

Responsible Production



ISSUE Nº 13

January / December 2023



Citrusvil, Towards Carbon Neutrality



Citrusvil
**Gets Into the Market
of Organic Industrial
Products**

page 7

Grupo Lucci
**Professional
Development, Unique
Value Proposal**

page 26

Engordar
**First Steps in
Holistic Livestock
Farming**

page 30

F. Vicente Lucci
**Skills for the
Labour Market**

page 35

Awards



Citrusvil

2023 Corporate Citizenship Award – Water Use

Page » 1



Fundación Vicente Lucci

Fundación Vicente Lucci Received Recognition

Page » 2



Citrusvil

Citrusvil in the IFU's Sustainability Report

Page » 3



Grupo Lucci

Connecting Companies with the Sustainable Development Goals Program

Page » 3

Editorial



Citrus Production

The Challenge of Adaptability

There is no doubt that 2023 has been a challenging year due to, on one hand, the global context characterised by volatility and oversupply, and, on the other, national macroeconomic instability.

Nevertheless, at Citrusvil, we have carried out our operations with a strong commitment to continuous improvement, competitiveness, sustainability and innovation as cornerstones of our strategy.

One of the notable features in our everyday management is the sustainability of our activities. With our sustainability policy, every year we improve every aspect of performance. This year we have put special emphasis on carbon neutrality.

Thanks to great teamwork in all the company, we have introduced organic production, got it certified, and, during the past months, we have started to sell organic products, which is a new long-term challenge. As a result, we have expanded our quality-assured product portfolio.

Apart from offering innovative solutions and quality products, we focus on exceeding our customers' expectations.

We establish deeply collaborative business relations where active listening and adaptability are key to meet our customers' changing and demanding needs.

We aim that our excellence in customer service, together with our competitiveness, can be the hallmark of our brand.

These great challenges will keep demanding our best efforts so that our actions together with our strategy drive us to attain a solid and sustainable future.

I want to thank and recognise our teams' commitment and the trust placed by Grupo Lucci's directors, who support and motivate us to keep working and be the best option for our customers.

We want to share various initiatives which confirm our leadership in the sustainable food production to the world.



Martín Carignani

Citrusvil CEO

Editorial



Livestock Farming

Our Achievements in Livestock Farming

This has not been an easy year; apart from the worrying Argentine economic and political background, we have had to face climate adversity. Nevertheless, we have managed to move forward and continue with our projects, adding innovation to our work plans as a reflection of Grupo Lucci's strategic pillars.

In order to consolidate sustainability in our business, we have introduced holistic livestock farming, increased our crop diversity, and started to implement new practices to strengthen our bond with local communities. Together with Fundación Vicente Lucci, we have developed the "Open House" Program and internships for students from the agro-technical schools near our facilities.

We have incorporated new technology which improves our operation. That is how we have implemented a digital monitoring system for our grain stocks in the fields, started to develop tools to measure our carbon footprint, renewed our vehicle and machine fleet, and added new technologies that will enable us to monitor the agricultural production processes in each of their stages.

We are aware about the fact that our collaborators' continuous training and the creation of spaces for dialogue have been key. That is why we have developed training programs on more specialized methodologies, getting each member of our team involved in order to consolidate the process of change we have been promoting in the organization.

We keep working on integrating our agricultural and livestock farming activities since we are convinced that the synergy between both activities brings benefits to the business and leads to a better sustainable use of our natural resources.

We have to face new challenges. One of the main projects for the next seasons will be the implementation of a new administrative and commercial Production Management System, a SAP partner that will enable us to join the management and the technologies we have been gradually implementing so that we can become an agro-industrial company with online management monitoring.

We are proud of all these achievements, and I want to congratulate all our Agriculture and Livestock Farming team for their sustained commitment. In addition, on behalf of the team, I want to thank the Board of Directors for their trust and willingness to invest in the continuous improvement of our business.

Come and read the new edition of the Responsible Production Magazine and learn about our contributions to agriculture and livestock farming production in northwestern Argentina.



Pablo Cianci

Agriculture and Livestock Farming CEO

Contents



Awards

Page » 1



Citrusvil, Towards Carbon Neutrality

Page » 4



Citrusvil Gets Into the Market of Organic Industrial Products

Page » 7



Service Crops: Sustainability Allies

Page » 10



Technological Contributions: Harvest Transparency

Page » 12



More Than Just Lemons

Page » 14



Quality Keepers

Page » 17



MEOC, Citrusvil's Model of Operational Excellence

Page » 19



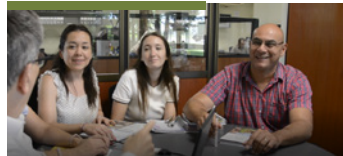
Internal Auditors Promote a Cultural Change in Operation

Page » 21



Native Forest Conservation and Production

Page » 23



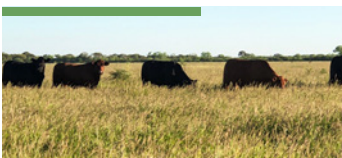
Professional Development, Unique Value Proposal

Page » 26



We Added Rapeseed to Our Crop Portfolio

Page » 28



First Steps in Holistic Livestock Farming

Page » 30



Quality Certified Chandler Walnuts

Page » 33



Skills for the Labour Market

Page » 35

Editorial Board:

- > Martín Carignani, Citrusvil CEO
- > Pablo Cianci, Agriculture and Livestock Farming CEO
- > Agustina Lucci, Sustainability Manager
- > Carina Cavallo, Communications and CSR Director

Design and Production:

- > Estudio Kroma

Digital Communication and Contents:

- > Ide Consultora

Contact:

comunicacion@grupolucci.com.ar

Awards



Citrusvil

2023 Corporate Citizenship Award Water Use

AmCham granted Citrusvil the 2023 Corporate Citizenship Award in the category Environment, Water Use.

