



# CENTRAL COAST VINEYARD TEAM

## Sustainable Winegrowing Update

good for the growers - good for the environment - good for the community

Spring 2008

### Earth Day Food & Wine Festival

Saturday, April 19, 2008  
[www.earthdayfoodandwine.com](http://www.earthdayfoodandwine.com)

### Sustainable Ag Expo

November 13-14, 2008  
[www.sustainableagexpo.org](http://www.sustainableagexpo.org)

## Executive Director's Report

Kris O'Connor, Executive Director

Spring is typically a busy time of year for us, and 2008 is no different.

Of course, the Earth Day Food and Wine Festival is right around the corner on Saturday, April 19. Considering that this is only the event's second year, and that it is definitely different from what we've done for the last decade (this is nothing like a tailgate), we are extremely excited about the response we've received. Not only have consumers been extremely supportive, but winery, ag producers, and related companies have stepped up to support this event. We have over 150 wineries, chefs, farmers, exhibitors, and sponsors participating this year. We've seen a tremendous increase in web traffic, increased connections to other ag producers, and amazing press coverage that probably wouldn't have happened otherwise. This is a super event that supports our programs and mission and can potentially help us raise non-grant based funds. So talk it up - tell your friends - bring your family - and we'll see you in Santa Margarita.

I recently returned from Kansas City where I had the privilege of speaking at the 25th Anniversary Conference for USDA Sustainable Ag Research and Education program. It was quite a pleasure to learn about the fantastic programs going on throughout the country in various regions and commodities. I'm always pleased and rewarded when I visit a conference well outside of our area and meet people who are familiar with our programs. And it is quite fun to meet people who are learning from CCVT's experience and incorporating these lessons into their new programs.

In March, Jill and I flew to Seattle, where we had a day long work session with several people from the Hartman Group. Many of you probably remember that we had Hartman researchers speak at our first annual meeting at the Cliffs and our 3rd Sustainable Ag Expo. As CCVT moves forward in growing its winery member program, community outreach, and certification program, we are working with the experts on how to best communicate what we do to the diverse audience that we reach. The result of the meeting was a clarity on concepts and language that resonate well with a variety of people - both trade and non-trade - and will provide the foundation for an integrated communications campaign that bridges our education, hospitality, membership, and consumer programs.

And the certification process continues. We have incorporated the comments from over 50 academic, non-profit, environmental, and agency experts and are finishing our companion auditor document. The pilot growers are in place, and we're finalizing conversations with a few auditors regarding the pilot program. In addition to all of this hard work, we've been meeting with attorneys and accountants to learn about the potential business structures and arrangements that can evolve from a certification program.

So, we're busy with tailgates, membership, Expo planning, field research and demo's, certification, and Earth Day, but we're still finding time to look forward strategically to make sure that CCVT can continue to provide education and services to the industry. Thanks again for supporting us, and we look forward to seeing you soon! Kris

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# Recycle Your Pesticide Containers

By Jacob Terrell, E & J Gallo & Gaylene Ewing, Central Coast Vineyard Team

Have you ever wondered what to do with your old pesticide containers? Many Central Coast landfills accept certified triple-rinsed pesticide containers but do not have a program that recycles them. Cold Canyon Landfill in San Luis Obispo will **recycle** your triple rinsed containers **free** of charge. Cold Canyon bales them and ships them to Northern California where they spend their second life as plastic road bumpers, plastic lawn borders, and many other uses.

In an effort toward sustainability, doing your part to properly recycle pesticide containers helps to reduce the amount of solid waste in our landfills.

Cold Canyon Landfill requires a signed Pesticide Container Certificate from the County Ag Department; which is simply a quick inspection of your containers to ensure that they have been triple rinsed and punctured. This certificate can be obtained by visiting the SLO County Ag Department between the hours of 1-5pm Monday through Friday. You can also set up an appointment with them to come out to your site. Please call Cold Canyon Processing to make an appointment to drop off the containers.

