



MONTE ZOVO

AZIENDA AGRICOLA

SUSTAINABILITY
BEST PRACTICE REPORT
2022

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Diego and Annalberta Cottini, with their sons Mattia and Michele

1 OPENING LETTER FROM THE COTTINI FAMILY

Monte Zovo: a sustainable and innovative company

Sustainability is an act of full responsibility towards our planet and the people who inhabit it, showing a commitment to the preservation of our world and the progress of our society.

Since our founding year, as the Cottini family we have been committed to ensuring the well-being of the territories in which we operate and the people that belong to them, as well as to producing high quality wines through the adoption of sustainable practices in the vineyard and in the winery. Being responsible is an important added value for us and we believe it should be a duty for every company.

With this in mind, we decided to issue the first Best Practices Report of Monte Zovo. This document concerns about our sustainable management system and provides an overview of our activities, with the aim to promote good practices and collect suggestions to further improve the quality of our work.

We consider tradition as our root and our connection with the land, its history and culture. At the same time we are fully aware of the importance of managing our business responsibly, both for the well-being of the planet and for that of the future generations, seeking to preserve and protect the territory by interacting with the local community and doing business in a shared and inclusive way. This translates into an increased focus on environmental, economic and social development, which has always been a crucial value for our family.

THE COTTINI FAMILY

For four generations the Cottini family has been cultivating knowledge with firm roots, with a precise style and a sustainable philosophy, interpreted with shared and recognized awareness.

The business history of the family began in 1925, when Carlo Cottini founded the first farm in Fumane, Valpolicella, his homeland. The crucial leap, however, took place in the 1950s thanks to Raffaello Cottini, son of Carlo, who built his own winery, also in Fumane, and decided to specialize in wine production. In 1965 he bought the vineyards in the locality of Zovo, where the main headquarter of the winery is located today.

At the beginning of the 1980s, Raffaello was succeeded by his sons and in 1990 Diego Cottini decided to take a different path from his brother and to re-establish Monte Zovo as a company in its own right. He began a personal journey towards national and international markets dictated by a precise production and stylistic philosophy of his wines. In the same period Diego Cottini decided to move from the Classic Valpolicella to the Eastern one, buying new land in Tregnago, a place characterized by higher altitudes and less contamination. In the following years this became the seat of the modern drying center, able to guarantee direct control of this production process' delicate phase.

The latest acquisition, dating back to 2010, is represented by Le Civaie estate, in Lugana. A choice shared by the whole Cottini family to add an important step to the oenological production of Monte Zovo, until then characterized by the prevalence of red wines.

Today the company is still led by the Cottini family, who personally takes care and guarantees every aspect of the supply chain, making choices oriented towards environmental, economic, cultural, and human sustainability.

Each family member is busy and involved in daily activities, together with collaborators and employees.

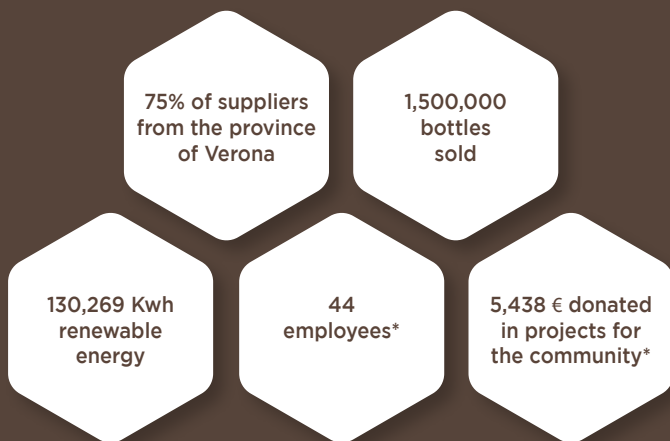
Diego Cottini deals with the management of the company's land assets, personally following the important wine-growing phases in the family vineyards, with the aim of managing them in the best possible way and ensuring the highest quality of the grapes during the harvest. Annalberta Cottini has always supported her husband Diego, helping him to succeed in the small family business and to lead it to become the important production reality it is now. Today she is at the forefront of promoting the culture of organic and biodiversity, both in the company and locally. Michele Cottini has a technical background in Oenology. He takes care of the processing phases in the cellar: from the arrival of the grapes during the harvest to the maturation and evolution of the wines, up to the preparation of the blends and bottling.

Mattia Cottini has an economic background and a more communicative talent, he follows corporate marketing in all its complexity, communication, and public relations, and now also hospitality.



2022 HIGHLIGHTS

The hard work, determination, and attention to the principles of sustainability and its values have led Monte Zovo - Cottini Family to achieve important goals in 2022.



**This data is consolidated specifically for the entities of Monte Zovo - Cottini Family.*

SUSTAINABILITY IN MONTE ZOVO - COTTINI FAMILY: A DAILY COMMITMENT

Monte Zovo - Cottini Family aims to be a role model of sustainability as part of a larger project that seeks to positively influence other productive realities in the area. The company is striving to achieve this goal through high quality products and an economic-productive model that considers environmental and community value. The dedication to working the land testifies to the respect for the inheritance received and the desire to pass it on to future generations.

