



## SUSTAINABILITY

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### VINEYARDS

At Arizona Stronghold all of our vineyard sites are managed or have recently been transitioned to utilize Sustainable farming practices. We are not certified organic, but do not use petro-chemical pesticides or fertilizers.

Our farming practices (cultural practices in the vineyard like leaf pulling, canopy management, timing of weeding passes, and cover cropping) are designed to minimize our need for fertilization inputs and the use of pesticides. When needed, we apply only organically certified (OMRI) fungicides,

herbicides and pesticides, and utilize compost, cover crops, manures and organically certified fertilizers. Our Page Springs and Bonita Springs sites have been farmed using sustainable growing practices since 2003 and we began the transition to sustainable growing in 2008, fully implemented in 2009, at our Arizona Stronghold site. To work toward minimizing our dependence on diesel we have pilot programs utilizing Bio-Diesel from reclaimed vegetable oil for tractor work, geese/ducks for insect, weed and fertilization, and miniature sheep for weed and fertilization. All programs have yielded promising results and we hope to implement them vineyard wide in the next few seasons. The Bio-Diesel has worked fine, but remains in short supply, the poultry function worked wonderfully in newly established blocks and the sheep do wonders in the established vines. Exploring secondary markets for the poultry and sheep is underway.

As co-founder Maynard Keenan recognizes, “If we’re successful, with what we’re doing, it’s going to set up a future for more families than we can number...if you plant vines in this valley, they’re going to taste a certain way; they’re going to be very specific to where they’re from. It’s not a business you can move to Mexico or China. It’s from here. This is the definition of a sustainable and local.

ASV is all about place, people, quality and value. We believe to make great wine we must take just as much responsibility for the lands we steward as the community we live in and we understand what is best for the earth is ultimately best for our wines. We are committed to maintaining our focus on sustainability and hope to carry on this expression of responsibility to the environment so that the enjoyment of our wines continues for generations to come.

### ARIZONA STRONGHOLD

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