For more information about the recycling program please contact:

## San Luis Obispo County Ag Department

<http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/agcomm>

T: 805.781.5910

## Cold Canyon Processing

T: 805.543.0280

## PESTICIDE CONTAINER RINSE PROCEDURE

**1** Use the following amount of water or other designated spray carrier for each rinse.

Size of Container	Amount of Rinse Water
Less than 5 gallons	1/4 container volume
5 gallons or more	1/5 container volume

**2** Place required minimum amount of rinse medium in the container, replace closure securely and agitate.

**3** Drain rinse solution from container into tank mix. Allow container to drain 30 seconds after normal emptying.

**4** Repeat (2) and (3) above a minimum of two times so as to provide a total of three rinses, or a jet rinse equivalent to the triple rinse procedure may be used. A closed system must be used to rinse containers holding Category 1 materials.

**Note:** This rinse procedure is considered inadequate for containers larger than 28 gallons and SLO Ag Commissioner's Office is unable to certify them at this time.

## Sources

San Luis Obispo County Ag Commissioner's Office  
[www.slocounty.ca.gov/Assets/AG/assets/Pesticide+Container+Disposal.pdf](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Assets/AG/assets/Pesticide+Container+Disposal.pdf)

*The Laws and the How To's of Recycling Pesticide Containers, Disposing of Hazardous Waste and Other Agricultural Stuff*  
May 2007 Farmer & Rancher Magazine, Mary Silveira

## 2008 CCVT Grower Education and Outreach Schedule

### Pest Management Using Phenology

April 8 – Monterey Co.

April 9 – San Luis Obispo Co.

April 10 – Santa Barbara Co.

### CCVT Demo / Trial Site Visits

May 13 – San Luis Obispo Co.

May 14 – Santa Barbara Co.

May 15 – Santa Clara Co.

### Small Farm Equipment Demonstration

May 29 - Templeton, Pomar Junction Vineyard

### Member Luau's

June 15 – Monterey County

June 16 – Santa Barbara Co.

June 17 – San Luis Obispo Co.

### SAVE THE DATE!

### 2008 Sustainable Ag Expo

November 13 - 14 - Monterey County Fairgrounds

**For more information and to RSVP for an event, please contact Kyle Weichert at 805-369-2288 ex. 4 or email him at: [kweichert@vineyardteam.org](mailto:kweichert@vineyardteam.org) or visit our online calendar:**

[www.vineyardteam.org/calendar](http://www.vineyardteam.org/calendar)

Note: Dates subject to change so be sure to check our website prior to attending each event.

# Alternative cover crop management for drought years

Mark Battany, Farm Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

From *Grape Notes* December 2007

*Terminating annual cover crop growth at an early date can increase soil moisture storage for use by the vines later in the season; this strategy may be very advantageous for dry years, or areas where the supply of summer irrigation is uncertain.*

Winter cover crops provide numerous benefits for vineyards; their vegetation protects the soil from the destructive impact of raindrops, their roots hold soil in place and prevent erosion, their uptake of soil nutrients during vine dormancy minimizes the leaching of nutrients, and their residues increase the organic matter content of the soil. However, all of these benefits come at the cost of water consumption by the cover crop. In wetter years on heavy soils the consumption of soil moisture by a cover crop can be very desirable, helping reduce excessive vine vigor (Monteiro and Lopes, 2007). However, during drought years, water use by a cover crop may be detrimental to vine growth, leading to increased irrigation requirements later in the season. During these drier winters, it may be more prudent to manage cover crops with the goal of maximizing soil moisture storage.

Research plots can provide some example data as to how much water a cover crop can consume. In Figure 1, the soil moisture content in a hillside vineyard which has both cover cropped row middles (barley) and bare soil middles is compared; this data was collected during the 2006/2007 winter west of Paso Robles. Six significant rainfall events are

indicated by arrows; after each event, the soil moisture level increases notably, as expected. After each storm, the soil moisture level in the cover cropped plots decreases more rapidly than in the bare soil plots, due to the consumption of soil moisture by the barley. Later in the spring, the soil moisture in the cover cropped plots decreases very rapidly, due to the larger size of the barley and the higher evapotranspiration rates at this time. In this example, the barley was allowed to continue growing until it senesced naturally; in doing so it consumed virtually all of the available soil moisture in the row middles. By vine bloom time in late spring, the cover cropped plots had significantly less soil moisture storage than the bare soil plots, with the difference equivalent to about 68 gallons per vine.

