

One Step Ahead with Sustainable Agriculture

Agrícola Cinco Valles
INDAP – Juan Araus Farm
Chile



Sustainable Agriculture in Practice

“Agrícola Cinco Valles” is an association of 114 farmers. Farmer Juan Araus stands out as an innovative and highly entrepreneurial member of the association. His farm is rather fortunately located in an area of central Chile, blessed with a Mediterranean climate and fertile soils that allow him to produce quality vegetables and crops. He is recognized in “Cinco Valles” as a leader in implementing modern agricultural techniques, with a strong commitment to the environment on the farm and to its workers. At Bayer ForwardFarm Agrícola Cinco Valles, INDAP, Bayer and members of the association come together to show sustainable agriculture on site.



Introducing Agrícola Cinco Valles

Farm, Property of Juan Araus



Location:

Popeta, Melipilla, close to Santiago of Chile



History:

Juan Araus established his farm in 2015. Now embracing an area of 44 ha, including leased fields, he manages the farm in partnership with some of his brothers. Juan is personally in charge of managing the farm with the help of his administrator, Guillermo Guzmán.



Farming Land:

Mainly silty loam



Crops:

Strawberry, potato, squash, garlic, onion and cereals



Partners:

Agrícola Cinco Valles, INDAP, CDTEC, Fraunhofer Chile Research

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Farm Profile



- Tailored Solutions
- Proactive Stewardship
- Partnerships

Key Elements

- Integrated crop management**
Crops are managed using innovative sustainable agricultural techniques and inputs, including certified seeds and phytosanitary solutions.
- Insect pest monitoring**
Continuous pest monitoring allows precise application of pest control measures, only when needed.
- Weed monitoring**
Permanent monitoring of weeds allows to implement weed control programs to avoid proliferation of herbicide resistant weeds.
- Weather and irrigation monitoring**
Real-time information on weather conditions assists in achieving the correct use of crop protection products and optimal irrigation.
- Safe storage**
Good Agricultural Practices are essential for correct storage and handling of phytosanitary products.
- Operator safety**
Correct use of personal protective equipment maximizes user safety throughout all crop protection tasks.
- BayG.A.P. training**
Training of all Agrícola Cinco Valles farmers in Good Agricultural Practices, in accordance with the BayG.A.P. Program, to prepare and obtain GLOBALG.A.P. or other market compliance certifications.
- Water protection**
Phytobac®. Sustainable management of wastewater from cleaning equipment in a closed system that biologically breaks down residues from crop protection products.
- Preserving biodiversity**
Planting of flower strips for feeding and encouraging the proliferation of pollinators and other beneficial organisms.
- Healthy hives for pollination**
Demonstrating good hive-management practices for healthy bees, ensuring optimal and active pollination on the farm.
- Partnerships**
Bringing together skills and expertise to demonstrate successful and modern sustainable farming in a holistic way.

Collaboration for Sustainable Agriculture

Partnerships are essential to stimulate progress in sustainable agriculture. This is being demonstrated by the partners of the ForwardFarming initiative:



// INDAP The Institute for Agricultural Development (Instituto de Desarrollo Agropecuario/INDAP) contributes to the sustainable economic development and appreciation of smallholder family farmers as well as their organizations by means of promoting human, social, productive, environmental and cultural values, for men, women, youth and the First Nations across all regions in the country.



// Agrícola Cinco Valles The farmer association Agrícola Cinco Valles supports its 114 members with services to develop the farmers' productivity, technical and innovative capabilities to optimize their crop yields and commercialization processes, allowing them to improve their income and quality of life, with the goal to improve income and families' quality of life.



// Bayer Crop Science develops innovative seeds, services and crop protection products for agriculture and horticulture. These innovations contribute to an integrated crop management – the basis for sustainable agriculture.

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