The aspirations of Monte Zovo - Cottini Family have been listed in a decalogue, which collects the fundamental actions that define the company itself and are reflected in its products, its way of acting and interfacing with the local, national, and international community:

1. The importance of the Family
2. Identity of the territory
3. Excellence
4. Research and innovation
5. Concreteness
6. Taking care
7. Awareness
8. Environmental sustainability
9. Economic sustainability
10. Social sustainability and code of ethics

4.1

4.1. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF MONTE ZOVO – COTTINI FAMILY



4.2 ESTATES

Monte Zovo's wines are made entirely from grapes picked in the Cottini family's 150 hectares spread across the three main denominations in Verona: Valpolicella, Garda, and Lugana.

Monte Zovo's entire production philosophy is based on the choice of land.



THE WINERY



Since 1995, when the first stone of the new cellar was laid, this place has been the main center of all the company's activities, from wine-making to ageing and from bottling to storage of the wines. Thanks to its intelligent design, the Caprino winery is now one of the most eco-friendly wineries in Italy, being completely self-sufficient in terms of energy.

THE DRYING FACILITY (APPASSIMENTO)



Monte Zovo's drying facility stands on the ridge of a hill in the heart of Eastern Valpolicella, within the Tregnago Estate's vineyards. Because of its natural ventilation, which is let to flow into the facility, this is the ideal location for drying grapes (the process in Italian is called "appassimento"). Inside the building the grapes are separated by variety, harvest date, and plot of origin in order to make it possible to follow every stage of the process for each single parcel, so enhancing its peculiarities and characteristics. The delicate drying process is overseen directly by Diego Cottini and his technical staff.

4.3 OUR WINES

Monte Zovo - Cottini Family produces a wide range of wines, which result from the perfect combination between passion, acquired experience and the peculiarities of the territory. Each bottle reflects the distinctive character of the grapes, offering a unique and unforgettable taste experience.

Listed below are the wines we produce. Discover the product sheets:

- » Monte Zovo Amarone della Valpolicella
- » Monte Zovo Valpolicella Ripasso Superiore
- » Monte Zovo Valpolicella Superiore
- » Monte Zovo Recioto della Valpolicella
- » Monte Zovo Calinverno Rosso Veronese
- » Monte Zovo Crocevento Pinot Nero Garda
- » Monte Zovo Wohlgemuth Pinot Grigio delle Venezie
- » Monte Zovo Oltremonte Sauvignon Verona
- » Monte Zovo Phasianus Charetto Bardolino
- » Monte Zovo Le Civaie Terralbe Lugana
- » Monte Zovo Caligo Rosso Veronese
- » Monte Zovo Syrma Bardolino Charetto
- » Monte Zovo Valpolicella
- » Monte Zovo Custoza
- » Monte Zovo Soave
- » Monte Zovo Pinot Grigio delle Venezie
- » Monte Zovo Charetto di Bardolino

4.4 EVENTS

With the aim of promoting the quality and sustainability of its wines, Monte Zovo - Cottini Family took part in numerous events during 2022. Its active participation provided, among other things, an ideal opportunity to communicate its corporate philosophy based on the production of high-quality wines while respecting the environment and the health of consumers.

Listed below are the events in which Monte Zovo - Cottini Family took part in 2022:

Date	Event name
23.02.2022	Gambero Rosso Tre Bicchieri - Chicago
24.02.2022	Paestum Wine Festival
21.03.2022	Simply the Best - Civiltà del Bere
24.03.2022	Gambero Rosso Europa Tour - Londra
28.03.2022	Gambero Rosso Europa Tour - Zurigo
13.04.2022	Vinitaly 2022
28.04.2022	Anteprima Charetto - Corvina Manifesto
06.05.2022	Vyno Dienes Lituania
14.05.2022	Vinetia Tasting Wine Experience
14.05.2022	Gambero Rosso Tre Bicchieri - Düsseldorf c/o ProWein
17.05.2022	ProWein 2022
21.05.2022	Charetto in cantina
23.05.2022	Gambero Rosso Roadshow - Sydney
01.06.2022	Gambero Rosso Roadshow - Singapore
03.06.2022	Gambero Rosso Roadshow - Ho Chi Minh
19.06.2022	Amarone Opera Prima
21.06.2022	Gambero rosso Roadshow - Montreal
14.07.2022	Vinoforum Roma
22.07.2022	Sorsi d'autore
12.09.2022	Golf Villa Paradiso
26.09.2022	Corvina Manifesto Settembre
08.10.2022	Gambero Rosso Premiazioni Roma
13.10.2022	Il Brindisi di Gesù
15.10.2022	Milano Wine Week
15.10.2022	Sfumature di Pinot Noir - MTV Lombardia
28.10.2022	Gambero Rosso Roadshow - Seoul
28.10.2022	Uno sguardo sul panorama enologico italiano Degustazione Onav Como
02.11.2022	Vinitaly On Tour
05.11.2022	AIS Verona - evento in cantina per Primo Livello
06.11.2022	Merano Wine Festival
12.11.2022	AIS Verona "A contatto con il produttore"
03.12.2022	Bibenda Cena di gala e premiazioni
05.12.2022	Corvina Manifesto dicembre

4.5 AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Monte Zovo - Cottini Family's commitment to achieve high standards of quality excellence in its wines and to enhance the characteristics of the territory is manifested through the achievement of numerous awards and recognitions. These achievements demonstrate the constant attention to the quality of its products and dedication to producing high quality wines that reflect the unique character of the territory in which they are grown and produced.