This award encourages us to keep working on the continuous improvement of our processes, mainly when it comes to natural resources management and, specifically, to water consumption.

For 25 years, the American Chamber of Commerce in Argentina (AmCham) has organized this

initiative which recognizes the best practices in terms of sustainability and triple-impact or regenerative companies based on three main areas: Corporate Governance, Environment and Society, and incorporates special categories according to the needs or key topics in the global agenda.

Awards



Fundación Vicente Lucci

Fundación Vicente Lucci Received Recognition

We were granted the Caring Entrepreneur Award by the Social Ecumenical Forum for Fundación Vicente Lucci's Volunteer Program.

This award recognizes the work of the volunteers in the communities in northwestern Argentina within our areas of work: education, labour inclusion, entrepreneurship and citizen engagement.

The Social Ecumenical Forum is an entity that every year, together with Fundación Internacional Jorge Luis Borges, recognizes

companies, NGOs and public figures for their commitment to society in contests with judges and evaluation committees comprised of experts, scholars, leaders, cultural figures and representatives from different religious communities.

Awards

Citrusvil in the IFU's Sustainability Report

We are in the 2023 Sustainability Report of the International Fruit and Vegetable Juice Association (IFU), an institution that brings together the juice industry and its world benchmarks.

Our sustainable management is mentioned in those pages.

IFU is a global entity that gathers professionals and companies engaged in the production, processing and commercialization of juices obtained from fruits and vegetables. Among its activities, the association holds conferences, promotes research and innovative practices and develops guidelines and standards which

ensure the quality and safety of the products in this sector.



Grupo Lucci

We Are Inspired by This Kind of Recognition!

We have received recognition from the Argentine Business Council for Sustainable Development (CEADS) in the 2023 edition of its "Conectando Empresas con los ODS" ("Connecting Companies with the SDGs") Program for our contribution to the 2030 Agenda.

The Council developed the ODS.ar platform, destined for collecting and analyzing the contribution to the SDGs from the private sector

in Argentina, in order to understand the aim of the efforts in the development of the local agenda towards 2030. This initiative, developed by CEADS and Ernst & Young Argentina, brings together experiences from companies that contribute locally to the SDGs and their objectives.

You can learn more about our initiatives at: www.ods.ceads.org.ar



Citrusvil

Citrusvil, Towards Carbon Neutrality

Climate change has become one of the main current concerns for humanity. In view of this, many organizations and countries are looking for different ways to fight this phenomenon through its mitigation. One of the best ways is through carbon neutrality. At Citrusvil, we are working towards carbon neutrality by means of the continuous improvement in our measurements and by reporting the progress made in this regard through the Carbon Balance: a positive carbon balance.

The United Nations set the objective of being carbon neutral by 2050, thus encouraging companies to invest in the development of GHG emissions measurement, mitigation and compensation strategies and achieving a net zero carbon balance in their operations and value chain. The European Green Deal establishes a roadmap to make Europe the first climate neutral continent in 2050 by boosting economy, improving health and life quality, and protecting nature.

“We aim at being at the forefront of low-carbon production in the world. In this regard, reducing the emissions of CO₂ and other harmful gases is crucial when it comes to offering more sustainable products. Every year, we measure the carbon footprint throughout Citrusvil’s production chain and in its products. To meet

current and future challenges, we promote sustainable solutions in our business which mean a positive change for everybody,” explained Agustina Lucci, Grupo Lucci’s Sustainability Manager.

“During 2022, we managed to reduce our carbon footprint by 24% in comparison with the previous year due to the commitment of our teams in each production stage to obtain better results. As part of the improvements, we made use of currents of thermal charge by means of the implementation of heat exchangers. In addition, there were some additional improvements in the process which boosted biogas generation, resulting in an increase in the generation of renewable energy,” added Noelia Lescano, Head of Quality Assurance and Environment.

Lemon plantations help retain greenhouse gases and contribute to stopping climate change. Since 2019, Citrusvil has calculated the annual sequestration of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the 6,983 net productive hectares of its citrus orchards. Due to the vertical integration of the business, since we produce the necessary raw material to manufacture our product portfolio, **we manage to compensate all the emissions generated throughout our operations.**

In 2022, Citrusvil's lemon plantations sequestered

 **118,000 tons**
of CO₂ from the atmosphere

This represents almost three times the total emissions generated throughout the value chain.



The path towards carbon neutrality consists of three stages: measuring, reducing and compensating, so that the amount of carbon released be zero.

A Reduction in the Amount of Emissions Is Key

Citrusvil is committed to reducing the amount of emissions by introducing changes in its operation. This includes streamlining operation practices, investing in renewable energy sources and implementing energy efficiency measures.

We expect to double the provision of external wind energy by 2024, by mainly replacing traditional generation contracts and increasing the percentage of renewable energy to 60%.



Sustainability Investments

"This year, at the Industry Department, the old boilers at Plant B have been replaced by more efficient ones. The equipment operates almost autonomously and is 96% efficient, which had a positive impact since it reduced the amount of natural gas that is burnt," stated Gerardo Cigliutti, Engineering Manager.

