



RICCI CURBASTRO

Franciacorta

Sustainability Report

2022

Blooming apple trees



Ricci Curbasstro Museum and Cellar



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This Sustainability Report has been drawn up from the property and from the employees of the **Azienda Agricola Gualberto Ricci Curbastro & Figli S.S.**, in order to share the results of their constant efforts for a **sustainable vine-growing and wine-making.**



INTRODUCTION TO THE BUDGET

“The Earth is beautiful, but it suffers from a disease called Man” wrote Friedrich Nietzsche, but we like to think that as men we know how to learn from our mistakes and act immediately in seeking corrections without waiting for great political decisions.

However, the magnitude of the problems that sicken our poor Land might seem enormous compared to the smallness of each of us or our company, but this is not a reason to paralyze us and not act. **Thinking globally and acting locally has always**

been our way of dealing with the undertaking. So it was in 1980 when, **42 years ago, we decided to abandon the use of herbicides** in our vineyards the thrust was not only ecology but the awareness that the Ricci Curbastro family has been living on the fruits of the earth for 18 generations, that ours is a family business and that **we have the responsibility to safeguard the land and resources not only for current ones but also for future generations.**

So it was when **in 2005 we decided to achieve electrical**

self-sufficiency with the first photovoltaic system; we faced a business problem, the increase in the cost of energy, but also a desire for independence that sounded very avant-garde compared to the problems of the Earth. Today, on the eve of a 50% increase in our production capacity expected in spring 2023, we are driven by the same desire to do our part by reducing our footprint on the world but also by the awareness that the war unleashed by the Russians against Ukraine poses the theme of reducing our dependence on gas to heat offices.

So it was **in 2017 when we were the first Lombard company to obtain the certification of “sustainable company” with the Equalitas standard**, and we realized that this goal was the crowning achievement of four lusters’ work. When we realized that today the word sustainability is prey to communicative inflation¹, that the growing demands of consumers towards more natural, healthy, and socially correct products risk colliding with a growing green-washing due to the misuse in communication and promotion of the word sustainable we have also convinced ourselves that the road traveled by writing already 6 times our Annual Sustainability Report is the right one.

This report is therefore not just a set of numbers, but a demonstration that sustainability makes sense only if it is measurable. Yes, the data are collected and compared over the years, only if we give concrete answers to the different aspects of improving our activities combined with a reduction in our impact on the earth, only if numbers and data are certified by a third party through a certification scheme such as Equalitas, not coincidentally, therefore, our sustainability certificate will close these pages.

This report is our thanks to the growing group of consumers who not only demand more and more quality but also want to discover how our wines are produced and everything we do for corporate sustainability and the fight against climate change.

Finally, a consideration about war, a word that we thought was confined to school books or the poisoned fruit of poorly managed post-colonialisms or religious rivalries that nevertheless took place far enough away from us, instead appeared on the doorstep in Ukraine, on the borders of our Europe. We opened the doors to welcome those who fled, and still flee, from that horror, they are our guests in the company waiting for peace.

¹ Between October 15th and November 6th, 2022, the Corriere della Sera newspaper has published over 270 articles containing the word “sustainability” at least once, over 12 articles a day. Source Luciano Ferraro vice director of Corriere della Sera in “Il Corriere Vinicolo” n.38, published November 28th 2022.



MISSION

Eighteen generations of Ricci Curbastro have led, starting from Pietro, born in 1380, farms in Romagna and Lombardy. These centuries-old traditions are now represented by the Rontana estate of Brisighella (RA) and the Ricci Curbastro estate of Capriolo in Franciacorta.

The latter produced wines in bottles as early as 1800, as evidenced by labels of 1885 still preserved. It was transformed by Gualberto Ricci Curbastro into a modern wine-growing company since 1967, the year of establishment of the DOC Franciacorta of which he was one of the eleven founders.

Of the 32 hectares of farm area 31 are invested in vineyards.

The Company practices organic farming as a natural continuation of the various practices of reducing the environmental impact that began in 1980, over forty years ago. Since 2017 it has been among the top nine companies in Italy, first in Lombardy, certified as a **“Sustainable Company”** according to the Equalitas standard for its commitment from an environmental, economic, and social point of view.

The cellar in which the fermentations and the slow maturation of Franciacorta DOCG are carried out is built underground in a vast centuries-old park. Winemaking is followed by



Iris, olive trees and lavender

winemakers Andrea Rudelli, Annalisa Massetti, Riccardo and Filippo Ricci Curbastro, a mix of experiences for wines destined for the increasingly demanding palates of consumers all over the world. The company's production is well represented not only by Franciacorta DOCG but also by Curtefranca DOC and Sebino IGT wines.

Inside the rustic of the Ricci Curbastro Farm, there is the Agricultural and Wine Museum, a unique reality in Franciacorta that preserves thousands of objects that testify to the agricultural work of the past. Inaugurated in 1986, it is the result of a meticulous research activity by Gualberto Ricci Curbastro begun more than thirty years earlier. Four rooms, divided by themes and can be visited by reservation in order to accompany you and tell you about our work of the past and today. **Since 2021 the Museum is part of the Museimpresa Association.**



With the aim of continuing the path started in 2017 with the SOPD Equalitas certification - SUSTAINABILITY OF THE WINE-GROWING CHAIN: ORGANIZATIONS, PRODUCTS, DESIGNATIONS OF ORIGIN (SOPD) and in light of the results obtained:

- **in optimizing costs**
- **satisfying employees and customers**
- **respecting the environment**
- **enhancing the company's products**

the management has decided to commit itself also for 2021 in order to further implement the improvement actions envisaged by the Equalitas standard. The goal for 2023 is to make this approach a constant and a corporate obligation by modifying our bylaws and adopting the legal form of Benefit Corporation.

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THE SUSTAINABILITY TEAM:

Riccardo	Nicola L.
Gualberto	Beatrice
Filippo	Luciano
Annalisa	Lisa
Evelina	Marco
Nicola V.	Giuseppe
Roberta	



Baluardo vineyard, Torbiere and Lake Iseo

VISION

Historicity, tradition and familiarity are our fundamental tools with which to look to the future certain to be able to face the many challenges with the aim of producing sustainable wines, which respect the environment and enhance the territory and people. Through the development of themes of inno-

vation and research, with the aim of increasing more and more the quality of our wines combined with excellent value for money, contribute to maintaining economic sustainability to support the growth path. Our ability to combine tradition and innovation is the way to pursue the goal of a sustainable approach.



Riccardo, Gualberto and Filippo Ricci Curbastro set up an artificial nest.

GENEALOGICAL VINE

1380

Eighteen generations ago Pietro Ricci Curbastro was born in Romagna, perhaps the first of the Ricci Curbastro to be born in that region after the family had been forced into exile from his native Florence.

1572

Agostino Gallo, an agronomist from Brescia, publishes "The Twenty days of true agriculture and Pleasures of the Villa ". In the book Gallo speaks of a "cisiolo" wine, straw yellow, amiable, light, sparkling, much appreciated by the aristocrats of Brescia. "Cisiolo" and "mordace wine", mentioned in 1570 by the Brescian Gerolamo Conforti, are the ancestors of today's Franciacorta.

1809

The Napoleonic cadaster certifies the existence of almost 1000 hectares of vineyards in Franciacorta, a production well above the needs of the 40,000 inhabitants of the territory and therefore destined for sale outside the area.

1814

Year of construction of a barrel of the Ricci Curbastro winery whose dated stave is preserved at our Agricultural and Wine Museum.

1825

Davide Bertolotti in "Letters from Telgate or journey in Valcalepio to Lake Iseo and its surroundings" writes: "Lake Iseo borders at noon with Francia Corta, fertile province of Brescia, called the true vineyards of Bacchus, formerly adored there".

1878-1990

The average grape production of the company in Franciacorta amounted to 570 quintals per year with peaks of 1200 quintals in 1883 and 1888, the vineyards from 1895 will be completely destroyed by phylloxera.

1885

A company label testifies to the production in the Colzano di Capriolo vineyard.

1905

In the company, an experimental vineyard is created to test the behavior in the field of the different rootstocks of American vines and their crosses.



1908

The Consorzio Antifillosserico Bresciano publishes the first study map of the soils of Franciacorta with indications of the most suitable rootstocks to reconstitute the vineyards destroyed by phylloxera.

1946

Date of production of our oldest bottles in the collection, all previous reserves were lost during the Second World War. Riccardo and Evelina Ricci Curbastro build the new winery

1967

Gualberto Ricci Curbastro and 10 other producers create the Franciacorta DOC. With 11 producers, 29 hectares of vineyards and a production of 2000 hectoliters of Pinot di Franciacorta is the fifth denomination to be recognized in Italy.

1978

Gualberto Ricci Curbastro and his son Riccardo expand the winery now three times larger than the previous one.

1986

Gualberto Ricci Curbastro inaugurates the first room of the Ricci Curbastro Agricultural and Wine Museum.

1990

The voluntary Consortium for the protection of Franciacorta is born, and Riccardo Ricci Curbastro is appointed Vice President.

1993

Riccardo Ricci Curbastro was appointed President of the Consorzio Vini a Denominazione d'origine Franciacorta, and remained in office until 1999.

1995

Franciacorta is the first Italian wine produced exclusively with refermentation in the bottle to obtain the DOCG Denomination of Controlled and Guaranteed Origin. For still wines are born the denominations Curtefranca DOC and Sebino IGT.

