Environmentally Sustainable Practices at Hunt Country Vineyards
Farm History
• Corning Roots
• Decided to grow grapes
• Coca Cola
• Started Winery
• 6\textsuperscript{th} generation
History
Deck addition, Two sides
Second, Third and Fourth Additions
Fifth Addition
The Future

• Seventh Generation
What Does “Sustainable” Mean?

• Overused?
• Greenwashing?
• Best Practices?
• Environmentally Responsible
• Employee Friendly
• Economically Viable
• Safe for the Long Term and Practical
Locavore Room

- Compostable Tableware
- Reuse and recycle
- 40% reduction in carbon footprint in 6 years
- Distance to source of supplies, resale items: 162 miles vs. 1500 miles average!
The Big Picture
Take Advantage of Slope
Elevated Pad Eliminates Pump
Stone Wall Loading Dock
Insulate Under Radiant Floor
Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF’s)
Insulate!

- Floors, doors, walls, ceilings, openings
- Chiller piping, hot water heaters and pipes,
- Jackets around tanks—removable, if possible

It makes a huge difference!
· Insulate!

· Floors, doors, walls, ceilings, openings

· Chiller piping, hot water heaters and pipes,

· Tanks around jackets – removable, if possible
Chiller pipes, Hot water heaters
Septic Tank
Newer Infiltrators for Leach Fields
Easily Portable Displays
Finger Lakes Chamber Music
Carlson Pump and Electric Pallet Jack
Semi Pneumatic Tires
Wine Production
Aging
Chosing a Tractor

• Consider buying a 5-10 year old tractor with 2000 or fewer hours, not a 40 year old model.

• You will need remote hydraulics, a 3 point hitch and a loader. Consider a quick detach loader such as Kubota to switch from bucket to forks to snow plow to bale spear, etc.
Dump Trailer

• Can moonlight as compost spreader
• Just add labor and shovels!
• Multiple uses on farm
Protection from Winter Injury

• Hilling with soil may work in many places, but our soils are very rocky. This results in mechanical damage to the vines.

• Our solution: Mulching.
How We Mulch

• Roll out heavily in the rows
• Rake into windrow under vines with narrowed rake
Winter Blanket
Roto-tiller

- Great in fine soil
- Very high maintenance in rocky soil
Disking Vs. Roto-tilling

- Discs are best in rocky soil
Cultivating young vines

- Change drag teeth to sweeps
Simple Soil Leveller

- Hitch behind drag
Jim Bedient’s Suggestions

• Many Uses for a Gator
• Spray or seed row middles, spot spray, spread compost and haul everything fast
Do it yourself!

• Unless you have a large fortune, you can often make do quite well with a little ingenuity. Copy your neighbor. He’d be flattered.

• Take a welding class and buy a welder and a set of torches. If I can learn to weld so can you.

• It’s OK to fail! Just learn from your first tries and correct with the next version.
Sprayer Filler and Shed

Gravity fed from pond
Our Geothermal System
Main Center
Renewable energy is Sustainable.

- Heating with wood
- Solar Thermal – heating water on your roof
- Photovoltaics- Solar electric panels
- Wind power
- Small hydroelectric turbine- water power
- Biodiesel
- Electric cars
- Geothermal heating and cooling
Sharing Equipment

- Bottling Equipment and Personnel
- Pressing Equipment
- Filters
- Vineyard Equipment
- Trailers
Ask Advice!

• Old folks like me are happy to give advice.
• Get lots of it from many sources.
• It’s free – and sometimes worth what you paid for it.
• Observe many ways of accomplishing a task and choose what works for you.
More practices

• Predator habitat: Owls, Hawks, Bats and barn swallows
• Biodiesel and limitations
• Italy Hill Produce – Organic
• Feed the soil with compost and mulch
• Vegan friendly wines
• New sustainable varieties, difficulty with mildews in Finger Lakes
• Update on Hydrofracking and deep well disposal – Sustainable??
• Renewable Energy Exciting Future.
• Geothermal - Now
• Photovoltaics - New Generation Soon
The near future is full of changes. Let's embrace sustainability so we can be proud to tell our grandchildren we did it for them.
Conclusion

• Currently the world is rapidly depleting it’s resources. Choosing sustainable practices and renewable resources are decisions we can each make. I think we’d all like future generations to be proud of the choices we make today.
With Luck There’s a Pot of Gold