Thus, by means of the introduction of this high-efficiency boiler and a flat curve for the current and future steam demand, we have improved specific consumption and contributed to reducing the carbon footprint of our operation.





In addition, Citrusvil is making new investments in order to increase the generation of biogas from its effluents. This will be possible next year thanks to a new reactor and its ancillary facilities, which will not only replace natural gas consumption but will also generate more electric energy from renewable sources.

A modern energy measuring and control system, known as DCS (Distributed Control System), has also been implemented at the industrial plants. This system measures all the energy variables in the process online. Such records enable us to prepare consumption balances periodically, analyse trends, and implement an ambitious Rational Use of Energy Program (URE).



All these actions, together with other planned actions for the future, are carried out taking into account the Company's continuous improvement as part of the Carbon and Water Committee's responsibilities. Such Committee operates transversally to Citrusvil, focusing on operation efficiency and innovation, and towards **carbon neutrality**.



Gerardo Cigliutti
Engineering Manager



Noelia Lescano
Head of Quality Assurance and Environment



Agustina Lucci
Sustainability Manager



Citrusvil

Citrusvil Gets Into the Market of Organic Industrial Products

Three years ago, Citrusvil launched its project of organic lemon production destined for manufacturing at La Ramada Orchard, in an area of 220 hectares with 10-to-11-year-old plantations which were under a traditional production system.

To carry out this project, we received expert advice during the three-year-long conversion process.

During the first year, we worked on the transition by means of trial-and-error processes to get to know the method. Then, the process was consolidated.

During this last season, we managed to combine learnings with long-term perspectives.

“It was an ongoing learning process and great teamwork which resulted in remarkable achievements,” said José Luis Taddei, Head of Primary Production, and David Weber, Northern Zone Manager.

“Our main goal consisted in reaching the same production levels with an organic production as those obtained under the traditional production system, that is to say, 50 / 55 tons per hectare, depending on the agro-climatic conditions of each season. Our crop yield was 53 tons per hectare, an excellent number which makes us face challenges in terms of new learnings and in keeping them in the long term,” stated Juan Altamiranda, Primary Production Manager.

CITRUSVIL
LEMON GROWING & PROCESSING

ORGANIC PRODUCT

La Ramada Orchard Organic Production

We ensure food safety in our production by applying Good Agricultural Practices and committing ourselves to environmental sustainability and caring for biodiversity and workers' health, safety and well-being.

- Rational use of natural resources
- Traceability and certification
- No use of synthetic chemicals
- Preservation and increase in biological diversity
- Maintenance of soil fertility

CERTIFIED ORGANIC

PRODUCTION

In 2023, Citrusvil's organic production was certified thanks to the Company's great teamwork, and, as a result, we expanded our quality-assured portfolio.

We ensure food safety in our production by applying good agricultural practices, committing ourselves to environmental sustainability and caring for biodiversity and workers' health, safety and well-being.

“There are two main and different lines of certification: the American and the European. As we export to various destinations, we focus on the requirements for global commercialization. With this certification, we can have access to both American and Canadian markets as well as European markets. Many countries do not have a specific regulation but they follow the European; others have their own requirements. That is why we are working in order to meet such requirements in the near future,” explained Noelia Lescano, Head of Quality Assurance and Environment.



Sustained Organic Juice Demand

So far, the organic lemon harvest is used to produce organic juices, which are highly demanded in the organic food and beverages industry, and to manufacture other organic by-products such as pulp cells, essential oils and peels.

“We add value to juice taking into consideration the growing demand of this product in the global market. We had to reorganize different processes in our activity, both in the harvesting process and in the fruit processing, and, during the 2023 season, we got top-quality organic products. We have the operational capacity to grow in the production and industrialization of organic lemon by-products,” added Marcelo Pérez, Industrial Plant B Manager.

Commercialization Challenges

During the last months of 2023, Citrusvil started to commercialize its organic products, which is a new long-term challenge.

“We can now offer the world a unique product such as organic juice, which will strengthen our position as a strategic partner throughout the value chain in the production of safe, reliable and sustainable products. We expect to grow in the organic global market, which makes us carry out an in-depth analysis of the different market commercialization alternatives and possibilities in search of demand, which has temporarily slowed down in such a global context of inflation and end product price hikes. Nevertheless, we believe it will recover and grow,” stated Alex Nolte, Global Commercial Manager.

”

“The incorporation of organic products into our portfolio of certified industrialized lemon products will enable us to offer the market our products from a different perspective, by creating a demand that is supplementary to the current one.”

Alex Nolte, Global Commercial Manager.



Alex Nolte

Global Commercial Manager



Juan Altamiranda

Primary Production Manager



Marcelo Perez

Industrial Plant B Manager



Noelia Lescano

Head of Quality Assurance and Environment





Citrusvil

Service Crops: Sustainability Allies

The constant search for innovative ideas made us introduce service crops in our citrus orchards in order to enhance efficiency and foster sustainable practices.

In 2022, we started to implement service crops, and we aim at assessing the effects of their use in citrus plantations of different ages and at different times in the crop cycle, taking into account biological and agronomic indicators.

“We will spend three years in this assessment. Together with various engineers who are in charge of the follow-up, we are conducting some tests in closely defined areas, one test in each Citrusvil’s production area – north, centre and south of Tucumán –. Once the first cycle ends, we will measure the soil physiological and morphological parameters in order to check if the soil structure has benefited from such practice and quantify such benefits. With this information, we will make a future decision to introduce these service crops in what we call ‘trail,’ the area in between plants,” stated Juan Altamiranda, Primary Production Manager.