Shown below are the most important awards obtained in recent years:

Amarone della Valpolicella Docg - Riserva | 2011

- » The Wine Hunter (Merano Wine Festival) | Award Rosso
- » Robert Parker | 92 pt
- » Fasltaff Amarone, Amarone Riserva, Recioto Tasting | 94 pt

Amarone della Valpolicella Docg | 2018

- » Gambero Rosso | Guida ai Vini d'Italia 2023 | 3 Bicchieri
- » Bibenda 2022 | 5 Grappoli
- » Wine Enthusiast | 93 pt
- » Doctor Wine | Guida essenziale ai Vini d'Italia 2023 | 96 pt
- » The Wine Hunter 2022 (Merano Wine Festival) | Award Rosso
- » Luca Maroni | Annuario Migliori Vini d'Italia 2023 | 94 pt

Amarone della Valpolicella Docg | 2017

- » Gambero Rosso | Guida ai Vini d'Italia | 3 Bicchieri
- » Bibenda 2022 | 5 Grappoli
- » Doctor Wine | Guida essenziale ai Vini d'Italia 2022 | 95 pt
- » James Suckling | 93 pt
- » Luca Maroni | Annuario Migliori Vini d'Italia 2022 | 94 pt

Calinverno Rosso Veronese Igt | 2018

- » The Wine Hunter 2022 (Merano Wine Festival) | Award Gold
- » Luca Maroni | Annuario Migliori Vini d'Italia 2023 | 94 pt
- » Guida Vinetia Ais 2023 | 3 Rosoni

Calinverno Rosso Veronese Igt | 2017

- » Luca Maroni | Annuario Migliori Vini d'Italia 2022 | 94 pt
- » I Vini di Veronelli Guida Oro 2022 | 3 stelle 91 pt

Lugana Doc - Le Civaie Terralbe | 2022

- » James Suckling | 90 pt

Lugana Doc - Le Civaie Terralbe | 2021

- » James Suckling | 90 pt
- » Wow! The Italian Competition - Civiltà del Bere 2022 | Gold Medal
- » Luca Maroni | Annuario Migliori Vini d'Italia 2023 | 93 pt
- » Falstaff Gardasee Trophy 2022 | 92 pt



THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: SDGS OF MONTE ZOVO – COTTINI FAMILY

Aware of the importance of environmental and social sustainability, Monte Zovo – Cottini Family decided to choose in 2022 the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that best fit its business. In this way, the company intends to actively contribute to their implementation to foster the achievement of sustainable development at the economic, social and environmental levels.

The SDGs and related targets of Monte Zovo - Cottini Family are:



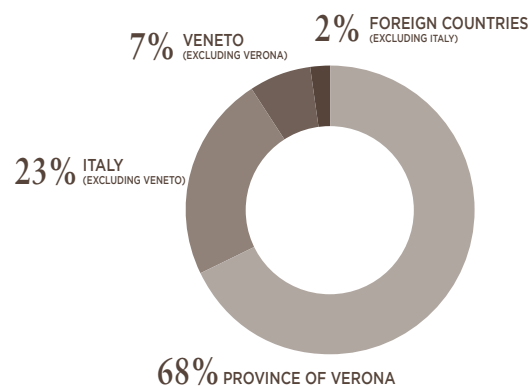
ECONOMIC BEST PRACTICES

A company's long-term success lies in its ability to manage and coordinate its business activities by pursuing fair and equitable practices, as well as its constant efforts to improve the quality of its products and services and to better meet the needs of its customers.

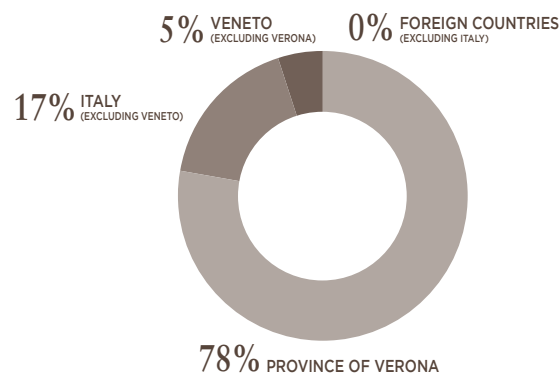
6.1 PROCUREMENT BEST PRACTICES

Monte Zovo – Cottini Family pays great attention to the origin of products, trying to enhance the territory by supporting the production of raw materials from the province of Verona. The following are the supply data of Monte Zovo - Cottini Family related to 2022.

SUPPLIERS BY AREA



SUPPLIER PROCUREMENT BY AREA



6.2 SUPPLIER QUALIFICATION

Monte Zovo - Cottini Family's supplier qualification procedure is a concrete commitment to ensure the safety and quality of the company's products, as well as the legitimacy of the products themselves. This procedure involves a strict control over the critical procurement processes, which include all raw materials and packaging materials used in the production of the products.