Of course, the bare soil plots in the preceding example were much more prone to erosion than the cover cropped plots. One way to have the soil-protecting benefits of cover cropping, while not losing large amounts of water to cover crop transpiration, is to intentionally stop the growth of the cover crop in late winter, before the large consumption of soil moisture occurs in the spring. Doing so should result

in a notable increase in soil moisture storage for later use by the vines as compared to allowing cover crops to continue growing and transpiring. Research in other regions has evaluated the use of such early mowing of cover crops (either chemically or mechanically) for the purpose of increasing the soil moisture storage in similar dry Mediterranean climates.

In South Africa, Van Huyssteen et al (1984) compared various treatments of rye and vetch cover crops, which were either allowed to grow and senesce naturally, or were chemically mown with glyphosate just prior to vine budbreak. The residues of the mown treatments were either removed (bare soil), left on the soil surface (mulched), or additional residues were applied (double

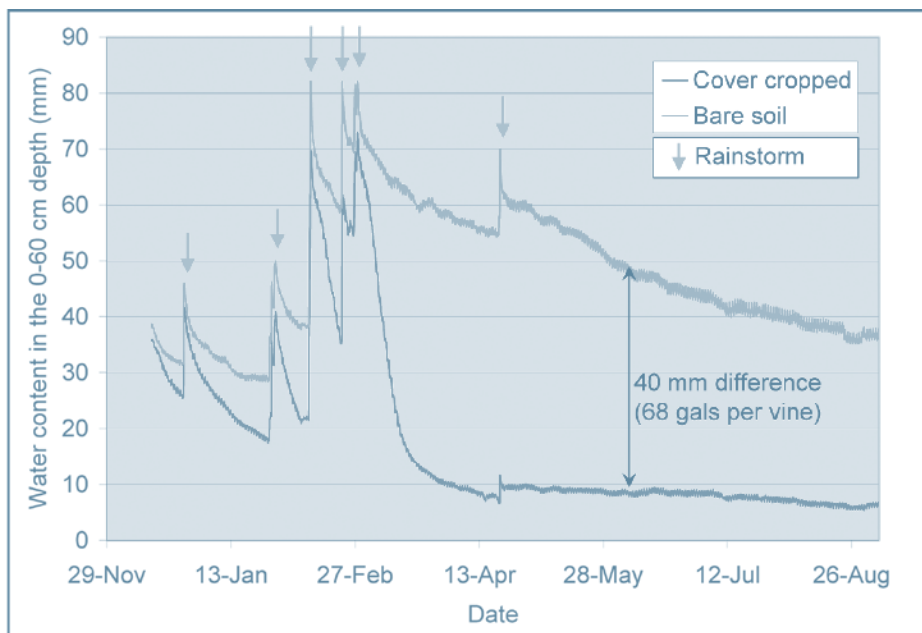


Figure 1. The soil moisture content in the surface 0-60 cm (0-2 ft) layer of a vineyard row middle; barley cover crop versus bare soil. Measured west of Paso Robles, in the winter of 2006/2007. Data collected in conjunction with the Central Coast Vineyard Team Proposition 50 grant project.

*Continued on next page...*



Figure 2. Small catchments, called 'aserpias' in Spanish, in a vineyard in the Jerez region of southwest Spain. These aserpias are shown the day after a heavy winter rain, where they have effectively detained and stored a large amount of rainfall which could otherwise have created a major runoff and erosion problem.

mulched). They observed significantly greater depletion of soil moisture after vine budbreak in the active cover crop treatments as compared to the three chemically mown treatments; the two actively growing cover crop treatments consumed 75 mm more soil moisture than the chemically mown/mulched treatments at vine bloom, which is equivalent to about 119 gallons per vine. The chemically mown/mulched treatments also retained more moisture than the bare soil treatment, due to a decrease in soil evaporation.