These practices are being developed in the following orchards: La Cruz, La Ramada, La Paz, El Banco, San Juan and Alpachiri. All of them have different characteristics. In some cases, they are orchards which have young plants (one-to-three-years old). In other cases, they are transition plots, where the lemon plantations were eradicated for having reached their lifespan. Finally, in the last group we find orchards under organic production.

In addition, for each plot where service crops are introduced, there is a twin plot which works as a “control plot” in order to compare results.

What Are Service Crops for?

Service crops help in the restoration of deteriorated soils and bring benefits in terms of structure, nutrients, and the morphological conditions which make the land more suitable for use. This enables us to become less dependent on exogenous fertilization systems and reduce the amount of water and agro-chemicals used, thus reducing environmental impact and costs.

Agricultural practice affects land either by altering soil characteristics, water tables or by producing greenhouse gases.

That is why we work on the introduction of practices, such as service crops, which help counteract such effects.

What Are Service Crops?

Service crops (SC) are key in regenerative agriculture practices because of their numerous benefits for ecosystem health. In order to introduce them, a crop “consociation” takes place. In this case, Citrusvil chose different types of barley, oats, sweet clovers and radishes, and they were placed in the “trail.”



● La Cruz
● La Ramada
● La Paz
● San Juan
● El Banco
● Alpachiri

“By improving soil microbiology, we will improve crop conditions. Moreover, these sustainable practices contribute to reducing the number of materials, such as water, fuel and phytosanitary products, which affect production costs.”
David Weber, Citrusvil’s Northern Zone Manager.

The Importance of Innovation

At Citrusvil, we also choose to grow “vertically” in order to be more efficient in each of the production tasks.

Taking into account the growth in the citrus activity as a result of applied technology, we look for technologies which were originally meant for other sectors and adapt them.






“We have a young team which is willing to contribute ideas and look for alternatives to each task performed at the field, and we actively participate in the Innovation Committee,” states José Taddei, Head of Primary Production.

Towards Continuous Improvement

Citrusvil’s Primary Production team focuses on looking for new production methods characterized by increasingly sustainable practices, and tries to keep up to date in terms of the market. A great amount of such information is obtained when the engineers go to agricultural events, where they get ideas and then analyze them to adapt them to the citrus activity.

“Sometimes we manage to develop them locally; others, we get in touch with suppliers abroad to introduce the new tools,” explains Altamiranda.

Benefits of Service Crops

-  They reduce the use of fertilizers and herbicides.
-  They contribute to soil structure.
-  They reduce the water footprint.
-  They reduce the carbon footprint.
-  They foster biodiversity.



Juan Altamiranda
Primary Production Manager



José Taddei
Head of Primary Production



David Weber
Northern Zone Manager



Citrusvil

Technological Contributions: Harvest Transparency

We streamlined the management and control of over 3,000 harvest workers distributed in different sites of lemon harvest.

In 2017, Citrusvil led the way into the implementation of an information and control system of its harvest workforce, which meant a great breakthrough in terms of the way of working and ensuring compliance with labour standards in the outsourced activity in the lemon orchards.

By means of this implementation, we could strengthen compliance with the regulations in force and work on the prevention of child labour in the production chain.

As well as introducing the use of an electronic card, we developed and started to use an application which benefits the three parties involved in the harvesting process: contractors, harvest workers and our company.

The Electronic Card

The system improved the flow of information and its transparency and contributed to decreasing the access time to the orchard, thus speeding up the harvesting process.

Every harvest worker has a card with a chip containing their electronic file with their main personal information. When they get to the field, a company's manager "reads" that information with an RFID system and uses a satellite signal to send it to an overseer. This improves and speeds up the flow of information.

The Process

The information generated by means of this system ensures us that it is stored in the system record, which enables us to verify the traceability of the data saved and gives us the possibility to consult them at any time.

"This new information process is in line with our Integrated Management System since it enables us to make various harvesting processes more efficient such as payments, logistics and productivity. The information obtained is crucial to make precise estimates about daily harvesting tasks," said Pablo Ordoñez, Personnel Manager.

Benefits of the Harvesting Application

It enables us to:

- > Automate administrative tasks.
- > Upload the production of each worker quickly.
- > View the amount of harvest every day.
- > Verify traceability in all the harvesting process.
- > Make logistics easier, enabling us to make a better estimate during harvesting.
- > Know the daily attendance in real time.



Certifications on Good Agricultural Practices

GLOBALG.A.P.

The Global Partnership for Good Agricultural Practice

GLOBALG.A.P. is an internationally recognized agricultural certification which sets forth standards and regulations for safe and sustainable agricultural production.

Transparent System

Harvesting is an outsourced activity which is carried out by temporary workers with a high level of rotation. That is why a control process is crucial. It is essential to have this identity control system when entering the orchards, as well as random internal and external audits, in order to prevent frauds and child labour.



The electronic card system and the mobile phone application contribute to the transparency of the harvesting administrative management. In addition, the certifications obtained along the years on good agricultural practices in fields and harvest by Citrusvil ensure safe and registered work.



GLOBALG.A.P. - GRASP (Risk Assessment on Social Practices): This is a complement to assess workers' well-being. It comprises four main topics on social responsibility: the voice of workers, information about human and labour rights, indicators of human and labour rights, and child protection.