2001

Gualberto and Riccardo Ricci Curbastro expand the winery again, now it is 25 times larger than that of 1946.

2010

With the completion of three solar-powered plants, the project started in 2002 is completed; the Ricci Curbastro is self-sufficient from an electrical point of view.



2012

Ricci Curbastro obtains its first UNI ISO 14064-1:2006 certification for the carbon footprint with a flattering -2,599 Kg of CO2 produced per bottle, in practice capturing CO2 for the equivalent of 5,000 trees.



2013

Gualberto Ricci Curbastro died at the age of 81, one of the eleven founders of modern Franciacorta.

2015

Ricci Curbastro becomes an entirely biological company.



2016

Gualberto Ricci Curbastro supports his father Riccardo in the management of the company.

2017

Ricci Curbastro is the first Lombard winery (the first 9th in all of Italy) certified Sustainable with the Equalitas SOPD Standard Sustainable Organization Module. Its Sustainability reports have since been published and published online.



2020

Work begins on the physical arrangement and cataloguing of the Ricci Curbastro Archive and Library.



2021

Filippo Ricci Curbastro supports his father Riccardo and his brother Gualberto in the management of the company.



Barcella vineyard



THE WINE PRODUCTION

The wines produced are produced exclusively from property grapes and vinified in the winery.

100% of the bottled products have a designation of origin: Franciacorta DOCG, Curtefranca DOC and Sebino IGT.

The Franciacorta after the first fermentation in steel or oak barrels, in the spring following the harvest are bottled with yeasts and sugar for the second fermentation in the bottle according to the Franciacorta method. After long aging in contact with the yeasts follows disgorgement with the addition of dosage syrup. There are six types of Franciacorta produced: Brut, Saten Brut, Rose Brut, Extra Brut, Dosaggio Zero Gualberto (Zero Dosage), and Demi-Sec, plus Museum Release with over ten years of aging on the lees.

Curtefranca DOC wines are produced in the white version with the use of Chardonnay and Pinot Blanc grapes and in the red version with the use of Carmenere, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Barbera grapes. Vigna Bosco Alto e Vigna Santella del Gröm represent mentions of “vineyard” resulting from a careful selection of the grapes and the great richness of the soil highlighted by the zoning research carried out by the

Consorzio Vini di Franciacorta in the early 1990s. **Sebino IGT wines** offer a wide range of styles and characteristics and are a testament to the richness and oenological diversity of Franciacorta. The wines produced include historical labels such as Brolo dei Passoni, Chardonnay Passito or Pinot Noir, rather than innovative and research projects such as Bianco Zero Treatments Zero Residue with PIWI grapes.



Harvest in Bosco Basso vineyard - Capriolo



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Objective 2

End hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Specific objective

2.4 - Ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, help protect ecosystems, strengthen capacity to adapt to climate change, extreme weather, droughts, floods and other disasters, and progressively improve soil quality.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

The study project, launched in 2012, on resistant varieties of PIWI. Study project on biodiversity in the vineyard in collaboration with the University of Brescia.



Objective 4

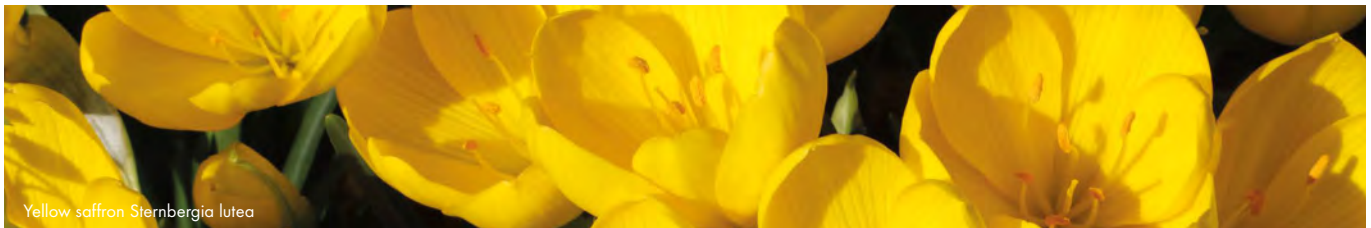
Provide quality, equitable and inclusive education and learning opportunities for all.

Specific objective

4.4 - Significantly increase by 2030 the number of young people and adults with specific skills-including technical and professional skills - for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Activation of training courses in the form of internships and school-work alternation with local educational institutions. Development of training courses and educational projects for schools.



Yellow saffron *Sternbergia lutea*





Objective 5

Achieve gender equality and emancipate all women and girls.

Specific objective

5.5 - Ensure full and effective female participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in the political, economic and public life.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Equalization of roles among company employees. Equal employment and wage opportunities between women and men.



Objective 6

Ensure everyone the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation facilities.

Specific objective

6.6 - To protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, swamps, rivers, aquifers and lakes, by 2030.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Preparation and analysis of the water footprint to analyze and evaluate the use of water with the aim of reducing waste.



Objective 7

Ensure everyone access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy systems.

Specific objective

7.2 - Significantly increase the share of renewable energy in total energy consumption by 2030.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Photovoltaic systems for energy self-sufficiency in the production of electricity.



Objective 8

Promote long-lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Specific objective

8.3 - Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and that encourage the formalization and growth of small and medium-sized enterprises, also through access to financial services.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Evaluation and selection of suppliers on the basis of their sustainability commitments, giving priority to local suppliers. Project the "Tre Vite dell'Albero", with the involvement of the prisoners of the prison of Alessandria in the construction of artificial nests through the recovery of the wooden staves of the barriques.

Specific objective

8.8 - Protect the right to work and promote a healthy and safe working environment for all workers, including immigrants, especially women, and the precarious.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Investment in training and safety at work. Zero work accidents in the last 12 years.

Specific objective

8.9 - Devise and implement policies by 2030 to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Investment in the development and implementation of the tourist offer of the Agricultural and Wine Museum. Possibility of the year-round visit of the estate with a particular focus on raising awareness of visitors on sustainability issues.



Objective 11

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, lasting and sustainable.

Specific objective

11.4 - Enhance efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Promotion and enhancement of the Agricultural and Wine Museum. Investment in digitization and usability of the Historical Archive and Library.





Objective 12

Ensure sustainable models of production and consumption.

Specific objective

12.5 - By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Investment in the purchase of a calculator for the annual analysis of the carbon footprint. Definition of clear company policies aimed at reducing waste production and the choice of materials and packaging that are more easily recyclable and have a lower environmental impact.

Specific objective

12.6 - Encourage companies, particularly large multinational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to incorporate sustainability information into their annual reports.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Annual preparation and publication of our Sustainability Report. Sharing sustainability policies with suppliers and choosing them, also taking into account virtuous initiatives adopted by them.



Objective 13

Promote action at all levels to combat climate change.

Specific objective

13.1 - Strengthening resilience and adaptation to climate and natural disaster risks in all countries

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Investment in the use of renewable energies, mainly through self-production with solar panels. Monitoring of environmental impacts through carbon footprint, water and biodiversity analyses.



Objective 15

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of the Earth's ecosystem.

Specific objective

15.5 - Take effective and immediate action to reduce the degradation of natural environments, stop the destruction of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect endangered species.

Projects Developed and activities undertaken

Project the Green Kilometer, which provides for the planting and management of over 1km of hedges and tree species for the restoration and maintenance of the biodiversity of the territories.



Goat



Hypericum hidcote

ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR

**That is the concrete commitment
of the Gualberto Ricci Curbastro & Figli s.s. for...**

The data reported in this report refer to previous years. As foreseen by the Equalitas standard, the calculation of the water footprint, carbon footprint and biodiversity indicators can take place only once during the three-year certification period.



BIODIVERSITY

During the month of June 2020 WBA Project Srl, a company controlled by World Biodiversity Association Onlus, carried out a second analysis of biodiversity at the Ricci Curbastro estate.

The verification of the biological quality of soil, water and air of wine sites in Capriolo (BS), through the application of the Biodiversity Indices of the Protocol "Biodiversity Friend®" it follows the first verification carried out in December 2018.

The **environmental aspects** of the Equalitas Protocol are evaluated, in relation to biodiversity, by applying the procedures provided for by the so-called "Biodiversity Indices", developed in 2010 by WBA Onlus for the evaluation of the conservation of biodiversity in agriculture, within the "Biodiversity Friend®" Protocol owned by the same WBA onlus.

The **evaluation of the environmental quality** of the agrosystem takes place by detecting the presence of particular organisms, called **biological indicators**, as they present: high sensitivity to pollutants, wide diffusion in the territory, low mobility and ability to accumulate pollutants in their tissues. With regard to soil, the specification provides for the analysis of **soil samples** in which the presence of **soil invertebrates** (annelids, collemboli, mites, isopods, myriapods, insects, etc.) is detected for the determination of the Soil Biodiversity Index (IBS-

bf), obtained by attributing to each group a score in relation to the role played in the dynamics of the edaphic ecosystem.

Out of a total of 3 sites detected (9 sub-samples, equal to 3 IBS-bf survey cards), 100% of the surveys were always sufficient, compared to the minimum score of 100 provided for by the Biodiversity Friend Specification for the IBS-bf Biodiversity Index survey. The overall score, average, useful for framing the results of the IBS-bf index at the Ricci Curbastro farm is equal to 128.33, therefore being sufficient.

