

Wine is farming first, and we want to show how it can be successfully done in our region using environmentally-friendly processes.

Here are the methods we use as part of our farming practices:

**Weed control:** Rather than relying on herbicides, we take a more organic approach. We use a mechanical grape hoe for weed removal under the canopy and we use the traditional "by hand" method for weeding.

**Sprays:** We ensure that our rates of spray follow organic standards, rather than conventional spray standards.

**Our products:** Although we are not organically certified, we strive to follow organic practices with our chicken fertilizer, cover crop and fermentation nutrients. We walk through the vines daily for pest control. Early detection of disease pressure allows us to use lower rates in our spray program. Occasionally we do need to use a chemical product, but our proactive approach helps us to minimize that need.

**Bird abatement:** We use 6 bird squawkers, which make distress calls and predatory bird calls as a deterrent to birds entering the vineyard and eating our crop.

