

Nuestra Tierra



CALITERRA®

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NEWSLETTER



Caliterra Reforests with over 1,700 trees from the "Escuela Rural Radal" School.

The complement of native flora with a sustainable vineyard is one of the big innovations at Caliterra. A beautiful landscape composed by different grape varieties, hillside plantations and hills that change colours at sunset, will be complemented with native trees such as: Coigüe, Maitén, Peumo, Quillay (Soapbark Tree) and Roble (Oak) among others.

In the heart of the Colchagua Valley and under a Mediterranean climate, characterized by winter rains and a strong influence of fresh breezes that blow from the Rapel Lake and the Pacific Ocean; the weather conditions are perfect to reinforce and complement the grapes with native species.

Sustainable Viticulture

One of the main objectives of sustainable viticulture is to decrease the use of pesticides. This is done through different ways: increase in the use of our monitoring system, defining rational standards of threshold for control, environmental management, among others.

One of the essential facts related with what we mentioned before is the increase of biodiversity inside the vineyard. The use of plant carpets with a higher diversity of species in the habitat breakers, allow us to replace in part the ecologic variability that existed before planting the vines, permitting the natural enemies of different plagues to have refuge and food during the whole season. The native trees are essential for this biodiversity.



Habitat Breaker

At the moment of planting a conventional vineyard, all natural balances are broken since the vine is a monocultivation.

In a sustainable vineyard, we seek to rebalance the environment in such way that natural enemies of the vine plagues will have a shelter and food, developing a habitat where native trees coexist with vines, shrub species and herbaceous species, contributing with the biodiversity.

The total of species that will be reforested are: Coigue(6%), Lingue (1%), Maitén (8%), Maqui (1%), Molle (4%), Peumo (17%), Quillay (10%), Radal (2%), Raulí (1%), Roble (49%) and Temo (2%).



MAITEN
Maytenus boaria

Chilean native specie. This tree grows in the inland of the central regions and almost never in the coastal area. The Maytenus type of tree is endemic from Central and South America, and considers 70 species, from which two are Chilean: maitén and leña dura (*Maytenus magellanica*). These two varieties can be abundantly found in all the estate, in different kind of locations, such as in the lowest part of the field as well as in the hillsides. It has a wide adaptability to different types of soil.



PEUMO
Cryptocarya alba

Peumo grows wildly from the south of the Fourth Region to the Tenth Region; it can be found in the Coastal Mountains as well as in the Andes Mountains. This tree is also a native Chilean variety and an important part of the native forest present in our estate.



QUILLAY (SOAPBARK TREE)
Quillaja saponaria

This variety is found in the Central Valley, Coastal Mountains and Andes Mountains, between Coquimbo and Malleco. The main characteristic of this specie is the great adaptation in resisting infertile and dry environments. It is also well adapted to different types of soils such as loamy clay to silty soil. It is a very important part of the native flora present in estate and will also be very significant in the habitat breaker developments. It is possible to find this tree until about 2000 meters above sea level.



ROBLE (OAK)
Nothofagus glauca

This tree grows from Santiago to the south of Ñuble river. It is frequently found in the transversal chain of mountains in the Colchagua Valley. The hills of our property correspond to this area, and this is the main reason we have to increase the settlement of them, since until now there are only a few of them in our estate. A Mediterranean climate is necessary as well as long and warm summers. The tree adapts well to rocky sharp slopes. This kind of variety is in risk of extinction.



Origin of the Trees

One of the most important things of our Reforestation Project is the fact that the trees come from the "Escuela Rural Radal" school, located in the National Park Radal Siete Tazas area.

Since the beginning of each plant; the children, relatives and teachers of the school were who were entrusted to take care of the species, seeking for a perfect growth of each variety.

In the future, there is even the possibility of opening a National Park Ranger School, from where the best professionals will graduate from because of the closeness that the children of the "Escuela Rural Radal" school have with nature.