Air quality assessment is carried out through the **Lichen Biodiversity Index** (IBL-bf). **Lichens**, symbiotic organisms between a fungus and algae, are very sensitive to air pollution caused by phytotoxic gases and are considered excellent biological indicators, often used in air biomonitoring, both in urban and rural environments. Lichens, in fact, are sensitive not only to urban pollution, but also to the excessive use of pesticides in agricultural areas. The calculation of the Lichen Biodiversity Index is based on the presence and frequency of epiphytic lichens detected on the bark of trees present in the countryside. The results of the activity made it possible to note that the lichen communities of the monitored places are overall discrete, reaching the minimum value of 59 (59.67 average value IBL-bf). Finally, **the quality of surface water** is evaluated by



Analysis of soil biodiversity

analyzing **the composition of aquatic invertebrate communities**. The calculation of the Aquatic Biodiversity Index (IBA-bf) is based on the presence in surface waters of aquatic macroinvertebrates with different tolerances to pollution; these are in particular plecoptera, trichoptera, ephemeroptera, mollusks, annelids, crustaceans, beetles and others. Each group is assessed with a specific score based on the group's sensitivity to pollutants.

Taking into account the sampling period, hydrography and geomorphology of the country area, it was not possible to detect permanent or semi-permanent flowing water situations in which the IBA-bf index could be applied. It is also reported that continuous irrigation is not practiced on the Ricci Curbastro farm.

**AQUATIC
INVERTEBRATES:**
used for the evaluation
of surface water
quality



LICHENS:
used for
the evaluation
of air quality



**ENDOGEAN
ANIMALS:**
interact continuously
with the physical
environment



**BIOLOGICAL
INDICATORS:**
used to assess
the environmental
quality of
the agricultural
system



BIODIVERSITY OF THE VINEYARD AGROECOSYSTEM

Innovative approaches for the systematic study of plant communities that characterize the vineyard agroecosystem through remote sensing.

In 2023 we will host in our company a PhD in Information Engineering aimed at completing a research project, developed by the Agrofood Research Hub of the University of Brescia, in collaboration with the Ricci Curbastro, started already in 2022.

The research aims to develop innovative systems for the study of plant, herbaceous and arboreal communities, present in the vineyard agroecosystem.

The survey is carried out through the application of remote sensing technologies, specifically through the use of drones, for the acquisition of images and artificial intelligence techniques for the interpretation of the acquired images.

The aim is to be able to characterize, with a high level of accuracy, the plant communities present within the vineyard and that surround it.

Currently, the investigation has been conducted through the use of chambers with reading in the visible spectrum (RGB, additive type color model as the sum of the three colors Red (Red), Green (Green) and Blue (Blue), hence the acronym RGB), with the prospect of being able to test this technique also through the use of multi-spectral chambers.

The use of artificial intelligence techniques for image analysis will allow the identification of plant communities and their composition



Apple and ladybug

up to, in some cases, discriminate against the individual species. **The richness of biodiversity at the level of insects and plants is important to have productive and healthy crops.** The microbiota, that is, the community of microorganisms that lives inside (endophytes) and above plants (epiphytes), is essential for plant life and the more diverse a microbiota is, the better it fulfils its functions.

For this reason, Ricci Curbastro has decided to engage not only in research on the biodiversity of its soils, calculated every two years, but also by creating uncultivated areas, hedges or groves to encourage biodiversity, even functional, which is of great importance in guaranteeing so-called ecosystem services.

One of these is the biological control carried out for example by natural antagonists who find in uncultivated areas shelter places to overwinter.

An ecology still partially known in its balances and therefore deserving of in-depth analysis from the perspective of an even more scientific and targeted sustainable commitment.

MANY CLONES FOR GREATER WEALTH

All plants, even those multiplied by vegetative means such as vines, tend over time to accumulate mutations thus creating a precious, even if reduced, genetic variability².

We have long known that implanting only the best clones means choosing only the “first of the class” thus renouncing that complexity of factors that make a community of people more interesting, the class, or in our case determining a genetic impoverishment of our vineyard and thus renouncing to have a set of



characters, for example, a bouquet of perfumes, more complex and therefore better.

Our choice for over thirty years has been to have only polyclonal vineyards³ that guarantee a wide genetic variability even within the same variety, for example, Chardonnay. A much more complex choice as complex are the biological phenomena of a system such as the vineyard and that has led us to the following results:

- Chardonnay n. 18 clones/ 15.7 ha vineyard
- Pinot Blanc n. 12 clones / 4.3 ha vineyard
- Pinot Noir n. 13 clones / 7.2 ha vineyard

VARIETY	CLONES	HECTARS
Chardonnay	18	15,7437
Pinot Nero	13	7,1687
Pinot Bianco	12	4,2599
Erbamat	1	0,2562

² Klekowski e Godfrey, 1989, Ageing and mutation in plants, Nature 340, 389-391

³ “A clone represents the vegetative offspring of a single vine plant. For selection purposes, this single vine plant is chosen for its varietal identity, its phenotypic characteristics and its health status” OIV-VITI 564A-2017 RESOLUTION

Harvest at the Bosco Basso vineyard



WATER FOOTPRINT

The water footprint is an indicator of the amount of freshwater used to produce goods or services.

May be a single production process, a product, or the total amount of water resources used in a company during all stages

of production. The water footprint is an indicator of sustainability, which allows us to evaluate the total quantity of water consumed or polluted. The data calculated and reported here relate to the agricultural year 2019/2020.



Baluardo vineyard

All of the company’s water consumption in the wine production chain has been considered.

The company takes water only from the aqueduct. In the absence of more precise data, the amount of water consumed for the vinification and bottling phases is divided according to the quantity of wine bottled. As for the water consumed for the management of the vineyards, the company counter is in common

with the Agriturismo, in this case, the indication of the company contact person was followed for the percentage distribution between the vineyard and the farm.

Below, **we report the quantitative estimates of company emissions per functional unit, distinguished by area and with the detail of the production activities calculated for the year 2020.**

		VINEYARD	CELLAR	BOTTLING
Impact Category	Measurement Unit	(Total/1 quintal of grapes)	(Total/1 liter wine)	(Total/1 0.75 L bottle)
Water use	m ³	5.49E+01	1.39E+00	1.78E+00
Aquatic acidification	kg So2 eq	3.73E-01	7.55E-03	1.30E-02
Freshwater eutrophication	kg P eq	1.61E-02	3.35E-04	1.00E-03
Freshwater Ecotoxicity	CTUh	1.81E+06	1.29E-07	3.16E-07
Human toxicity, cancer	CTUh	6.26E-06	1.48E-06	1.30E-06
Human toxicity, non cancer	CTUe	7.91E-05	3.61E+04	4.61E+04

From the above assessment, **it emerges that the most significant impacts are substantially due**, for the campaign phase **to fuels and pesticides, for the cellar phase to the consumption of electricity and for the bottling phase to the use of glass for bottling.** The present study provides an overall view of what are the contributions of the supply chain

to the company’s “water footprint”. Although absolute values do not represent a useful evaluation tool to date, which is better represented by percentage contributions, they nevertheless constitute a reference point on which to base assessments in future years. This being the first year of study, it will be considered as the reference year.



CARBON FOOTPRINT

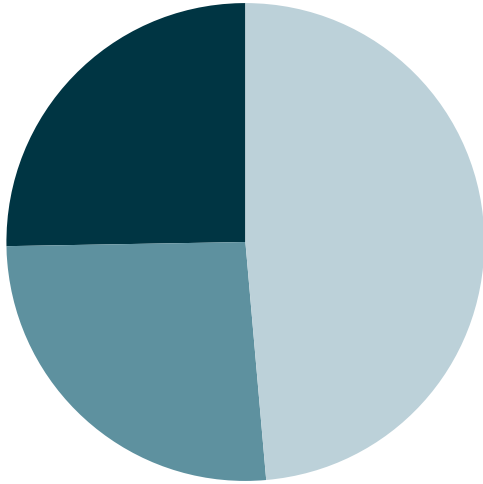
Our **passion for agriculture and the environment** in which we produce our Franciacorta and **the responsibility we feel we have for the next generations** requires us to tackle in a concrete way one of the most urgent environmental issues of our time: **climate change**. The most effective tool recognized by the scientific community to calculate greenhouse gas emissions in the voluntary field is the **Carbon Footprint**: a useful tool to make our environmental commitment even more evident and further improve our actions in this regard.

This sustainability report summarizes the most significant data related to the calculation of the carbon footprint carried out in 2020.