The assessment of critical suppliers is first carried out starting with the raw material through an analysis of its vulnerability, i.e., its proneness to be susceptible to fraud. Based on the "vulnerability" index, the risk of raw materials for "Counterfeit/Fraud" is then assessed. This approach makes it possible to minimize the risks associated with supplier selection and to ensure the highest quality and safety of the company's products by assigning a score for each evaluated supplier and a status from the following: "Qualified," "Qualified with reservation," "Unqualified," "New suppliers and incumbent suppliers," "Monitoring supplier performance," and "Exceptions to the supplier evaluation process." In order to effectively keep the procurement process under control, the organization qualifies only certain types of suppliers, namely all those categories that have a substantial impact on the finished product:

- » Grapes
- » Liquid Bulk Raw Materials (Must, Wine)
- » Ancillary Materials (Additives, Adjuvants)
- » Subsidiary Materials (Packaging)
- » Subcontractors
- » Pest Control
- » Contract Cleaning Services
- » Equipment Overhaul and Maintenance Services
- » Transportation And Distribution
- » Off-site Storage Finished Products
- » Laboratory Testing
- » Waste Management
- » Other

In addition, the procedure includes the annual review of the suppliers that have already been approved in order to ensure that safety and quality requirements are maintained over time.

6.3

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

Maintaining good relationships with customers is essential to the success of any business, as a positive relationship can lead to increased customer loyalty, turnover and company reputation.

Monte Zovo - Cottini Family is committed to selecting its customers based on their profile and their compatibility with the company's products, preferring partners who share its same ethical goals of sustainability and social responsibility. The business relationship is based on respect, trust and the promotion of Made in Italy.

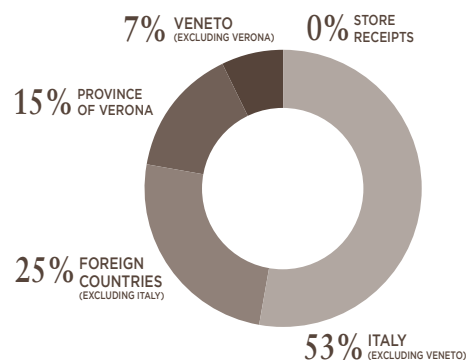
Below are the countries and data related to the business relationships established with customers by Monte Zovo - Cottini Family in 2022:

In 2022, 1,500,000 bottles of Monte Zovo branded wine were sold. In addition to Italy, the countries in which Monte Zovo - Cottini Family products were marketed are:

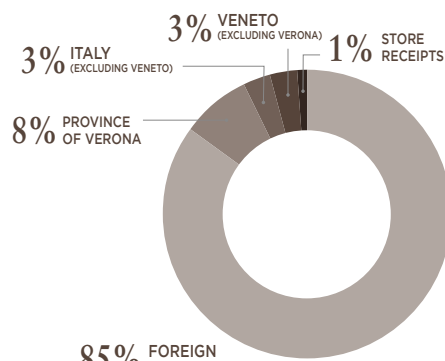
Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Kosovo, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Norway, Holland, Poland, Czech Republic, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Ukraine, USA, Albania, Canada, South Korea, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Sweden.

The Italian regions are: Lombardy, Liguria, Veneto, Emilia-Romagna, Trentino-Alto Adige, Lazio, Marche, Abruzzo, Sicily, Sardinia, Campania, Puglia, Piedmont, and Umbria.

CUSTOMERS BY AREA



SALES BY AREA



MODEL 231

Monte Zovo - Cottini Family has adopted Model 231, a corporate responsibility management tool that involves the adoption of specific internal procedures aimed at preventing the risk of committing crimes within the company's business.

6.4

COMPLIANCE AND LABELING

Compliance refers to an organization's ability to adhere to all laws and regulations applicable to its business activities. This not only helps prevent potential legal sanctions but can also help protect the company's reputation and ensure the safety of its employees, customers, and the environment.

Monte Zovo - Cottini Family has adopted a system of internal procedures to describe all the methods and procedural criteria regarding non-compliance related to products, materials, and the production process. This enables to:

1. Define responsibilities within the organization;
2. Collect timely reports of product non-compliance;
3. Identify and classify the non-compliance;
4. take specific action on the non-compliance
5. implement and verify corrective measures;
6. train personnel and verify the effectiveness of the system.

The procedure also describes how the defined corrective and improvement actions are handled to identify the causes of non-compliance and initiate the necessary actions for their removal or mitigation. Addressing non-compliances involves their identification, classification, and management methods.

LABELING

Labeling is an important practice to ensure that products comply with regulations, while at the same time being the main business card to consumers. Monte Zovo - Cottini Family follows specific procedures for their labeling process, seeking to regulate the managing process of legal text definition and label approval, as well as to ensure that the labeling complies with the current legislation of the country(ies) of destination of the product as well as the requirements of the customer.

6.5

NON-COMPLIANCE AND SANCTIONS

Monte Zovo - Cottini Family complies with the law in social and environmental matters. In 2022, it received no sanctions in this regard, demonstrating an ongoing commitment to sustainability and corporate social responsibility.

7

ENVIRONMENT

"To achieve sustainable, competitive and efficient growth, it is necessary to open up to innovative scenarios for the management of wine production, through more effective controls and a lower impact of men activity on the vineyards. This translates into greater attention to environmental, economic, and social development, which has always been an essential value for our family".