GLOBALG.A.P. - FSA-SAI: The GLOBALG.A.P. complement, Farm Sustainability Assessment (GGFSA), is the result of an association between GLOBALG.A.P. and the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (SAI), which encourages producers to demand a high level of sustainability in their production. It assesses factors such as water management, the use of chemical products, biodiversity and other aspects related to agricultural sustainability.



Pablo Ordoñez
Personnel Manager

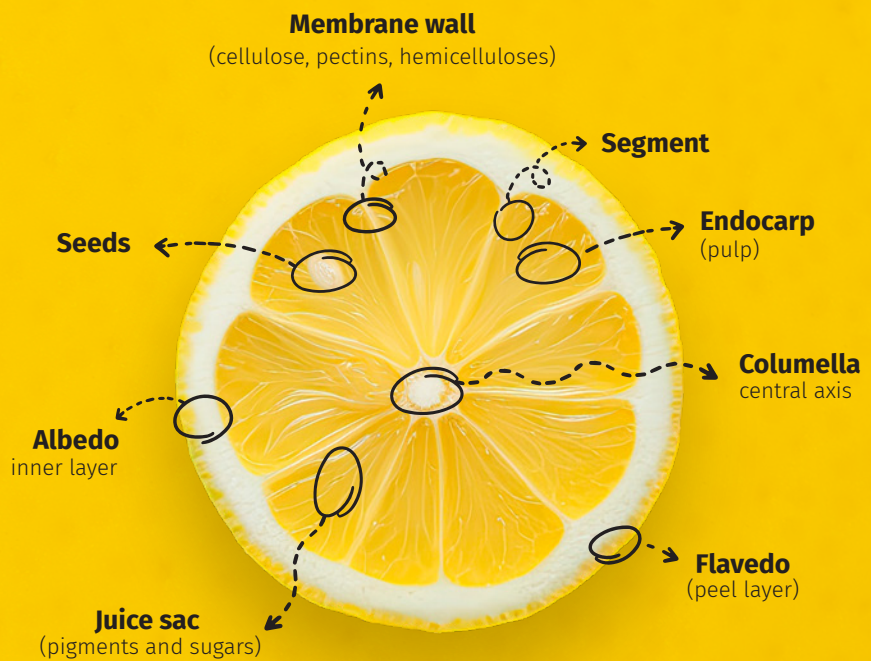
More Than Just Lemons

Lemons are used all over the world and are deeply established in the Argentine citrus production. They are natural products which offer numerous benefits and have a variety of uses.

WHAT'S IN A LEMON?

From their seeds to their peel, lemons can be fully exploited since, through their industrial process, we can obtain several commercial products such as essential oil, juice, pulp and peel.

1) Source: thelemonage.eu



Flavedo (peel layer)

Based on ripeness, their colours can range from green to bright yellow. This part is characterized by the presence of glands containing essential oils which give lemons their unique aroma.

Albedo (inner layer)

White and spongy. It is the most important source of pectins and carbohydrates. Its thickness varies based on the variety and ripeness of the lemon.

Columella (central axis)

The central part of lemons. Depending on the lemon variety, it can be thicker or thinner.

Endocarp (pulp)

The edible part of lemons represents between 65% and 70% of the lemon's weight and it is pale yellow. It is generally divided into segments containing cells where water, carbohydrates, and citric acid accumulate, forming juice sacs. Each segment contains hundreds of sacs, and occasionally there may be a seed.

Seeds

They are also edible and are rich in proteins, vegetable oil and fibre; that is why they are used in food production and in the nutraceutical industry.



Lemons are one of the main fruit crops. Many products such as essential oils, juices, pulp cells, peels, and other industrial by-products destined for the food and beverage market are obtained from their industrialization.

In addition, lemons are really common in our daily life in many forms and presentations.

Did you know...?

Having a glass of lemon water every morning can bring additional benefits since it helps incorporate part of the vitamin C that our body needs daily (it provides between 20 and 60 mg of vitamin C per each 100 ml of juice).²

Vitamin C is a potent antioxidant that, among other functions, protects our body from the damage caused by free radicals.³ Besides, it provides our body with a great amount of flavonoids, which have been thoroughly studied due to its antioxidant, citotoxic, anti-carcinogenic, antiviral, antibacterial, cardioprotective, anti-inflammatory and neuroprotective properties.⁴

Lemons contain between 7% and 10% of citric acid, and they are characterized by their powerful antibacterial, anti-inflammatory and healing properties in damaged or irritated skins.

This fruit is a highly valued cooking ingredient due to its unique sour flavour added to meals. In addition, the ascorbic acid in citrus fruits is commonly used as an additive in bread making to make dough more elastic, increase its volume, and obtain a clearer and more brilliant crust and a softer center.⁵



Lemon Industrialization



Essential oils are obtained by punching a hole in the lemon peel. This process is carried out in a water tank, where an emulsion is obtained with the oil released, thus preventing it from being released into the atmosphere. The water and the oil are then separated in a filtration and centrifugation process. Later, insoluble compounds, known as waxes, are extracted through a cold sedimentation and then filtration process, which results in refined oil, known as “cold-press”.

Natural juice is obtained by squeezing the lemon in extractor machines. Later, this juice is filtered, its pulp is removed, and it is pasteurized. In order to obtain concentrated juices, the natural juice also undergoes an evaporation process. The clarified liquid undergoes an ultrafiltration process before the concentration stage. Finally, juices are cooled, packed and frozen at temperatures below -18°C .