Iris in bloom in the Brolo dei Passoni Vineyard



ANALYSIS OF COMPANY EMISSIONS



% EMISSIONS BY AREA

Below is the percentage breakdown of total emissions by area considered:

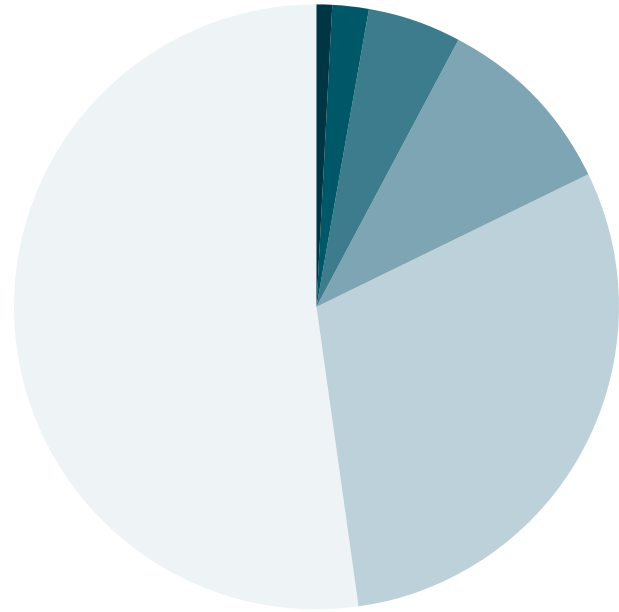
- Countryside 48.63%
- Cellar 26.18%
- Commercial 25.19%





COUNTRYSIDE

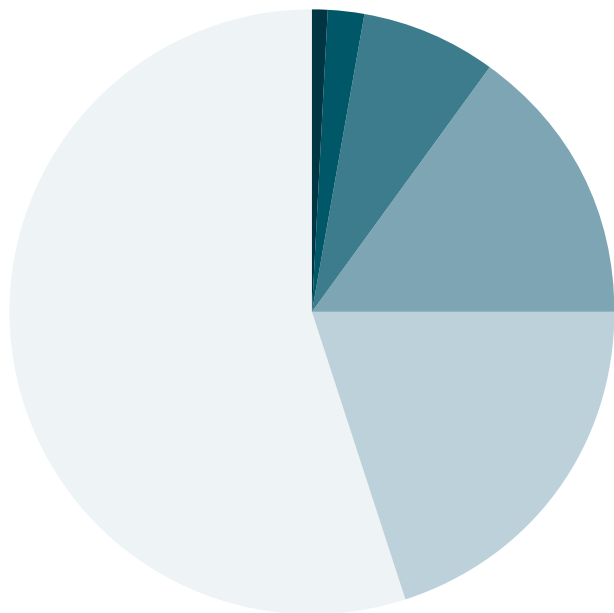
- Land use and change of land use 62.35%
- Vehicle fuels 28.57%
- Fertilizers 6.81%
- Phytochemicals 1.88%
- Transport and waste treatment 0.32%
- Inbound transport (Vineyard) 0.06%



CELLAR

- Grapes, musts, bulk wines 58.74%
- Electricity 26.99%
- Fuels (Boilers, heating) 9.07%
- Oenological products 4.53%
- Refrigerant gases and fluids 0.88%
- Inbound transport (Cellar) 0.09%





COMMERCIAL

- Glass 60.59%
- Packaging (Closures, Packaging ...) -18.36%
- Fuels (Boilers, heating) 13.97%
- Electricity 6.61%
- Inbound transport (Commercial) 0.45%
- Waste transport and treatment 0.03%

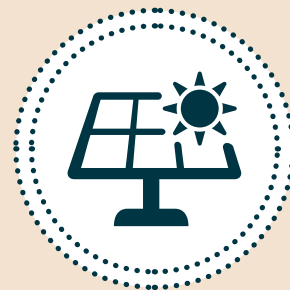


ELECTRICITY

Since 2008, the winery has been producing electricity thanks to solar panels installed on the roofs with the goal achieved and maintained of making the Ricci Curbaastro estate independent from an energy point of view.



PURCHASED
27.689 KWH



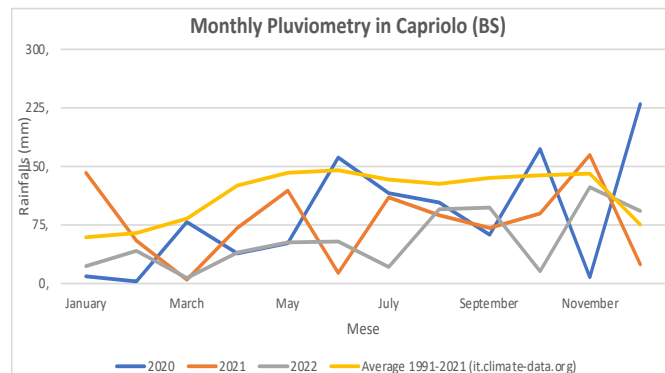
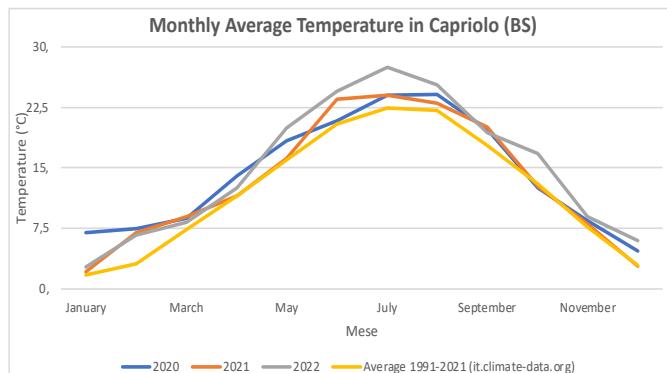
**SELF-PRODUCED
WITH PHOTOVOLTAIC**
51.233 KWH



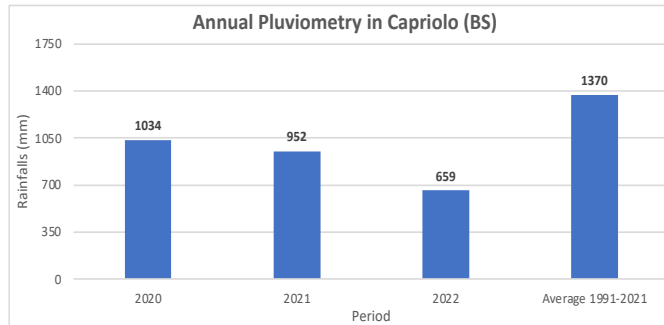
THE TEMPERATURES RECORD IN EUROPE IN 2022 AND THE DROUGHT RECORD IN FRANCIACORTA

The **Global Climate Highlights 2022** published by the European Center for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) on behalf of the European Commission is a summary of temperatures, greenhouse gas concentrations and significant climate and weather events for each year. The summary shows that several high-temperature records have been broken in both Europe and the rest of the world, while other extreme events such as droughts and floods have affected large regions. Europe experienced

the hottest summer on record after records already recorded in 2016, 2020, 2019 and 2017. However, **the report points out that European temperatures have risen more than twice the global average over the past 30 years and have the highest rate of increase of any other continent in the world.** Below is a graph showing the average monthly temperatures of the last three years, recorded by our weather control units in Capriolo, compared with the average temperatures of the last thirty years (1991-2021).



The anomalous heat – but after so hot five years can we still consider it anomalous? – is added up with a prolonged drought in our area as can be seen in the following graphs: the first shows the monthly rainfall of the last three years compared with the average monthly rainfall of the last thirty years; the second, on the other hand, shows the annual rainfall of the last three years compared with the average of the last thirty years.



We had to intervene with rescue irrigations of the vineyards located in soils richer in gravels and even the centuries-old trees of the winery park showed symptoms of deep stress and we also saw the death in a few days an Austrian pine (*Pinus nigra*) of over 150 years old and over 20 m high.

This obviously strengthens our determination to act more and more incisively on all actions that can reduce our carbon footprint and also pose the need

for new investments for rescue irrigation that also have the characteristic of reducing water consumption, a challenge no longer postponable.



Rescue irrigation - Cascina Bosco Vineyard

GOOD AGRONOMIC PRACTICES

Gualberto Ricci Curbastro



PLANT MANAGEMENT

The Company has maintained the usual setting on pruning and bud charging (a renewed branch with 10-12 buds/vine). In the vineyards located in the south-west of the municipality of Capriolo on May 24, 2022, there was an important hailstorm that seriously compromised production. Early varieties were at the beginning of flowering and therefore in a phase of the cycle that was particularly sensitive to climatic adversities. The hail wounds caused the removal of even entire bunches. In addition, the drastic reduction of the leaf surface (in some places the plants were almost completely defoliated) negatively affected the percentages of fruit set. The management of the green has been complicated by the consistent production of secondary shoots, difficult to comb and redistribute within the containment threads of the vegetation.

As has been the case for several years, no peeling has been carried out, neither mechanical nor manual, nor in post-flowering, nor near the harvest. The trend seems well established: there is no longer the need to ventilate and expose the bunches to sunlight, rather we want to avoid sunburn.





SOIL MANAGEMENT

The trend of rainfall and temperatures during the spring-summer 2022 season has convinced the Company to reintroduce in some vineyards surface processing on alternating rows. The grassy cot was broken and periodic processing was carried out using spring-type weeding equipment. By eliminating the competition of grassing, water consumption in the summer months was significantly reduced and sprinkling irrigation was also more effective. From a medium-long-term perspective, **the company is aware that the management of the soil on alternating rows can lead to faster mineralization of the organic substance**, especially in soils with a sandy texture. Some corrective actions will therefore be evaluated, such as the contribution of higher doses of organic fertilizers or the sowing of green manure crops in the autumn-spring cycle.

DEFENSE MANAGEMENT

In 2022 the defense against downy mildew and powdery mildew was easy. Throughout the season, the conditions (rains and leaf wetting) for the development of cryptogamic diseases have almost always lacked. At the end of the campaign, the company average of copper was around 2.3 kg/ha, which allows to face the seasons to come with the relative certainty of not “breaking through” the ceiling of 28 kg in 7 years. Neither botrytis nor acid rot showed themselves

An ozone-based invigorant, mixed with rapeseed/sunflower oil and lecithin, was tried. The product is called Biozon: according to the company that registered it, it guarantees an improvement in photosynthetic efficiency, a preventive and curative action against fungi and bacteria, and a generally better state of health of the vines, ultimately allowing a reduction in the use of copper. A field test was carried out with extremely cautious dosages, to avoid the risk of phytotoxicity phenomena. The unique performance of thermo-rainfall 2022 has not made it possible to detect differences between the plots treated with the Biozon and those not treated. For 2023 it is planned to continue with the test. The sexual confusion for the fight against tignoletta has reiterated in 2022 all its effectiveness. Now the method is applied to almost all of the vineyards of the Franciacorta area and finding the insect has become an entomologist’s activity.

