



## **Anthonij Rupert Wyne Environmental Policy**

ARW is committed to demonstrating sound business management which includes a concern for the environment. We strive to consciously acknowledge and manage the impact of our business operations on the environment and local communities where we are situated. Adherence to the internationally reputable ISO 14001 afforded us a framework to meet these environmental challenges by developing our Environmental Management System upon this model.

We are committed to minimizing our impact upon all levels of the environment and strive to reduce our Carbon Footprint by the following:

### 1. Minimizing Resource use, re-using and recycling:

ARW has made considerable progress at our various sites regarding waste management pertaining to reuse and repurposing of waste materials as well as recycling resources.

- Substantial reductions of water usage in the various processes of production (as water has become an increasingly scarce resource in South Africa), have been achieved due to the above methodology.
- Data regarding monthly water usage; volume of Fossil Fuels including electricity, gas, diesel and petrol are recorded on a dashboard system daily. Targets (aimed at reducing consumption of natural resources), are monitored and reviewed on an annual basis.
- This Dashboard data is communicated back to staff and conservation awareness training is conducted via Departmental Heads to staff and also via the quarterly company newsletter
- Weekly collection of all waste generated from production, offices and households. This waste is sorted & separated for recycling. ARW aims to recycle at least 50% of all waste generated

### 2. Protection and conservation of natural habitats, flora and fauna on the estate:

ARW is a member of the South African Wine Industry Bio-diversity and Wine Initiative, established by the SA Wine Industry in 2004 and now has Champion status. This entity was established in recognition of the dire need for conservation of South Africa's unique and delicate flora & fauna eco-system. Poor land management in the past had led to the catastrophic reduction of the unique *Renosterveld* of the Cape Floral Kingdom to a mere 4% of its original size! Serious intervention and mindfulness of agricultural practises was thus required to prevent a total eradication of this aspect of our unique landscape. We aim to return the estate grounds as closely as possible, to its original state. To achieve this vision we have identified a number of goals:

- Protection of natural areas deemed to be of outstanding conservation value. We identified high risk unspoilt areas of the estate which contained endangered veld types or animal species



- The creation of “natural corridors” that reconnect threatened areas with remaining natural fragments within or between properties so that natural “stepping stones” of indigenous habitat are established in our Cape Winelands
- To achieve this, we put great emphasis on the control and eradication of alien invasive plant species as a key measure toward the rehabilitation and protection of our river and wetland systems. In 2013 alone, ARW removed 32ha of alien plants. The cleared areas were successfully replanted with indigenous Fynbos, to restore the natural landscape to its original state. A highlight of the success of this was illustrated when the **Cape Bluet Damselfly**, a species previously thought extinct, was rediscovered on our estate!

Our benchmark of sustainable agricultural practises ensures the effective management of all the natural resources and systems that underpin the production of our wines. This includes sound management of soil and water resources as these are vital components of a healthy and productive agricultural system.

ARW strives to minimise our environmental impact through sustainable building and operational practises. We monitor our Carbon emissions as part of our wider Conservation Management Plan. Additional activities to reduce our Carbon Footprint include the use of lightweight bottles for our Protea wine ranges as well as a more recent introduction of the innovative HELIX cork (a cork composite product made up of cork remnants & then compressed into a useable cork). This innovative cork ties in beautifully with the recycling and repurposing story of bottles in our Protea range as its visually appealing packaging was deliberately designed so as to allow the consumer to repurpose these striking bottles after enjoying the contents! The standard corks utilized by ARW, are also harvested in compliance with the **Forest Stewardship Council** for all cork purchased in the ARW portfolio of wines.

In our drive to least negatively impact on the environment, we are very mindful of our agricultural practises and strive to reduce soil-erosion by, for example, creating contours on the landscape to slow water speeds. Organic products to regenerate the soil; minimal use of herbicides and pesticides are a deliberate philosophy to try to work in harmony with nature. Allowing indigenous Guinea Fowl and Pheasants to control insects that feed on the crops are amongst our eco-friendly practises.

Stringent and effective incident control, investigation and reporting systems are adhered to in our daily operations to ensure a safe and pleasant working environment for all employees and is a key area of importance at ARW. In addition, stringent quality control measures to ensure excellent quality of our products, and peace of mind to our clientele, are rigorously adhered to at all stages of the making of and bottling of our wines and other produce at ARW. Quality is paramount in all facets of our operations from the vineyard to the client.