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand® was established in 1995 as an industry initiative directed through New Zealand Winegrowers. The programme was commercially introduced in 1997 and adopted by growers from all the grape growing regions. The introduction of winery standards in 2002 has been a significant development, which further substantiates the industry commitment to sustainable production.

Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand® was developed in order to:

- Provide a 'best practice' model of environmental practices in the vineyard and winery.
- Guarantee better quality assurance from the vineyard through to the bottle.
- Address consumer concerns regarding products which are made taking care to respect the environment.

## What is Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand®?

Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand® is an integral part of the future of New Zealand wine production. It is a proactive environmental management system that enables the production of high quality wine by employing environmentally responsible and economically viable processes in vineyards and wineries. Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand® is designed to ensure companies operate with a goal of continually improving their operational practices, including:

- Well Trained, Environmentally and Safety Conscious Growers
- Sustainable Site Management
- Site, Rootstocks, Variety and Planting System for New Vineyards
- Soil Management and Vine Nutrition
- Cover crop and irrigation Management
- Water Management
- Irrigation
- Frost Protection
- Vine Training and Crop Management
- Integrated Plant Protection
- Efficient and Safe Spray Application Methods
- Permitted Chemicals

## Audit

Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand® has an external audit structure that has integrity and rigour to comply with market expectations. Water and Atmosphere Information Ltd (WAI) conducts the audits for Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand® for both vineyard and winery requirements. WAI has extensive background in the viticulture, horticulture and aquaculture industries and involved since the commencement of the SWNZ program in 1994.