As in 2021, also in 2022 the tolerance threshold of *Scaphoideus titanus* occurred in an area near the company headquarters.

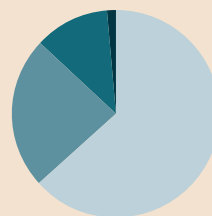


On the recommendation of the Franciacorta Consortium, an additional insecticide treatment was carried out after the harvest. In all the other vineyards it was treated only once, taking advantage of the possibility of derogation from the regional provisions (Mandatory Fight Decree) activated by the Consortium with the monitoring procedure. On the yellowness, the evidence is that the strict observance of the procedure of immediate eradication of symptomatic strains has so far allowed to maintain the diseases at levels that can be judged tolerable (around 5%). The studies carried out by the specialists appointed by the Consortium (Dr. Mori, Dr. Marchesini of the Agrea Study Center) emphasize, however, that the catches of vectors are increasing and that some signs of the ineffectiveness of insecticidal treatments are starting. The obligation of the Company will therefore be to keep under strict observance the issue of yellowness and leafhoppers.



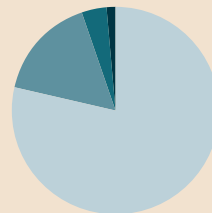
Vine shoots

In order to ensure the diversity and richness of the vineyards destined for the production of Franciacorta, the company has areas under vines that are well divided between the three main varieties of the Denomination. However, highlighting significantly higher data in the incidence of the cultivation of Pinot Blanc and Pinot Noir than the average in Franciacorta. Among the cultivated varieties there is also the Erbatat, recently introduced in the production regulations, it represents for Ricci Curbastro a new research project and a new challenge for the next few years.



RICCI CURBASTRO'S VINEYARDS 2021

- 54,67% Chardonnay
- 26,51% Pinot Nero
- 17,76% Pinot Bianco
- 1,06% Erbatat



FRANCIACORTA'S VINEYARDS 2021

- 80,0% Chardonnay
- 16,7% Pinot Nero
- 3% Pinot Bianco
- 0,3% Erbatat

In addition, our investments in new vineyards in recent years have been characterized by the search for an ever greater diversity of soils and therefore of wines to better characterize the aromatic and tasting profiles of their Franciacorta.

Ricci Curbastro is characterized by having a company body of about 20 hectares in a single block which guarantees better environmental performance for less transport, costs of moving machinery and personnel, however, this situation of advantage for sustainability could have been a limit for a certain uniformity of soils.

With the study of viticultural zoning of Franciacorta begun in 1992, it was possible to divide the Franciacorta territory into different areas, which differ from each other in terms of soil characteristics and consequently for the influence they have on the vegetal-productive aspects of the vine, the qualitative aspects of the grapes and musts and the sensory profiles of the wines that result. In particular, six areas have been identified, called Vocational Units, each of which groups soils with homogeneous characteristics:

- Fine deposits
- Fluvioglacial
- Distal colluvia
- Deep moraine
- Terraced colluvia
- Fine moraine



Bosco Basso vineyard in spring

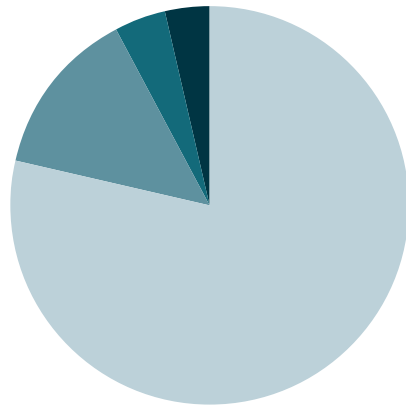
Ricci Curbastro, despite being a medium-small company in Franciacorta, extends over 31 hectares of vineyards, today it can boast vineyards planted on 4 of the 6 Franciacorta vocational units.

The breakdown is shown in the following graph and certainly shows a predominance with regard to the fluvio-glacial vocational unit (78% of the vineyards), which includes our Capriolo vineyards located near the Oglio river, in the localities Bosco Alto and Bosco Basso, which constitute the main nucleus of our vineyards and consequently represent the backbone of our Franciacorta, marking in a distinctive way our style. They are moderately deep, frank-sandy soils, limited by gravelly-sandy

substrates that guarantee good productivity and medium-late ripening and wines of medium complexity.

About 4 hectares of vineyards, corresponding to 13.5% of our vineyards, are located instead on the vocational unit defined as "fine moraine". These are vineyards located in the municipalities of Iseo and Clusane, close to the shores of Lake Iseo, which are characterized by shallow soils, limited by sandy-silty substrate, which result in a lower vegetative and productive potential, with fewer number and weight of the bunches, and in an earlier maturation also characterized by higher sugar levels and pH; consequently, the result is base wines of great complexity.

4.3% of our vineyards are located instead in the municipality of Capriolo in the Colzano area, which is located in the vocational unit called "fine deposits", which is characterized by mainly silty-deep clay soils, with no skeleton and therefore with less drainage; all this results in potentially higher productivity, with late ripening, low sugar levels and high acidity, and base wines that stand out for floral notes and persistence. Finally, a small area, of about 1 ha, is located near the winery, in Capriolo, in an area included in the vocational unit called "distal colluvia", which has deep soils, with little skeleton and frank texture; productivity here is higher with low pH values and floral wines of medium complexity.



% Estate Hectares per Vocation Unit

- 78,71% Fluvioglacial
- 13,58% Fine moraine
- 4,28% Fine deposits
- 3,43% Distal Colluvia

Artificial bird nest

ETHICAL - SOCIAL PILLAR

**That is the concrete commitment
of the Gualberto Ricci Curbastro & Figli s.s. for...**



“THE THREE LIVES OF THE TREE” PATH OF ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND ETHICAL SUSTAINABILITY

FROM TREE TO BARRIQUE, FROM BARRIQUE
TO ARTIFICIAL NESTS BUILT BY PRISONERS OF
THE INSTITUTE OF PUNISHMENT OF ALEXANDRIA.
THE VIRTUOUS CYCLE OF WOOD IS DEDICATED
TO THE RECOVERY OF PEOPLE AND MATERIALS.

The oak wood of barrels and barriques, which comes from sustainably managed French state forests, is not always easily recyclable - the classic uses as coffee tables or as planters discount the limit of often reduced spaces in homes as well as in public places - and this risks interrupting its virtuous cycle. For us at Ricci Curbastro it was about offering these oak staves a third life after growing in the forest that guarantees, thanks to solar energy, the “storage” in the wood of carbon dioxide so dangerous for global warming and after use for several years as an ideal container for the maturation of our Franciacorta and Curtefranca wines.

To start the process of recovery of this timber we have added to the concept of environmental and



economic sustainability the third pillar, that of ethical sustainability. The disused staves, expertly worked in the carpentry entirely managed by the inmates of the Prison of Alessandria have been transformed into artificial nests intended for the company’s vineyards to host Great Tit, Black Redstart, and other insectivores useful for the natural balance of the vineyards themselves thus going to close a cycle, that of wood, in the most natural way. **For this purpose, the Ricci Curbastro Agricultural Company activated in 2022 a collaboration with the Social Cooperative “Idee in fuga”, created with the aim of making the prisoners’ time at the “Cantiello e Gaeta” Penitentiary in Alessandria productive.** The carpentry inside the prison



allows inmates to acquire new skills that can offer job opportunities once the sentence is over and has been commissioned to produce the nests starting from the staves. The prisoners of Alessandria work six days a week, flanked by the Penitentiary Police and expert volunteer carpenters with the aim of fulfilling orders from all over Italy by recovering materials and promoting a circular

economy that uses recycled or discarded wood for defects. In 2019, an external carpentry was also started to ensure that outgoing prisoners can maintain their working relationships and guarantee an income.

After producing a few dozen artificial nests for insectivorous birds, the project will continue studying other recoveries of the staves.



Artificial bird nest

CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING SOCIETY

In 2022 the program of welcoming students continued as part of the educational projects promoted by the Ricci Curbastro Farm. In particular, during the year were welcomed:

- 1 class, 15 children attending primary schools
- 2 classes, 50 students attending hotel and technical agricultural institutes
- 5 classes, 120 students attending Master of SDA Bocconi
- 1 group, 20 people with disabilities part of a social cooperative

“Discover the Vineyard” is the educational initiative of the Ricci Curbastro farm that joins the project **“Let’s play and learn with Acinello”**, laboratories of education to taste and smell for schools of all levels active since 2002.

“Discover the Vineyard” is an outdoor workshop for schools to discover, walking, a vineyard in all its expressions. Planted in 2012, the vineyard at the gates of Capriolo is made with PIWI varieties, an acronym that indicates varieties of wine grapes created by intraspecific hybridization resistant to fungal diseases, in German Pilzwiderstandfähig.



Is the educational initiative of the Ricci Curbastro estate



LET’S PLAY AND LEARN WITH ACINELLO

Taste and smell education workshops for schools of all levels active since 2002.