Diego Cottini

7.1

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

The entire winery was designed from the viewpoint of a conscious approach to resource use, seeking to limit consumption and waste. The Company takes this issue very much to heart, also understanding how essential it is to raise awareness among employees of the need to adopt virtuous behaviors to reduce energy consumption. To this end, the Company refers to the document "Energy Saving Plan in the Company 2022," which is the starting point for identifying actions to be implemented to improve the company's energy efficiency. This is a comprehensive and articulated plan that includes, among other things, continuous monitoring of energy consumption. Thanks to this monitoring, any waste can be detected and measures taken to curb consumption.

Since 2010, one of the company's distinguishing features has been the technological system for covering the winery's energy needs based on a biomass generator coupled with an absorption refrigerator and a series of intelligent technological solutions to minimize energy consumption. This system minimizes consumption and optimizes production processes by using vineyard pruning waste and saves as much as 500,000 kg of CO₂ each year.

This energy system produces:

- » Heating energy and domestic hot water for heating, washing, favouring even sterile washing at high temperatures, avoiding the use of chemicals;
- » Cooling energy for cooling the rooms, especially those in which wine aging takes place;
- » Air distribution and treatment systems favouring dehumidification;
- » Discharge of wash water with recovery of waste heat.



From the point of view of energy supply, Monte Zovo - Cottini Family uses exclusively 100% renewable energy sources. A portion comes from an in-house photovoltaic system with a capacity of 115,000 kWh/year, while the rest is purchased from external renewable sources for a combined total of 130,269 kWh. The self-produced excess energy, namely 10,650 kWh, was sold on the market.

Through investment in new photovoltaic systems, planned for 2023/2025, the energy produced from renewable sources will increase from 115,000/kWh year to 660,000 kWh/year.

Energy consumption data recorded in 2022 are shown below:

Specific site*	% KWh	% Cost
Caprino Veronese	74%	75%
San Pietro in cariano	26%	25%
Total	100%	100%

* Data were collected from the utility bills.

7.2

WATER MANAGEMENT

For Monte Zovo - Cottini Family, water management is a primary concern, considering the consequences of climate change on the vineyard, including drought, heat spikes, and water bombs, which can put the company's operations at risk. Water-saving awareness is a major issue that involves all members of the company to ensure sustainable water management and to promote a corporate culture based on social and environmental responsibility.

The Company has adopted a program of continuous monitoring of water consumption, which is a key step in identifying waste and taking measures to curb it. In addition, the Company has undertaken a series of investments aimed at modernizing irrigation systems in order to reduce water consumption. These interventions, which include the construction of rainwater recovery reservoirs and the design of a phyto-purification plant, represent an important step toward environmental sustainability.

Thanks to these technologies, the company will be able to use water efficiently, avoiding waste and reducing its environmental impact.

In addition, the Company has initiated a process of recovering water from barrel washes, then using it in the fertigation process, which is the technique that allows the distribution of fertilizers along with irrigation water, using recovered water from barrel washing.

The following are the water consumption data of Monte Zovo -Cottini Family.

Specific site*	% m3	% Cost
Caprino Veronese	93%	87%
San Pietro in cariano	7%	13%
Totale	100%	100%

* Data were collected from the utility bills.

7.3

WASTE MANAGEMENT



Monte Zovo - Cottini Family has a set of specific procedures with the aim of defining waste management methods, disposal methods and safety measures to ensure that only trained personnel has access to storage and disposal areas.

Waste can be divided into three types:

- » Municipal waste (dry, glass, paper, plastic...). Separate waste collection is applied in the company premises and is disposed of at the municipal level by weekly on-site pickup. Among municipal waste, paper, cardboard, and plastic films are separated on site, compressed in dedicated presses, and picked up regularly by an external company that is responsible for recycling the materials.
- » Special Waste: Aqueous liquid waste compressor condensate, aqueous liquid waste from printing press, aqueous liquid waste from washing cellar filters, packaging containing residues of hazardous substances (plastic), bottom ash and boiler dust, and toner printing press components. Special waste is managed by a service provider who is responsible for pickup and disposal every six months, for the record keeping, as well as for providing all necessary services for the management of such waste in accordance with current law.
- » Further category of waste concerns the residues of the grape harvest and winemaking in the winery i.e. Scum, Vinacce and Raspi.

The following are the data recorded during 2022 for both ordinary and special waste monitored and managed by Monte Zovo - Cottini Family.

Ordinary waste	Plastic	Organic	Paper/cardboard	Total
Quantity*	7.680		19.900	27.580
%	27,8	0,0	72,2	100

* Unit of measurement: bags

In addition to this, the company collects and sorts:

- » Glass waste: 1 bin per month;
- » Undifferentiated waste: 3 bins per week.

Special waste* externally disposed of by Recycla	Quantity
Bottom ash and boiler dust (HAZARDOUS)	1.174
Packaging containing residual hazardous substances-plastic (HAZARDOUS)	38
Aqueous liquids from cellar filter washings (NOT hazardous)	13.540
Components removed from discarded equipment (NOT hazardous)	15
Mixed-material packaging (NOT hazardous)	11.695

7.4

SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATIONS



Attention to cultivation choices and agronomic management of the Estates make an important contribution to corporate sustainability.

ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

Since August 2018 the vineyards of the Cottini family officially produce organic grapes. In the vineyards less use of pesticides, only organic manure management are the main beneficial effects on the environment in general and in particular a grape production for processing with less residue, in order to develop a greater sensitivity towards a physiological balance of our vineyards, reduce waste and increase the sustainability of the production of grapes.



BIODIVERSITY FRIEND CERTIFICATION (WBA)



Even before becoming an organic company, in spring of 2013 we got the Biodiversity Friend certification, a private standard developed in 2010 to evaluate the conservation of biodiversity in agriculture.

NATIONAL QUALITY SYSTEM OF INTEGRATED PRODUCTION (NQSIP)



In addition to organic standards and Biodiversity Friend Certification, Monte Zovo has decided to adopt the National Quality System of Integrated Production. It is a production system aimed to reduce to the minimum the productive impact on the environment or on the consumer's health.

7.5 BIODIVERSITY



Operating in close contact with nature, Monte Zovo - Cottini Family inevitably pays high attention to biodiversity. In fact, the company has deployed “Insect Houses” in the vineyards in Caprino Veronese, in the locality of Zovo, with the aim of encouraging the presence of pollinating insects, particularly wild hymenoptera, which play a fundamental role in the pollination of many wild and cultivated plants. In addition, the cottages provide shelter during the winter season for many other beneficial insects, such as ladybugs, mantids and butterflies.

The Biodiversity Points, which are located in the vineyards along with the insect houses, have been positioned to disseminate some information and curiosities about the surrounding area and its history, the flora and fauna that inhabit it, and the world of wine and viticulture. These points represent an important stage in a journey of discovery of the area, which is perfectly complemented by the signs of the Nature Trails of the Baldo Mountain Community, placed at various points in the area.

7.6 EXPERIMENTATION AND INNOVATION IN THE VINEYARD

The sustainable choices illustrated so far are the result of many years of thoughtful evaluations, analysis, and studies, and some of these represent the original foundations of Monte Zovo.

In fact, the Cottini family decided to conduct extensive research on resistant vines and on the forms of farming suitable for countering the effects of climate change, through a path, which began in 2019 and can count on collaboration with the Edmund Mach Foundation (Fondazione Edmund Mach, FEM) of San Michele all'Adige (TN).

In Bettinelle, on the Caprino Veronese estate, Monte Zovo selected 10 hectares of land for the PIWI plant. A part of them was made available for experimental use to the Mach Foundation which planted various hybridized varieties in the nurseries of San Michele all'Adige. The goal is to focus on the different grape varieties to create a real genetic bank aimed at collecting data on the behavior of PIWI and evaluating the mechanisms related to the resistance of the clones planted in the field.

WRT WINE RESEARCH TEAM

Since 2012 the Cottini Winery is part of WRT (Wine Research Team). A new project because it focuses on scientific research with particular attention to sustainability in both wine and wine-making, but developed by private companies and cooperatives. Wineries that, following the indications of a scientific committee dedicated exclusively to this project, experiment the viticulture and the enology of the future. An exciting project because it links production excellence and applied research to the greatest territorial, viticultural-oenological and economic sustainability.

The Scientific Committee of WRT consists of technicians and researchers who belong to the élite of the Italian and international viticultural-oenological context.



HARVEST TECHNIQUES AND PRECISION VITICULTURE

“The precision viticulture enables innovative scenarios for the management of the grapes’ production through more efficient machines and checks and it permits less impact of the anthropic activity on the vineyards, this means more sustainability and attention to the environment”.

Diego Cottini



With the harvest 2018, Cottini farm together with the Wine Research Team and the AGER research lab-imposed harvest techniques on the basis of innovative criteria of the precision viticulture.

In the specific we can sum up what we’re doing and the instruments we’re using:

- » Monte Zovo has structured a cartographic operating system (Enogis) with the identification and characterization of all the vineyards that can be consulted on the web and app;
- » Thanks to this first step, Monte Zovo used the satellite data of the NDVI condition index to examine the vineyards’ variability (on the web you can consult the trend on various dates and on the app a classification of some vineyards before the harvest); thanks to this Monte Zovo carried out surveys on the quality of some vineyards in order to characterize the different condition areas picked up by the satellite;
- » Monte Zovo has made a farm notebook that allows to register the treatments and processing we’ve carried out;
- » Monte Zovo has activated a form to automatically monitor the production costs using the app in order to track the route of the work vehicles and to automatically link the working hours to the vineyards; the connection processing-machines is automatic too thanks to a QRCode; the user has “only” to press start and stop on the app and then the system calculates everything.

7.7 PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABILITY IN WINE TOURISM



Monte Zovo winery has been awarded at the Best of Wine Tourism 2020 competition for sustainable practices. The competition, at the third edition, has been coordinated by the Chamber of Commerce of Verona, which promotes the territorial development linked to the world of wine tourism.

7.8 BIODISTRICT “BIOVERONA”



Monte Zovo is among the founders of Biodistrict Verona, established in July 2019 and born from the meeting of organic companies operating in the province of Verona. Biodistrict Verona was born with the idea that only through information, training and promotion can something concrete be done for the environment.