In hillside dryfarmed olive groves in Southern Spain, Castro et al (1991) observed significantly higher soil moisture content at the end of winter in cover-cropped groves as compared to soil which was kept free of cover or weed growth using tillage or herbicides. In these systems, the sloping bare soil has poor infiltration of rainfall, leading to large runoff losses; the presence of the cover crop increases soil infiltration of rainfall. The optimum time for mowing the cover crop in order to maximize soil moisture storage has been determined to be late March on average in that area (Castro and Pastor, 1991); the exact date each season may be different, based on how much rainfall has occurred that winter.

This type of management is now being employed in some of the commercial dryfarmed or minimally irrigated olive regions of Southern Spain. A grass cover crop is sown to begin growing with the earliest fall rains,

and at the optimum date to maximize soil moisture storage it is chemically mown with glyphosate, with the residues left on the soil surface. Grasses are the preferred cover crops because their residues do not decompose rapidly, thus serving as a better mulch.

If conservation of soil moisture for later use by the vines is our goal, the early termination of cover crop growth with chemical or mechanical mowing is a potentially useful management strategy. Ideally the cover crop would be allowed to grow just enough to provide adequate protection for the soil, but then stopped from growing before it consumes significant amounts of deeper

soil moisture which could otherwise be used by the vines. An advantage of this type of management system is that it allows one to leave the decision as to whether to terminate or keep the cover crop until relatively late in the winter; if the season turns out to be wet, the cover crop is allowed to continue growing, to consume excess moisture and build organic matter, while if the season turns out to be dry the cover crop growth is terminated early and soil moisture is conserved for later use by the vines. An interesting alternative soil management practice which foregoes the use of cover crops all together is employed in many vineyards in the Jerez region of southwestern Spain. Vineyards in this area are dry-farmed, so capturing and storing the rainfall is very important. The lightly-colored marl soils are very easily worked, but are also very prone to erosion, particularly on the hillsides where the vineyards tend to be planted. In the fall the row middles are tilled with a cam-operated blade which is alternately raised and lowered, creating a series of small catchments along the entire row length. The vine rows are also bermed, thus each catchment is surrounded by a soil berm on all four sides. These catchments effectively detain rainfall from large storm events, allowing the water to infiltrate into the soil rather than running down the slope (Fig. 2). In the late spring the catchments are tilled under and the soil is worked to a smooth surface

*Continued on next page...*

again. This soil management technique is not necessarily applicable elsewhere, as tractor usage is very intensive, but it is an interesting example of a how rainfall can be captured and stored in the soil for use by the vines, while reducing potential runoff and erosion problems. ■

**References:**

Castro, J., and M. Pastor. 1991. Study of the optimum time for chemical control with glyphosate of a live cereal mulch in unirrigated olive crops. Proceedings of the 1991 meeting of the Spanish Weed Science Society. Madrid, Spain. P. 191-197.

Castro, J., Saavedra M., and M. Pastor. 1991. Improvement in infiltration in olive groves through the use of a cereal cover crop. ITEA Produccion Vegetal. 88(2):95-104

Monteiro, A. and C.M. Lopes. 2007. Influence of cover crop on water use and performance of vineyard in Mediterranean Portugal. Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment 121(4):336-342

Van Huyssteen, L., Van Zyl, J.L., and A.P. Koen. 1984. The effect of cover crop management on soil conditions and weed control in a Colombar vineyard in Oudtshoorn. South African Journal of Enology and Viticulture, 5(1):7-17

## 2009 Sustainable Wall Calendar Photos

Do you have a beautiful photograph of your vineyard or winery? CCVT is now accepting photographs for the 2009 Wall Calendar highlighting sustainable practices at your vineyard and/or winery.

Submissions must be high quality photos, a minimum of 300 dpi at 9" h x 12" w. Please include the name of the vineyard, month or season in which the photo was taken, and the photographer's name.

Central Coast Vineyard Team  
Attn: Calendar Submission  
832 12th Street, Suite 204  
Paso Robles, CA 93446



or via email: [gaylene@vineyardteam.org](mailto:gaylene@vineyardteam.org)

## 2008 Earth Day Food & Wine Festival

**Celebrate with Earth-friendly Cuisine and Support Sustainable Farmers!**

Saturday, April 19, 2008  
Santa Margarita de Cortona Asistencia  
1:00 to 5:00 pm  
Santa Margarita, California

Unique and personal - this special event features sustainably grown foods and wines, live entertainment, silent auction with wonderful lifestyle packages, and exhibits featuring earth-friendly products and services. Enjoy this opportunity to chat with each producer to learn about their innovative farming practices while enjoying unlimited samples of the event's wine and cuisine.