These varieties are intended for technical experimentation in our cellar but the vineyard, absolutely free of chemical treatments, is an ideal gym to discover the vine and its fruits.

In addition, the vineyard has been planted surrounded by hedges and trees typical of the forest formations of the Franciacorta hills: about twenty varieties of plants to be discovered by studying, leaves, flowers and fruits. The vineyard, the hedge, and the row of mulberries and wicker constitute a micro-unit of a traditional landscape now largely disappeared.

“Discover the Vineyard” and “Let’s play and learn with Acinello” are training courses perfectly integrated with the reality of the Ricci Curbastro Agricultural and Wine Museum, inaugurated in 1986, in an activity of conservation, teaching, and development of new strategies that make it unique in the Franciacorta territory.



ENSURING HEALTH AND SAFETY

Thanks to the continuous investments in training and safety for the staff **also in 2022** we kept the goal, repeated for 11 years now, of **0 accidents in the company!**



Giuseppe Zerbini

ENSURING EMPLOYEE WELL-BEING AND SATISFACTION

During the year, a questionnaire and a plenary discussion (in the absence of representatives of the property) were administered with the employees who expressed a good level of satisfaction with the working conditions.

Among the points of greatest satisfaction are:



Relations with management



Autonomy and independence



Working hours



Stability of the workplace



Extreme flexibility guaranteed, in/out or at lunchtime

The objectives and mission of the company are clear, well defined and transmitted to the workers.

Equal opportunity between Ricci Curbastro' employers

30% 18-30 years • 40% 30-50 years • 30% > 50 years



50%
MALE

50%
FEMALE



Contracts

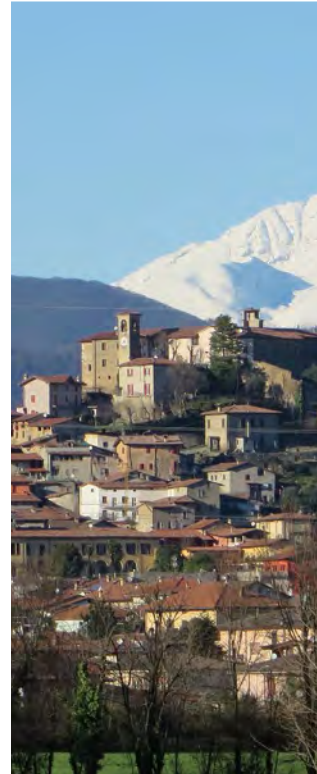
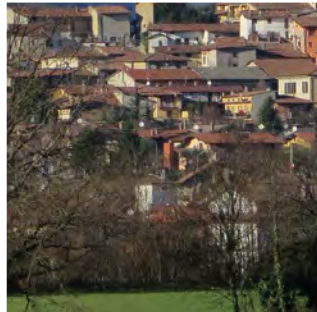
100%

PERMANENT CONTRACT

ENGAGING THE NEIGHBORHOOD

During 2019, n.10 letters were signed by the owner illustrating the company's work, and questionnaires were administered to neighboring neighbors to assess the degree of transposition by the community of the company's efforts to reduce environmental impact, but also the relationship established with the local community.

During 2022, n.30 letters signed by the owner were administered to neighboring neighbors with an illustration of the activities carried out during the three-year Equalitas certification period and a paper and/or digital evaluation questionnaire. 5 responses to the questionnaire were received, expressing full satisfaction with the company's activities and the involvement shown towards the community.



Capriolo and the Pizzo Arera, Alpi Orobie

A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

Never as in recent years we have realized how interconnected and related our world is:

- the COVID virus and its variants starting from distant China in 2020 and 2021 have blocked the world economy and even changed our lifestyles
- the Russian aggression of Ukraine has brought not only death and desolation but also worldwide grain shortages and rising prices of gas, electricity and gasoline;
- drought first and then autumn weather events have highlighted the fragility of our production system and land use



Rescue irrigation in Cascina Bosco vineyard

Apparently, they are all events “bigger than us” and it seems difficult to be able to somehow affect them, in reality, ours is a complex society that also needs simple answers to the needs of many of us, answers that combined give us the dimension of sustainable community.

- The war in Ukraine brought into the company two mothers with their children (4 people) who fled the bombings while their husbands are in arms at the front. We welcomed and hosted them for free. Two of them a year after the invasion are still with us.
- The extraordinary measures for the recovery of the economy already affected by COVID and to give refreshments to employees struggling with energy increases have allowed us to give untaxed premiums on two occasions during 2022.
- For more than a decade, we have guaranteed training and work opportunities for young people who study and train for work in the company, even in 2022 2 young people from the L. Einaudi technical institute of Chiari were able to carry out internships in the company.
- Those who do research and write their theses on topics related to our production sector always find an open door for questions and insights, in 2022 we collaborated in the writing of 13 university theses answering questions and participating in meetings.
- 6 volunteer activities have had our contribution in product or money to raise funds for their own help missions.



WINE MUSEUM: THE CALCULATION OF ACTIVITIES

“Knowing what is alive in us from the past helps us to understand the present and to prepare for the future”.

Luigi Einaudi, Second President of the Italian Republic 1948-1955

The Ricci Curbastro Agricultural and Wine Museum is an important element of our brand, a tool for customer loyalty through the offer of unique and memorable experiences arousing emotions related to the Ricci Curbastro brand, the uniqueness and authenticity of our farm, its role as guardian of the company’s identity.

The Ricci Curbastro Museum makes explicit a system of values that link economic and productive experience, social inclusion, competitiveness and sustainability in a single body made up of a relationship between memory and innovation.

The Ricci Curbastro Museum enhances the human capital of the company, strengthening the sense of belonging of employees also with the transmission of a message based on history and values. The Museum, the Archive and the Library are hybrid realities, on the one hand cultural institutions, even if owned by the company, and on the other hand competitive assets that participate in the

processes of creating value for the company itself. For this reason, in 2021 we began to analyze some performance indicators of the Museum to verify its sustainability, especially economic and social.



Among the indicators investigated are

- The cultural activities of the Ricci Curbastro Museum that **help the territorial development** of Franciacorta through events such as exhibitions, book presentations, etc.;;
 - during 2022 the theatrical performance "Festa della Gioia" adaptation by "Terapia - Il Teatro di Figura " of the volume "C'è Gioia?" by Enrico Chiabrera was realized.
 - in September 2022 was hosted the 15th edition of the Semilampo Chess Tournament organized by the Franciacorta Chess Association in memory of Gualberto Ricci Curbastro.
- The cultural activities of the Ricci Curbastro Museum that **offer educational opportunities for schools** in the territory of Franciacorta and even further afield;
 - Over 200 students welcomed during 2022
- The **economic sustainability** of the Ricci Curbastro Museum through revenue indices:
 - Agricultural Museum Turnover: 80.850,00 Euro
 - Total number of visitors: 5.300
 - Bottles sold in the company store: 9.828
 - Average expenditure per visitor for the purchase of: 29,95 Euro
- **Annual press releases** related to the Ricci Curbastro Museum:
 - 8 articles with citations from the Agricultural and Wine Museum in 2022
 - 7 articles with citations from the Agricultural and Wine Museum in 2021



Drera S. painter's imprompt

Blackbird nest in the vineyard



INVOLVE SUPPLIERS

With the aim of carrying out the process of partnership and awareness of our suppliers to common actions that reduce the environmental impact during the year, a new audit was carried out at the supplier company of the labor used in the estate for the harvest operations.

The purpose of the audit was to verify that the supplier adopted practices in line with the company's objectives, provided an adequate level of assurance with respect to the principles contained in the Equalitas standard and was able to evaluate the possible improvement path undertaken by the supplier.



Tirages



Pupitres and gyropallets



Glass

We are committed to choosing suppliers who are attentive to environmental and sustainability issues. For the glass of our bottles we use only Verallia bottles certified in accordance with EC legislation in compliance with the maximum quantities of heavy metals present in the glass.

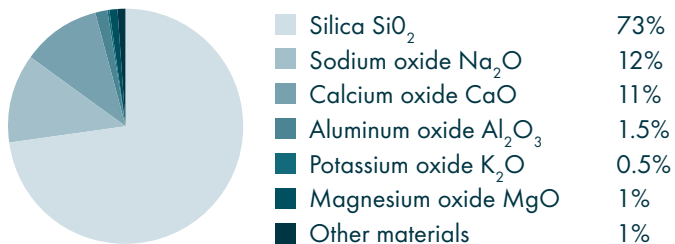
EC DIRECTIVE 94/62 ALLOWS THE PRESENCE UP TO:

120 PPM of Lead (Pb)
< 2 PPM of Cadmium (Cd)

THE ANALYSES ON THE SAMPLES OF BOTTLES PURCHASED BY US REVEAL THE PRESENCE OF:

< 0.01 PPM of Lead (Pb)
< 0.05 PPM of Cadmium (Cd)

GLASS COMPOSITION



The glass of the bottles in question is 100% recyclable for an infinite number of times; it can be used in any condition of contact with food. Guarantees absolute impermeability to gas (0.0 cm³ / m² / 24h / 23 ° C), vapours (0.0 g / m² / 24h / 38 ° C), humidity, microorganisms.

It is composed of silica, sodium and calcium oxides, coming from silica sand, soda and calcium carbonate with the addition of recycled glass cullet in variable % depending on the availability of cullet on the market.

For the bottles we use, the range of use of recycled glass is: 75-85%

Furthermore, through the subsidiary Ecoglass, Verallia deals with the recovery and recycling of glass. Collected and transformed, cullet becomes quality raw material, ready to be used again in factories for new glass containers.