Pulp cells are obtained from the juice after the first stage of filtration, where seeds and pomace are separated. After removing the cells' particles or defects by means of hydrocyclones, they are filtered once again and concentrated at 50%. Later, the pulp is pasteurized and concentrated at over 80%. Finally, it is packed and stored in cooling chambers at temperatures below -18°C .

Once the oil and the juice have been extracted, **the peel** undergoes a trituration, washing, dripping and pressing process, and then it is dehydrated in rotating furnaces. Finally, it is compacted and packed. This product is sold as raw material to obtain pectins, which are used as binding agents in food manufacturing.



**Learn more about
our industrialization
process**

References:

- 1) <https://thelemonage.eu/>
- 2) “Vitamin C and the Role of Citrus Juices as Functional Food”
- 3) “The Second Life of Citrus Fruit Waste: A Valuable Source of Bioactive Compounds”
- 4) Medical News Today – “Benefits of drinking lemon water”
- 5) "Elaboración de un desodorante orgánico a base de extractos de plantas", Jessica Oderay Pagalo Tacuri.



Citrusvil

Quality Keepers

The role of the laboratories is crucial to ensure the highest quality standards during product manufacturing.

In our laboratories, we analyse, assess and ensure quality from the moment we receive the raw material until the last stage in product manufacturing. This task is performed by implementing good manufacturing practices, safe work and by ensuring compliance with industry regulations.

This sector consists of four main areas: production, microbiology, sensory analysis and chromatography laboratories, which work on the

strict treatment of products, ensuring compliance with the specifications of our customers.

The production laboratory team has two units located in each production plant, Industrial Plant A and Industrial Plant B. The team is comprised of 51 employees from different areas such as chemical engineering, food sciences, chemical sciences, biotechnology, and biochemistry, among others.



”

“Our inter-laboratory practices are key to ensure quality and reliability in our controls, identifying potential variations and improving performance standards in our sector. Our daily commitment consists in ensuring excellence in the production process,” stated Beatriz Pérez Camaño, Head of Laboratory.

Laboratory Areas

The Production Laboratory is responsible for ensuring quality from the moment we receive the raw material (lemons) until it is transformed into an industrialized product to be exported: essential oils, NFC and concentrated juices, pulp cells, dehydrated peels and other by-products.

Due to the fact that we have two independent units, we can carry out inter-laboratory analyses to compare, validate analytical values and verify results.

The Microbiology Laboratory is in charge of assessing the microbiological quality both of the products and the water used in the process, guaranteeing their innocuousness.

The Sensory Analysis Laboratory is in charge of ensuring that the success of a food product is associated to the sensory perception. The area has an interdisciplinary panel comprised of 12 people who are permanently trained to perform descriptive analyses of the products, sensory discrimination studies, and sensory profiles, among others. In addition, this unit provides support to quality control and the development of new products.

The Chromatography Laboratory is the newest in the sector and plays a key role in the identification of components and their quantification. This unit contributes to the precise analysis of the chemical composition of the products interacting with the production, quality control and development of new products area.

Articulation with the R&D Department

The relation between the Research and Development (R&D) Department and the laboratory is key for innovation since together they develop and materialize it in constant collaboration with different scientific and industrial disciplines.

In particular, the chromatography laboratory recognizes the essential components in the products under development, provides analytical methods to understand them

chemically, and it is a key tool for the R&D Department.

What Are Tailor-Made Solutions?

Citrusvil grows by means of the search for continuous improvement and adapts to market demands by providing tailor-made solutions to its customers through the work of specialized professionals who develop unique applications and products.

The methodologies used by the R&D Department ensure a structured approach to create value, manage innovation and provide feedback instances with the customers.

We have specific know-how to develop new products that meet the present and future needs of our customers and the market.

We keep focusing on offering innovative solutions and top-quality products, technology investments and adaptability to new requirements as well as ongoing training to our teams.

“The R&D Department works on the development of different products and applications: oils, juices and peels, nutraceutical and functional nutrition. Through innovation management, we work with personalized and tailor-made commitment for each of our customers.” Federico Sosa, Head of the Research and Development Department.

The Research and Investigation Department designs new tailor-made products and solutions, based on our customers' special requirements and market trends. The team has a distinguishing working capacity and uses precision technology to provide high-quality, quick services and reliable results.



Beatriz Pérez Camaño
Head of Laboratory



Federico Sosa
Head of the Research & Development Department



Citrusvil

Citrusvil's Model of Operational Excellence

We continue consolidating the MEOC in our operation with the participation of leaders and collaborators.

This model enables us to work on our competitiveness and achieve improvements in the production process which add value to the end product and are recognised by our customers. Since 2021, our team has been training on Lean Management practices and implementing them in the operation, leaving a footprint in Citrusvil's organisational culture.

In 2022, we developed a work team in order to apply what we have learned and spread our knowledge and practices throughout the organisation.

Through the progress in the MEOC, we managed to focus on priority issues in our activities, such as troubleshooting, identification of anomalies, the correct treatment of deviations and process standardisation.

The teams adopted these management tools. Each sector, both in the industrial plants and in the fields, use "Management Boards" where they share the KPI (Key Performance Indicators) of each area.

