

Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing

9 facts about the Lodi Rules

- 1) The Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing is California's original 3rd party certified sustainable winegrowing program. The sustainable winegrowing standards were first launched in 2005, and thoroughly revised in 2013.
- 2) The Lodi Rules takes a comprehensive approach to farming that goes beyond just pest management. The program promotes practices that enhance biodiversity, water and air quality, soil health, economic viability, and employee and community well-being.
- 3) Certification is awarded annually and has two components: The Lodi Rules standards and the Pesticide Environmental Assessment System (PEAS).
 - a) There are 101 sustainable winegrowing farming practices organized into six chapters: Business Management, Human Resources, Ecosystem Management, Soil Management, Water Management, and Pest Management. Growers are audited annually by a third party to verify their farming practices.
 - b) The PEAS system measures the total impact of all organic and synthetic pesticides used during the year. Growers may not exceed a maximum number of points calculated using PEAS.
- 4) All sustainable winegrowing farming practices have been peer-reviewed by scientists, members of the academic community, and environmental organizations before accreditation by Protected Harvest.
- 5) Protected Harvest has received Consumers Union's highest rating as an eco-label certifier.
- 6) The Lodi Rules is designed to lead to measurable improvements in the environmental health of the surrounding ecosystem, society-at-large, and wine quality.
- 7) 20,000 acres were "Certified Green" in the Lodi Appellation in 2012, and an additional 6,000 acres were certified in other regions throughout California. Approximately 20 wineries produce wines bearing the Lodi Rules seal.
- 8) A bottle of wine that is at least 85% from certified sustainable vineyards can print the logo on their label.
- 9) Research from UC Davis suggests that the Lodi Rules growers go above and beyond when it comes to sustainability. Growers participating in the Lodi Rules implement a higher percentage of sustainable viticulture practices in their vineyards compared to non-certified growers.



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Sustainable winegrowing practices

Integrated Pest Management

We protect our winegrapes from pests using only essential measures. We create and maintain habitat for natural enemies of pests.

Air Quality Control

We plant cover crops of native grasses in and around our vineyards to minimize dust. We minimize tractor usage to reduce air pollution and conserve energy.

Land Stewardship

Our vineyard management integrates the surrounding ecosystem. We establish riparian buffer zones, plant and preserve native grasses and trees, maintain vernal pools, protect wildlife habitat, and install nesting boxes for owls, birds, and bats.

Water Management

We conserve water use by constantly monitoring soil moisture and measuring the vines' water needs. We use water efficiently by scheduling irrigation carefully, and maintaining and servicing our irrigation systems.

Soil Health

Healthy living soils grow great wines. We add organic matter to the soil by planting cover crops and incorporating compost. We control fertilizer and irrigation to maximize nutrition in our soils which results in higher, more concentrated fruit quality.

Human Resources

People are the foundation of great sustainably grown wines. Our employees receive comprehensive training enabling them to perform their jobs safely and effectively. We strive to provide our employees with fulfilling employment by offering opportunities to advance their careers.

Sustainable Vision

We articulate a sustainable vision for our farms, which serves as our compass for sustainable winegrowing. We don't leave sustainability to chance. We make plans to ensure the long-term viability of our farms. We evaluate our practices and constantly work toward refining our methods.