To maintain the intimate nature of this event, we're limiting ticket sales. Reserve yours early to guarantee your spot!

General Admission - \$75  
Reserved Table of Eight - \$500

additional discounts for 2007 attendees and CCVT members  
contact our office for more information

[www.earthdayfoodandwine.com](http://www.earthdayfoodandwine.com)  
Kyle Wommack, Earth Day Coordinator  
[kyle@vineyardteam.org](mailto:kyle@vineyardteam.org)  
805.369.2288 Ext. 5

# Thank You 2008 Members

(as of March 6)

**Thanks to all who renewed your membership and welcome to new members. We want to be responsive to members' needs, so please let us know how we can better serve you. Your membership dollar is integral to maintaining our program and advancing our mission. So thank you for supporting our mission and trusting your membership dollar with us. Sustaining members are denoted in bold type.**

## Associate Members

Cal-Coast Machinery, Inc., Cal Poly CAFES, Caliber WinePak, Coastal Tractor, E P Aeration, Inc., Ecological Farming Association, Farm Supply Company, Helena Chemical Company, JB Dewar, Jim's Supply Company, Inc., Kendall-Jackson Nursery, MNS Engineers, Monterey Ag Resources, Pacific Ag Water, Precision Ag, Vintage Nurseries, Wilbur-Ellis/Soil Serv, Inc.

## Winery Members

Arroyo Robles Winery, Clesi Wines, **Diageo Chateau & Estate Wines**, Emilio Guglielmo Winery, Fetzer Winery, **Foster's Group**, Halter Ranch, Jack Creek Cellars, Jackson Family Wines, Kiamie Wine Cellars, Peachy Canyon Winery, Pessagno Winery, Tolosa Winery, Treana Winery/Hope Farms, Victor Hugo Winery, Zaca Mesa Winery