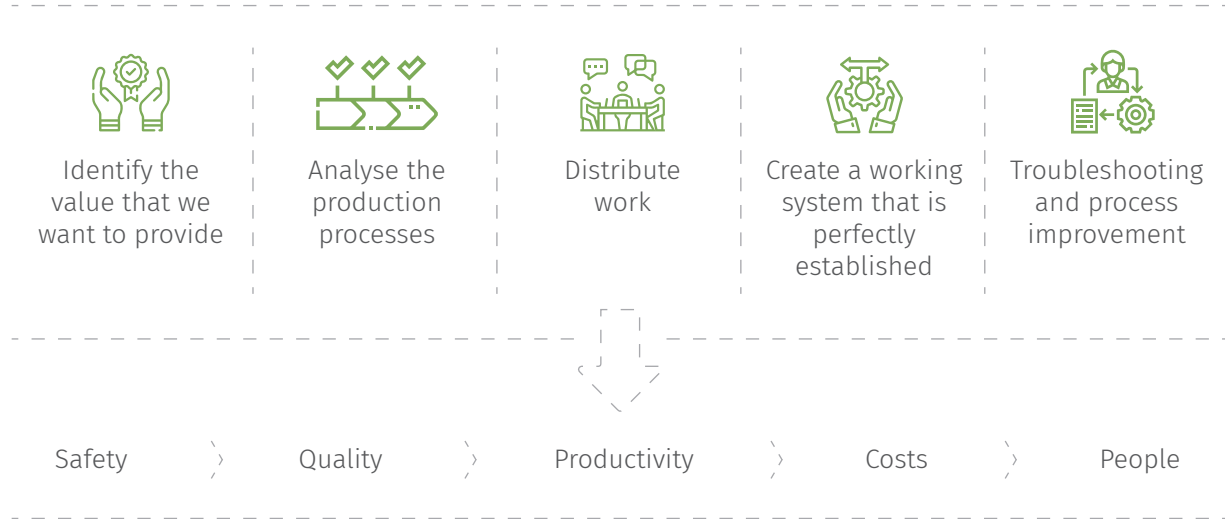
"With the implementation of the MEOC, we developed an agreed and systematised working method which enables our work teams to be more independent having a comprehensive view of the processes. These practices that we have adapted our activity and dynamics contribute to increasing productivity and reducing costs and promote sustainable growth," explained Sebastián Dopico, member of the MEOC team.

”

"The MEOC enables us to provide more value to our customers, by means of the excellence in our production and end product, being efficient and always managing the points of improvement," said César Romero, member of the MEOC team.

About Lean Management

Main Principles:



Growing MEOC

“Our challenge for 2024 consists in keeping training the internal team of the MEOC towards its professionalisation because it will be in charge of expanding the model and adding areas in the organisation to its implementation.

This set of tools and methodologies guarantees the path towards continuous improvement,” stated Diego Moyano, member of the MEOC team.



Diego Moyano
Member of the MEOC team



Sebastián Dopico
Member of the MEOC team



César Romero
Member of the MEOC team



Grupo Lucci

Internal Auditors Promote a Cultural Change in Operation

During the 2023 season, we introduced the Industry Internal Auditors Program in order to continue promoting continuous improvement in the operation sectors of the industrial plants.

The premise of Grupo Lucci's integrated policy is the commitment to the continuous improvement of the Integrated Management System (SGI) of Quality & Food Safety, Hygiene & Safety, and Environment.

This Program enables us to identify opportunities for improvement, assess the performance of the management systems, and rationalize efforts, resources and costs. This enables us to streamline processes and ensure quality and safety in each production stage, maintaining the certification standards with the active participation of all the operational staff.



Role of the Internal Auditor

Every month the internal auditors carry out an analysis and assessment of the processes, identifying risks and looking into the different ways of increasing efficiency in operations. All this is carried out based on the Integrated Management System.

In order to do so, the auditors must verify compliance with the criteria established by the company's standards, Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and the following standards:

- > ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety).
- > ISO 9001 (Quality).
- > ISO 14001 (Environment).
- > BRC (Food Safety).



During this season, the auditors observed and made valuable improvements in order to streamline processes, such as the incorporation of automation systems in some workplaces to make controls easier, the addition of waste bins and places for handwashing in different areas, the incorporation of warning signs for potential hazards as well as product safety, among others.

“At Grupo Lucci, we work preventively in terms of Safety in order to prevent accidents. The internal audits provide a system of early warning which helps us detect potential threatens to health and safety in advance,” explained Diego Moyano, Head of the Occupational Hygiene and Safety Department.

The Voice of the Protagonists

“I am part of the Internal Auditors Team and every month we conduct audits. We use a checklist that includes the main aspects of the Integrated Management System, and, as a benchmark of the sector, we identify opportunities for improvement to put them into practice.” Miguel Alejandro Lescano, Juice Concentration Sector.

“We conducted 6 audits this year, where we identified various deviations. Some of them were solved while others were notified to supervisors so that they can be solved soon. This way we contribute to continuous improvement.” Maximiliano Albarraçín, juice centrifuge operator.

Integrated Management System

An Integrated Management System is a tool whereby an organization defines the way to perform its production activities every day. It consists in a set of methodologies that provides a comprehensive criterion to all collaborators on how to manage resources, processes, activities and responsibilities associated to the

production activities. In our case, it is also oriented to the development of a business model, based on competitiveness, sustainability and innovation. Specifically, at Citrusvil, the Internal Auditors Program, compliance with the standards of quality and safety, and the Lean Management philosophy materialized through Citrusvil’s Model of Operational Excellence (MEOC) guide the work in the plants in order to achieve excellence.

“*We aim at consolidating this path towards cultural transformation in the operation. By means of these audits, the collaborators have the opportunity to suggest improvements in these areas at their workplaces, thus promoting the continuous improvement of the SGI and transforming prevention into a way of working,*” explained Noelia Lescano, Head of Quality Assurance and Environment.