8 THE PEOPLE IN MONTE ZOVO - COTTINI

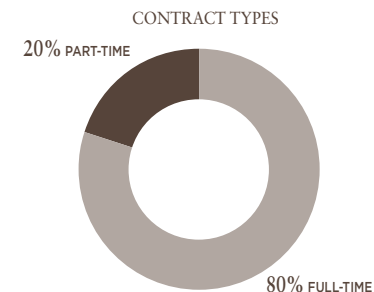
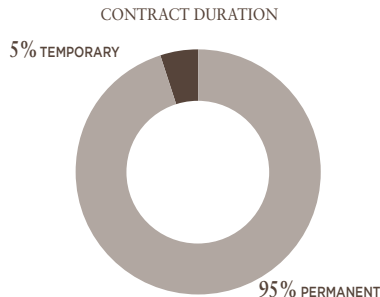
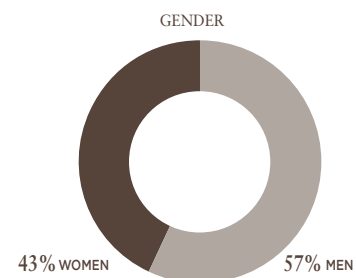
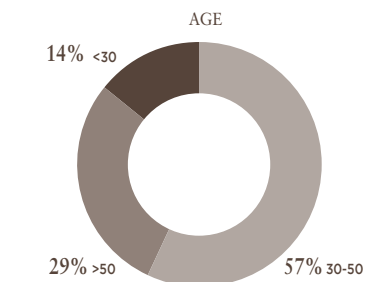
Nowadays, companies are increasingly aware of the importance of employees as a success factor and consequently pay more and more attention to their mental and physical well-being, work-life balance, and professional development. Monte Zovo - Cottini Family firmly believes that their employees are the greatest resource and is aware that their satisfaction and professional development are the key to the future success of the company.

8.1 THE STAFF

In 2022, the Monte Zovo - Cottini Family totaled 44 workers 43% of which are women and 57% between the ages of 30 and 50. 80% work full-time and 95% have permanent contracts. The average seniority in the company is 4 years.

THE PARTNERS

There are two managing partners, a man and a woman respectively.



8.2 TURNOVER

In the year 2022, 11 new employees were hired against 19 terminations (18 conventional contracts plus 1 internship).

8.3 EMPLOYEES HIRED FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

The local community for Monte Zovo - Cottini Family is the population residing in the municipalities of San Pietro in Cariano and Caprino Veronese. 23% of the employees reside in the municipality of Caprino Veronese, 5% in the municipality of San Pietro in Cariano, and 93% have Italian nationality.

8.4 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Monte Zovo - Cottini Family offers their employees benefits that are not required by contract but are granted to improve their well-being. Monte Zovo - Cottini Family's goal is to create a positive work environment and to enhance the well-being of its employees by recognizing their importance. During 2022, six employees were given the opportunity to use company cars for mixed use and two workers were given housing at company facilities. In addition, bonuses were issued because of the rising household expenses to a total of 34 employees of the company.

8.5

EMPLOYEES' SAFETY AND HEALTH



Managing the health and safety in the workplace for Monte Zovo - Cottini Family means ensuring a safe and healthy working environment for its employees. The Company has several procedures regarding safety, covering all employees, including: Model 231, DVR, Noise and Vibration Risk, Chemical Risk, Biological Risk, MMC/repetitive movements, LC Stress, Procedure for Mother Workers, Confined Environment Procedures, Fire Emergency Plan. In addition, a periodic safety meeting is held as required by current regulations in compliance with legislative obligations.

When they are hired or within a few weeks of starting work, employees are informed about company regulations by receiving the document "Company Regulations," and in the case of production operators, they are trained on the principles and procedures regarding food safety. In addition to this, safety-related information is disseminated to employees through training and information activities, according to regulations.

Attention to employees' well-being is also realized through requesting conventions for swimming pools and gyms and through employee awareness projects on the benefits of an active life.

8.6

EDUCATION AND TRAINING



Monte Zovo - Cottini Family recognizes the importance of promoting professional training for its employees, structured according to their qualifications and different roles within the company. Professional training aims to improve employees' skills in order to adapt to new production requirements and market challenges.

Below are the details of the consolidated training carried out in 2022 by Monte Zovo - Cottini Family

Type of training	Number of employees involved	Total hours
Planned workplace safety	14	160 hours
Planned food safety	14	20 recorded hours
On the job food safety	14	50 hours
Training to increase the level of internal culture about the company and products	14	12 hours

Company-organized training on workplace safety is planned with the Health and Safety manager as required by the regulations, food safety training is planned as per the company's training plan, and training to increase the level of internal culture about the company and its products has included an Induction Training of six lectures of two hours each intended for the Sales, Marketing, Reception and Communication departments.

9 MONTE ZOVO IN THE COMMUNITY

Cultivating relationships with the local community and territory is an important element for Monte Zovo - Cottini Family. By interacting with them, the Cottini family intends to do business in a shared and inclusive way by focusing on environmental, economic and social development and protection.