## Grower Members

Achevee Vineyards, Almond Hill Vineyard, Alta Vista Vineyard, Arciero Vineyard, Aron Hill Vineyard, Arroyo Seco Vineyards, Arroyo Seco Canyon Vineyards, Alta Loma Vineyard, Bear Valley Vineyards, Bianchi Winery, Big Red Vineyard, Boekenooogen Vineyards, Bowker Vineyards, Brave Oak Vineyard, Briarwood Vineyards, Brohaugh Vineyard, Carhartt Vineyard, Caroline's Vineyard, Carriage Vineyards, Casa de Caballos Vineyards, Casa Pau Hana Olive Farm, LLC, Castoro Vineyards, Cat Canyon Vineyards, Chalk Knoll Vineyard, Chequera Vineyards, Christopher Joyce Vineyard, CHEF Clinic, Clos LaChance Wines, Coastal Vineyard Care Associates, Coast View Vineyard, Corberosa Vineyards, Coyote Moon Vineyards, LLC, Creston Hills Vineyard, Cripple Creek Vineyard, Crossland Vineyard, Crother Vineyard, D'Anbino Vineyards & Cellars, Denner Vineyard, Dunning Vineyards & Winery, Estrella Valley Vineyard, Evenson Family Farm, Faith Vineyard, Falcone Family Vineyards, Felice Valle Vineyard, LLC, Filippini & Thompson Vineyards, Inc., Firestone Vineyards, Five Oaks Vineyard, Fletcher Family Vineyard, Foxen Vineyard, Inc., Frances James Vineyard, Thomas & Mary Freeman, French Camp Vineyard, **Gallo Family Vineyards**, Garey Ranch Vineyard, Hahn Estates, Halcyon Vineyards, Hidden Valley Vineyard, Hilliard Bruce Vineyards, Hohe Vineyards & Winery, J. Bond Cellars Vineyard, J. Lohr Vineyard, Jackson Family Wines, James Berry Vineyard, Janes Ranch Vineyards, Inc., KelNik Vineyards, Kiler Canyon Vineyard, Kokopelli Vineyard, Laetitia Vineyard & Winery, Laraneta Vineyards, Inc., Las Colinas Vineyard, LLC, L'Aventure, Live Oak Vineyards, Lockwood Valley Vineyard, Longshot Minx Vineyards, LLC, Luce della Vite Farms, Luft Vineyards, Malibu Vineyards, Mark Anthony Vineyards, McGourty Vineyard, Meritage Management, Inc., Michaud Vineyard, Mill Road Orchard, Mission Ranch Vineyard, Mitchella Vineyard & Winery, Nona Vineyards, Norman Vineyard, Oak Valley Vineyard, Ovation Vineyard, Penman Springs Vineyard, Pisoni Vineyards, Plummer Vineyard, Premiere Coastal Vineyard, Prestons' Vineyard, Pretty Penny Vineyard, Prosperity Vineyard, R&E Ranch & Vineyard, Ranchita Canyon Vineyard, Rancho Sisquoc, Rancho De Voladores, Red Hills Vineyard, Ridge Vineyards, Inc., RND Ranch/Whispering Hills Vineyards, Rock Basin Vineyards, Rolph Family Vineyards, San Bernabe Vineyards, Saucelito Canyon Vineyard, Saunders Vineyard, Sauret Vineyard, **Scheid Vineyards**, Schnabel Vineyard, Sea Smoke Vineyard, Sereno Vista Vineyard, Seven Quails Vineyards, Shandon Hills Vineyard, Shell Creek Vineyards, Sierra Madre Farms, Sierra Madre Holdings, LLC, Spencer Vineyard, St. Hilaire Vineyard & Winery, Ste. Nicolas Vineyard, Steinbeck Vineyards, Still Waters Vineyard, Stoller Vineyard, Sunnyslope Vineyard, Sutter Home Vineyards, Talley Vineyards, The Ranch at Cripple Creek, Twin Creeks Wines, Vines on the Marycrest, Vino Farms, Inc., Vista Grande Vineyards, Westigard Vineyards, White Hawk Vineyard, White Hills Vineyard, Windward Vineyard, Wine Horizons, LLC., Wines of Vinehill, Wolff Vineyards, Zabala Vineyards

If you haven't done so, please renew your membership today for great educational opportunities, web recognition, and discounts. We're getting 15,000 unique visitors to our website monthly - so don't miss out on your chance to reach possible customers!

Visit [www.vineyardteam.org](http://www.vineyardteam.org) for on-line membership renewals.

Questions about our program and why you should join?

Please call us at 805-369-2288.

## Grower Spotlight:

### John Salisbury

Salisbury Vineyards

What is your background and what brought you to the wine industry?

Born into it. Our family has been continuously farming in the state since 1850 and I am a sixth generation farmer. We have been in the table grape business since the late 1800s. My grandmother remembers picking wild grapes off on the levees in the Sacramento Delta with her mother and grandmother which were shipped via the family's paddle-wheeler. I was mostly in the tomato, asparagus, and pear businesses through-out the state and farmed tomatoes in Mexico (Los Mochis) just prior to coming to the Central Coast in 1996. I asked my friend Bob Steinhauer of Beringers and an Ag. Leadership classmate, where they were putting their money, and he said the Central Coast. So he armed me with a 65 acre contract which I used to develop and [eventually] sell around 250 acres in the Paso Robles area.

Tell us about your vineyard and winery.

Our vineyard in Avila Valley has 8 clones of Pinot Noir, 3 clones of Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio, Syrah, and Albarino. The soil is pretty shallow overlaying solid sandstone. The vineyard, with the exception of the newly planted Albarino, was planted in 2000. We have never used an insecticide, eliminated herbicides for several years, changed from sulfur to organic mineral oil for mildew spray, surfaced our roads to keep down dust, and are experimenting with organic fertilizers with the ultimate goal of being completely organic.

Our wine is made by "Superstars" including Harold Osborn of Kelsey See Canyon Winery, Steve Rasmussen previously of Talley, Signe Zoller previously with Meridian, and some by Jerry and Marsha DeAngelis of The Crush. We have 9,000 cases equivalent in cases or barrels and sell the bulk of it at our tasting room in the historic 100 year old Avila Valley Schoolhouse.