In this way, Verallia has chosen to manage the recycling operation entirely internally, in order to have an excellent quality level of the scrap to be used in the furnaces and to minimize processing waste in the scrap treatment process.



**IL CICLO
CHIUSO
DEL RICICLO
DEL VETRO**



Corks

Even in the choice of corks, Ricci Curbastro has operated by seeking sustainability, in fact we only use corks that come from natural materials and are perfectly recyclable.



CORKS

The forests of cork oaks (*Quercus suber*) grow in arid and semi-arid areas of the Mediterranean basin, protect from erosion and fires, promote a unique biodiversity in the world, employ thousands of people who would have very few other income possibilities in those areas.

- The cork molecule has the formula $C_{12}H_{18}O_5$ which was discovered by the Italian chemist Luigi Valentino Brugnatelli.
- A cork contains 800 million cells; therefore, a large amount of CO_2 is taken from the plant in the environment and sequestered in the cork itself.
- A cork oak plant is peeled to obtain corks only after the first 40 years of life, this contributes to the maintenance of vast forests.
- The cortex represents a form of response to arid environments with frequent passage of fire the integumental tissue, devoid of intercellular spaces, formed by dead cells, whose wall is thickened and suberified and the cellular lumen filled with air, isolates and protects the underlying tissues from heat exchanges and from the exchange of liquid or gaseous chemicals.
- The removal of the cork is a periodic operation that is carried out in at least ten-year cycles, it is carried out manually with traditional methods, using special hatchets. The operation takes place from May to July and requires skill and experience as the cut must reach the phellogen without affecting the innermost layers of the cortex (phelloderm and book).
- Cork stoppers are completely recyclable not to make new corks but to build cladding and thermal and acoustic insulation panels, memo boards, tennis and cricket balls, car and airplane components, design pieces ... if thrown in the trash they are biodegradable and do not pollute, put them in the organic fraction.



NORMACORC® POLYMER CAPS

The patented formulation of the Normacorc Green Line is based on plant polymers extracted from sugar cane, a 100% renewable source of raw materials. In this way, the absorption of CO₂ present in the atmosphere is favored and carbon emissions are reduced.

- Normacorc manufacturer Vinventions calculates the carbon footprint of its closures following the rules and standards to calculate the carbon footprint (such as ISO / TS 14044 and 14067), only the sequestration of the amount of carbon present in the closure is accounted for. Neither forest nor the sequestration of all sugar cane plantations are included in the calculation, as the rules and standards do not allow it to be included in the calculation of the carbon footprint of the wine closure. The caps of the Normacorc Green Line series are certified Zero CO₂ Emissions.
- Normacorc caps can be recycled together with all other plastics in the normal recycling chains already present in most of the world.
- They have innovative features that improve aesthetics and tactile sensoriality and give a natural appearance. The extraction takes place in a clean and uniform way, without crumbs or breaks.

Cork, a circular good

In 2022 we recovered 20 Kg of corks, equal to about 2200 bottle corks. Caps that have been delivered to our supplier Amorin Cork Italy for the Ethical Project. Thanks to the collaboration of non-profit Associations, the corks are collected, shredded, and destined for various uses: this is how a new raw material is born from recycling, which will subsequently materialize in the Suber project and in material for green buildings. The revenues deriving from the collection of caps are donated to non-profit organizations and are used to support solidarity projects.

Avoiding the waste of a precious material such as cork thus allows us to reduce the Co2 emissions that would result from incineration and at the same time to have a positive impact on the ecosystem and on our society.



BUILDING A RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS

100% of opportunities for discussion on sustainability and the Equalitas model during ALL the guided tours in the winery, the company reports on its commitment to sustainability with the help of illustrative panels that help visitors to fix concepts and data with more clarity. Website www.riccicurbastro.it with emphasis and evidence of Equalitas certification, sustainability reports and sustainability actions implemented by the company. Social communication focused on sustainability:

 Facebook
"Ricci Curbastro
Azienda Agricola"

N° Follower:
4644 (+12,73%)

Average Impressions:
1381

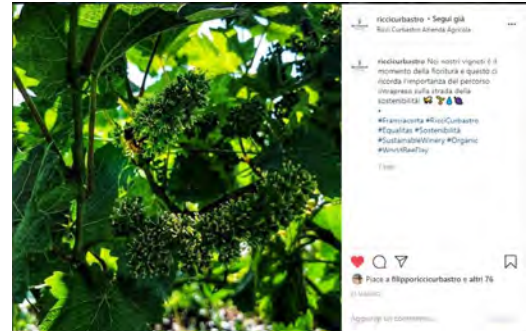
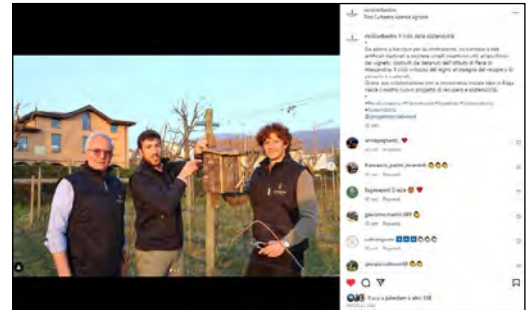
Average Interactions
88

 Instagram
"Ricci Curbastro"

N° Follower:
4196 (+23,93%)

Average Impressions:
1872

Average Interactions:
140



A person is sitting at a wooden desk in a bright, modern office. They are wearing a white long-sleeved top and are typing on a laptop. The laptop screen shows various financial charts, including a line graph with a yellow peak, a bar chart with blue bars, and a circular gauge. In the foreground, there is a blurred document with blue text. In the background, there is a pen holder with several pens and a window with a view of a building.

ECONOMICAL PILLAR

**That is the concrete commitment
of the Gualberto Ricci Curbastro & Figli s.s. for...**

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL RESULTS

Wine Turnover:

1.78 M

Export Turnover:

22% in 18 countries worldwide

Cellar Wine Shop Turnover:

10%

Sales:

over 170,000 bottles sold

Typologies:

46% Franciacorta Millesimato or Riserve

Franciacorta Satèn Brut:

25% of company sales



THE ECONOMIC DIMENSION

From an economic-financial point of view, **2022 marked a new record in the company's sales performance.**

Despite the quotas for the sale of some products, first of all, the Franciacorta Rose due to the scarcity of available bottles and the early exhaustion of some references Curtefranca Bianco and Curtefranca Vigna Bosco Alto, unprecedented problems for our reality, the overall numbers show extremely satisfactory results. The results at the end of the year show **growth in value of +9.59% (+49.88% vs 2019 pre-pandemic reference**

year) and growth in volumes of +7.22% (+32.91% vs 2019). The excellent growth results were again driven mainly by the performance of the domestic market, **the export, instead, has remained constant, consolidating a market share that for 2022 stands at around 22%** of the company's turnover.

The pricing policies implemented at the beginning of 2022 were those of a slight and contained increase in sales prices, in the order of 5% in order to compensate for the presumed

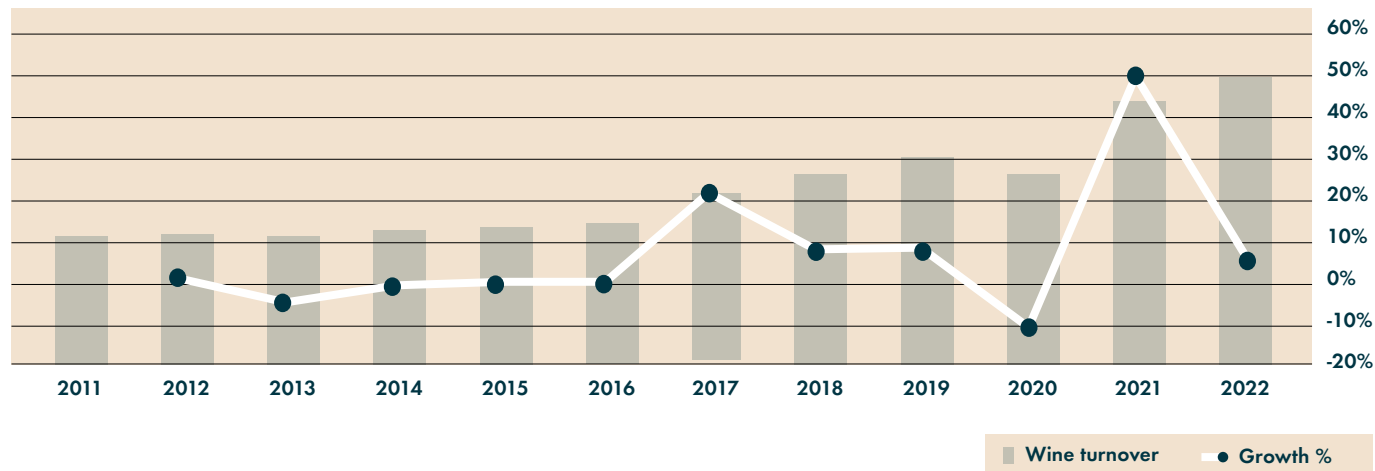


increase in material costs and inflation related to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The increase in inflation and the increases in costs imposed by suppliers during 2022 have put a strain on this decision, but we have chosen to keep faith with the company policy that does not provide for “tweaks” of the price list during the commercial year, so as not to penalize those customers who have chosen to promote and include our products in their wine lists. For 2023, a new increase in sales prices was planned and decided, between 5 and 10% depending on the company

references, also to compensate for the forced choice of having to sell in allocation and with quotas numerous references in order to maintain and continue to guarantee the usual standards of refinement of our products.