Below are the projects implemented in 2022 benefiting the local community:

Project name	Project description	Who it is addressed to	Employees engagement	Financial input
Reverse Social Cooperative - Gueridon Project Christmas Frames	Realization of A5 format frame Bold version in wood. No. 60 pieces inclusive and environmentally friendly craftsmanship: the woods used, either reclaimed or from a controlled supply chain, are worked with handcrafted techniques to cure the details and focus on the quality of the products made in a prison economy workshop.	Employees	Christmas gift	€ 510,00 + VAT
Reverse Social cooperative -Gueridon project	Gueridon realization using wine boxes with Monte Zovo logo. No. pieces 25. Inclusive and environmentally friendly craftsmanship: the woods used, either reclaimed or from controlled supply chains, are worked with artisanal techniques to pay attention to detail and place emphasis on the quality of the products made, in a prison economy workshop	Customers	-	€ 1.400,00 + VAT
Sci Club Alto Mincio	Provision of Wine for race awards, sponsorship on communication tools and Monte Zovo logo on athlete transport bus	Athletes, club members and supporters	-	€ 1.000 + VAT (sponsorship agreement)
Easter egg Abeo	Purchase of the Easter egg	Employees	Easter gift	€ 800
Hackaton on Wine Hospitality	Project aimed at training young people in the field of wine tourism, creating Wine Hospitality Managers who have in-depth knowledge at all levels. These managers will become reference points for wineries, bringing a younger audience closer to wine culture. Our program focuses not only on sharing theoretical knowledge, but also on concrete projects that will provide participating wineries with innovative turnkey solutions. In the future, we will extend the project to involve all Wine&Food Hospitality students in Italy, providing concrete and competent answers to wineries and producers in the Food segment from a youth perspective.	Eight students selected in sector HTI in the Veneto, Apulia and Lombardy regions.	-	€ 700 (availability of a company room and lunch break)
Toast of Jesus	On 9/17/2022 at the Hotel Stella Alpina is proposed The Toast of Jesus a dinner with Middle Eastern and biblical flavors punctuated by the four chalices of Jesus' last supper, led by Fr. Martino Signoretto.	Religious Community of Madonna della Corona within the program of initiatives ending of the Marian Jubilee Year for the five hundred years of the Shrine.	-	€ 1,000 (wine supply and presence of in-house person from the winery at the event)
Wine supply to the parish	Providing wine to the parish	Parish	-	-

10 METHODOLOGY

This Best Practices Report 2022 was produced by Monte Zovo - Cottini Family. It reports the company's willingness to pursue a path aimed at improving its business processes in terms of sustainability. In the document are presented both individual data related to the activity of Monte Zovo, as well as consolidated data with the main commercial company of the group, Famiglia Cottini Spa, between which there is a close relationship oriented mainly to the distribution on the national and international market, allowing to assess the synergies and development opportunities of the entire business reality.

The analysis was conducted using an evaluation standard external and independent to the company: GRI-reference.

The GRI material topics used for inspiration are:

Statement of use	Azienda Agricola Monte Zovo has reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period January 1st, 2022, to December 31st, 2022
GRI 1 used	GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI STANDARD	DISCLOSURE	LOCATION
201	Economic performance	pag. 5
202	Market presence	pag. 15
204	Procurement practices	pag. 9-10
302	Energy	pag. 11
303	Water and effluents	pag. 11
306	Effluents and waste	pag. 12
401	Employment	pag. 15
403	Occupational health and safety	pag. 16
404	Training and education	pag. 16
413	Local communities	pag. 17

The Sustainable Development Goals of the UN Agenda 2030 were also considered in the analysis:

SDGs 7 Clean and affordable energy

- » 7.2 By 2030, significantly increase the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.

SDGs 8 Decent work and economic growth

- » 8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading, and innovation, including through a focus on high value-added and labor-intensive sectors;
- » 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent work creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and foster the formalization and growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services;
- » 8.4 Progressively improve, up to 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production in an effort to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programs on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead;
- » 8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of unemployed youth not in education or training;
- » 8.8 Protect labor rights and promote a safe and secure work environment for all workers, including migrant workers, especially migrant women, and those in precarious employment;
- » 8.9 By 2030, develop and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products;

SDGs 12. Responsible consumption and production

- » 12.1 Implement the 10-year framework of programs on sustainable consumption and production, with the cooperation of all countries and the initiative of developed countries, taking into account the degree of development and capacities of developing countries;
- » 12.4 By 2020, achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water, and soil in order to minimize their adverse effects on human health and the environment;
- » 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse;
- » 12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and integrate sustainability information into their regular reports;
- » 12.7 Promote procurement practices that are sustainable in accordance with national policies and priorities;
- » 12.8 b Develop and apply tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that will create jobs and promote local culture and products;

SDGs 15. Life on land

- » 15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, particularly forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements;
- » 15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, promote the restoration of degraded forests, and significantly increase afforestation and reforestation globally;
- » 15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to improve their ability to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development;
- » 15.5 Take urgent and significant measures to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt biodiversity loss, and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species;
- » 15.9 a Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems.

This is the first Best Practice Report of Monte Zovo - Cottini Family, covering the period January-December 2022. Reporting is periodic on an annual basis. The subjects included in this report are: Azienda Agricola Monte Zovo and Cottini Family Spa. For more information regarding this Best Practices Report, please send an email to: info@montezovo.com





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