Salisbury Vineyard is a current CCVT research project site involving vegetative road management studies. How has being a project grower benefited you or what have you learned from CCVT projects?

Our main problem is runoff because

most of the vineyard is on some pretty steep slopes. Within a couple of minutes, whatever comes off the ranch is in the creek and in the Pacific Ocean in 20 minutes. Guess who's the first guy they are going to check out if there is a problem? We do not chop [our] grasses until they have gone to seed, including under the vine, so that we have seed that will germinate early in the Fall, plus, the resulting straw mat suppresses summer weeds. Even during the heaviest rainfall, most of the water leaving the vineyard and entering the creek looks clear enough to drink. CCVT just planted the trials a few months ago and we are excited about the results so far. We hope to integrate some of the [successful] grasses into our runoff management.

How does CCVT benefit you and your company?

We were an early member of CCVT and have always enjoyed the tailgates and more formal meetings for the great information that mostly comes from CCVT's efforts in the fields along side the growers. The concept of CCVT has always been the right one, especially with budget cuts impacting governmental research. [It excels] as a grassroots organization that has the interest of the grower at heart and has nothing to sell in the process.

What do you think are the biggest issues and challenges for the Central Coast wine industry? What do you think needs to be done to address these problems?

After the meeting of winegrape growers in Sacramento, it seems we need to plant more to sustain the growth in wine sales, or else imports (31% now) are going to make up the difference. The problem is who can afford it? China and India are buying up steel to sustain their growth and running up the costs of end posts, stakes, wire, etc. Plus, petroleum costs (PVC, drip lines, fuel, tires, etc) have tripled since the turn of the century. Ground is more expensive, and labor costs are not getting any cheaper. We need to figure out cheaper ways to establish vineyards.

Also, we need to attract more wine tourists to our growing areas and get them into the vineyards so we can tell our story. [To me,] there isn't a part of the agriculture industry that is more sustainable, progressive, or overall the best stewards of the land than winegrapes growers. Thanks to CCVT,



CAWG, and our winegrower associations, our contributions to the environment is getting out, but more is needed.

Finally, we need more research in our industry and long range planning like other countries are doing. That may take an assessment payment from growers and wineries but that is nothing new. As a grower, I paid for industry research through marketing orders in the cling peach, pear, and tomato business for years.

What are the biggest changes in sustainable practices that you have implemented in the last decade and what do you think the opportunities/challenges are in the future?

I see a desire from the wine buying public to know who, what, where, why, and how the wine gets into the bottle; from the field to the shelf. So we have to continue our sustainable ways to the point of being at least purely organic in the vineyards. Whenever I tell visitors in the field or in the tasting room that we feel it's our obligation to make sure their wine does not come from a toxic waste dump, we have them for life.

What do you do for fun; do you have any hobbies?

I've got to admit that after banging around in agriculture for the last 50 years, farming winegrapes is fun compared to the dozens of other crops from which I tried to make a living. Mostly, Maridel and I have 4 grandchildren under 6 years old locally and their parents are in the business so I get to play with them a lot. In fact, I have two car seats in the pickup and may have one or two of them at any given time with me in the field. My goal is to corrupt at least one of them to be a farmer and keep the generational thing going for another 150 years. My one selfish vice is restoring a 60 year old 35' steel tugboat for the last 10 years, which I hope to finally get in the water this Spring. ■

# Central Coast Vineyard Team

## our mission

The Central Coast Vineyard Team identifies and promotes the most environmentally safe, viticulturally and economically sustainable farming methods, while maintaining or improving the quality and flavor of wine grapes. The Team is a model for wine grape growers and develops the public trust of stewardship for natural resources.

## our values

Conservation - Integrity - Sharing - Learning - Innovation

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Special thanks to those serving on our Board of Directors. We have plenty of openings for committee members! Let us know if you'd like to support our programs by serving on a committee!

This publication is made possible by the generous support of our members and through grants from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, USDA, and CDFR. Content does not necessarily reflect the views of our members or funders.

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