The data relating to the seasonal trend were illustrated by the owner during a meeting held with all the staff. The organization has in fact committed itself to carry out at least an annual verbalized meeting between property and staff on socio-economic issues.

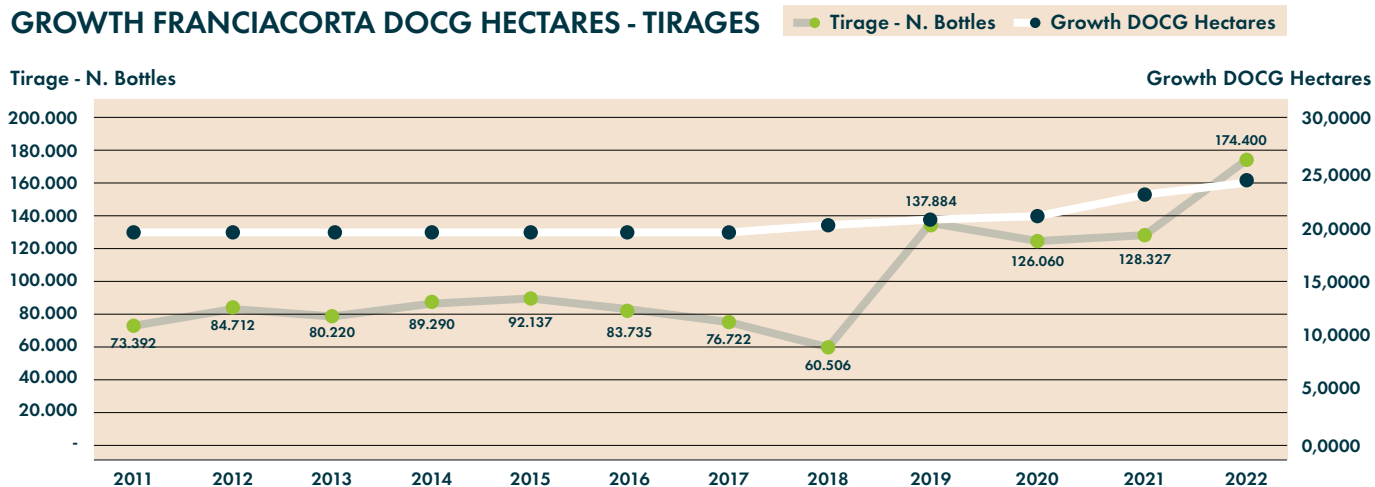
WINE TURNOVER 2011-2022



In continuity with the investments made in the previous years aimed at increasing the area planted for Franciacorta DOCG in 2022 it was possible to significantly increase the number of bottles produced so as to meet the growing market demands.

Compatibly with the agronomic vintages and the consequent production of grapes, the goal is to keep the tirages stable at around 180,000 bottles/year.

GROWTH FRANCIACORTA DOCG HECTARES - TIRAGES



Ricci Curbastro in 1997 had 75% of hectares in ownership (12 out of 16 total) today has 83.9% of its vineyard in ownership (26 out of 31 hectares). The growth of our company in these 25 years has been 87.5% (23.2% more than the average of the Franciacorta territory) but at the same time, the percentage of its own vineyards has also increased by almost 10% making the supply of grapes in

the winery more constant and making the growth in the number of bottles produced programmable. In addition, all those investments in sustainability that characterize the management of the vineyards (organic culture, grassing, hedges, rows of trees, weather control units, etc.) were thus possible. As a result of these investments, turnover growth between 1997 and 2021 was 350%.



INVESTMENTS IN SUSTAINABILITY

The company has recently supported some economic investments in favor of social and environmental sustainability, in particular:



Purchase of a new Barrique Sanitization System in order to optimize water management for the washing and sanitization of barrels and barriques.



Purchase of a Brush Cutter Arm to facilitate the cleaning of green areas and slopes with a consequent reduction in the use of company labor.



Reduction of the weight of bottles:

- from 900 g a 835 g for "champagnotta"
- from 420 g a 360 g for still wine (Curtefranca bottle)



Utilizzo di tappi Nomacork per vino fermo con "zero emission".

(actions already completed in recent years)

During the year, the possibility emerged to proceed with the use of new capsules for still wines Curtefranca and Sebino IGT produced 100% from PET, recyclable with plastic materials, as an alternative to traditional PVC shrink capsules to be disposed of in undifferentiated waste. The adoption process of this solution is in progress and is contextual to the exhaustion of existing stocks.

For the capsule of Franciacorta, where to date there is still no fully recyclable solution, we opted for the use of a model produced with more than 40% recycled plastics.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The main objectives planned during the year have been achieved; with regard to the new strategic objectives, i.e. the goals that the organization aims to achieve in order to successfully achieve its mission, the following initiatives are listed:



1

PNS 2023 for the purchase of office equipment and cellar equipment. In detail a new crushing machine, tonneau and barriques, and a racking pump.

2

Application for removal and replanting of about 0.8 hectares of vineyards located in Bosco Basso for plant renewal with a change of varieties from Curtefranca Red to Pinot Noir for Franciacorta.

3

Implementation of collaboration in the social and environmental field for the recovery and enhancement of used wood deriving from company barrels no longer in use with the creation of new artificial nests.

4

Beginning of the digitization process of the Ricci Curbastro Agricultural and Wine Museum, with the purchase of a software

SELF EVALUATION

The goal of the self-assessment is to allow the company to measure its state of the art with respect to the parameters and criteria contained in the SOPD Equalitas standard "Sustainability of the wine supply chain: organizations, products, denominations".

The aim is to be a functional photograph for the correct positioning of the company with respect to the framework for satisfying the

requirements established by the standard, in order to ensure that the company undertakes a virtuous process with respect to three distinct sustainability profiles: economic, environmental and social. The standard provides only result obligations, leaving the company free to define the specific methodologies necessary for achieving these results.



DEFINITION OF PRODUCTS FOR CERTIFICATION:

The company applies its Management System to the following stages:

**VINEYARD
MANAGEMENT**

**GRAPE HARVESTING
AND DELIVERY**

WINEMAKING

**WINE
PROCESSING**

BOTTLING

**FINISHED
PRODUCT STORAGE**

The company produces wines starting exclusively from its own raw material, deriving from its own vineyards or "controlled" vineyards. The entire range of wines produced is certified as "sustainable", with the exception of those that may be affected by small purchases of raw materials of external origin; in the case of "Table Wine" or better without Designation of Origin.



IMPROVEMENT GOALS

In relation to the improvement objectives highlighted in the previous financial statements and set as improvement objectives for the three-year period the following are highlighted:



The increase of company biodiversity, through targeted management actions

Aware that this is a long-term process and objective, we have continued to analyze and evaluate the company's biodiversity in order to build a historical reference. Agronomic activities continue with a view to improving biodiversity indicators. During the 2022 campaign, a research and study project began with the University of Brescia on the biodiversity of the vineyard, a project that is ongoing and will also develop during 2023 with the aim of mapping the tree species present in our vineyards.



Certificato n. 42335

Certificate n.

Si certifica che il sistema di gestione della sostenibilità di
We hereby certify that the sustainability management system operated by

Azienda Agricola G. Ricci Curbastro e Figli S.s.

Via Adro, 37 – 25031 Capriolo (BS)

Tiologia di azienda: F- Coltivazione, Trasformazione, Imbottigliamento

Unità operative / Operative units

Via Adro, 37 – 25031 Capriolo (BS)

È conforme allo standard

It is in compliance with the standard

**EQUALITAS – Standard SOPD
"Modulo Organizzazione Sostenibile – OS"
Rev.03 del 01/04/2020**

Per le seguenti attività

For the following activities:

Produzione, affinamento e confezionamento di vini fermi e frizzanti in bottiglie di vetro. Controllo dei processi di lavorazione in campagna e di cantina parzialmente affidate in outsourcing. Esclusioni: nessuna.

Indicatori ambientali valutati:

- Biodiversità;
- Impronta carbonica aziendale;
- Impronta idrica aziendale.

This certificate remains the property of CSQA Certificazioni S.r.l., Via San Gaetano, 74 – 36016 Thiene (VI) (T+39 0445 31 30 11, www.csqa.it)

Il presente certificato è soggetto al rispetto del regolamento CSQA. La validità del presente certificato è subordinata a sorveglianza periodica e rinnovo triennale. This certificate will satisfy the requirements established by CSQA. The validity of this Certificate depends on periodic surveillance and renewal every three years.

Prima emissione: 13/04/2018
 First issue:
 Emissione corrente: 19/07/2021
 Current issue:
 Scadenza: 12/04/2024
 Expiry date:

L'Amministratore Delegato
 The Chief Executive Officer
 Dr. Pietro Bolcato

CSQA Certificazioni Srl
 Via S. Gaetano, 74 – 36016 Thiene (VI)

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 00187 Roma
 info@valcoritalia.it - www.valcoritalia.it

EQUALITAS CERTIFICATION





Artio and Spark, Weimaraner



RICCI CURBASTRO

Franciaorta



A CAMPAIGN FINANCED ACCORDING TO EC REGULATION N. 1308/13

THANK YOU FOR READING!
For any inquiries, do not hesitate
to contact us at the following e-mail:
info@riccicurbastro.it

Hawthorn and bee