Diego Moyano
Head of the Occupational Hygiene and Safety Department



Noelia Lescano
Head of Quality Assurance and Environment



Grupo Lucci

Native Forest Conservation and Production

Forests are the source of raw materials to produce wood, paper, medicine and other materials. In addition, they play a key role in reducing environmental and climate pollution resulting from the activities carried out by human beings, by carbon dioxide (CO2) removal and sequestration and transforming it into biomass. Moreover, they serve as soil protection, regulate hydrological cycles, and are the habitat of a great number of flora and fauna species.

The Value of Our Native Forests

Forests are home to most terrestrial biodiversity in our planet. Therefore, world's biodiversity conservation depends entirely on the way we interact with forests around the world and how we use them. Forests are the habitat of 80% of amphibians, 75% of birds, and 68% of mammals in the world. ^(*)

Forests and trees are crucial to promote pollination, and there is an urgent need to stop degradation of their habitats and safeguard biodiversity, according to a new report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. ^(FAO *2)

DID YOU KNOW THAT
31% OF THE EARTH
IS COVERED BY
FORESTS?

Forests occupy an area of about 4,060 million hectares in the world, which represents 31% of the Earth surface (FRA, 2020). ^(*)

About Fundación ProYungas:

Fundación ProYungas is an NGO which works towards environment conservation and sustainable development by promoting land-planning processes at different levels and actively connecting production with nature preservation. Founded in 1999, it carries out its

activities in the South American subtropic, mainly in the Argentine region called “Norte Grande”, which encompasses the greatest environmental, cultural and productive diversity in the country.



PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION

In such a challenging backdrop of climate change, commitment to preserving the ecosystem services provided by nature is not a minor issue for such a big company as Citrusvil.

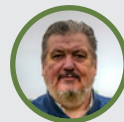
Since 2016, Citrusvil has been part of the Protected Productive Landscape Program (PPP), a management model created by ProYungas which aims at striking a balance between production and biodiversity conservation.

Every year, we work jointly towards sustainability, continuous improvement, and to enhance Citrusvil's natural heritage.

With over 5,700 hectares preserved, the company protects 0.75 hectares of native forests per each productive hectare in a high environmental value area such as the Yungas in the province of Tucumán.

By means of carbon stock assessments in the native forests and citrus plantations, mammal and bird surveys, pollinator studies and restorations, among other actions, we can prove the importance given by Citrusvil to nature conservation.

Forest area conservation will depend on the



By Alejandro Brown

Ecologist, PhD in Natural Sciences, and Fundación ProYungas President.

formally protected areas and the commitment to preserving forest areas (and other natural systems) from a thriving and profitable production sector with a global presence that allocates part of that profit to keep these wild areas in a good state of conservation.

In this regard, the PPP is a tool available to organizations such as the European Union, among others, which ensures and reveals the environmental and social commitments from the production sector in Argentina and neighbouring countries (Paraguay, Bolivia, Chile and Brazil).



**Protected Productive
Landscape Video**



**Protected Productive
Landscape Booklet**

Looking After Our Future

“With a view to sustainability, we seek to integrate different production activities with the preservation of natural goods (biodiversity, soil and water) and services (water and climate regulation, carbon and pollination). Based on our Sustainability Policy and the undertaken commitments, we developed different courses of action which include activities such as environmental indicator monitoring in orchards where native forests occupy a greater area and with higher environmental value,” says Agustina Lucci, Sustainability Manager.



Citrusvil and Its Production Model

Citrusvil’s orchards are located in an ecotone region between the Yungas ecoregion and the production areas near flatlands. These territories make up a landscape where farming hectares coexist with remnant forests and big areas of native forests, located in high slopes, which correspond to the floor of the Yungas mountain rainforest and forest.



Don Vicente Private Natural Reserve. In 2017, as part of Citrusvil’s commitment to nature preservation, we formalised the creation of Don Vicente Reserve, which became part of the Argentine Network of Private Natural Reserves. This reserve has almost 1,500 hectares of Yungas native forests. Its characteristics and strategic location make it a natural area of great relevance in the region. It is a forest classified as Category 1 in accordance with the Territorial Ordinance on Native Forests (OTBN) of the province of Tucumán.

It is not only possible to produce and conserve at the same time but it is also a great opportunity for a genuine sustainable development of production activities such as citrus production and agribusiness, which attract new markets and international sustainable investors.

(*) <https://www.unep.org/resources/state-worlds-forests-forests-biodiversity-and-people>

(**) <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en?details=ca9433en>

(***) https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/06-bosques_iea_2021.pdf



Grupo Lucci

Professional Development, Unique Value Proposal

84% of the people surveyed think that personal and professional growth is important and it is at the top of the perceptions on employer brand of the 2023 Employer Brand Report prepared by Randstad.

The local labour market is very dynamic, and attracting and maintaining talent is essential. That is why Grupo Lucci recognizes the need to stand out and build strong bonds with its collaborators and their welfare at work.

“From the Human Capital Department, we aim at challenging the notion of value creation in order to strengthen the engagement of our collaborators. This is also part of Lucci Way Model, which is a set of principles and behaviours that guide Grupo Lucci’s companies and where one of the main points is people development,” explained José Luis Palacio, Human Capital Manager.

From the management of human resources in the organization, we work on the development of our people by means of the Performance Management Program. Since 2022, we have added the Nine Box model to the process.

Nine Box is a tool that integrates performance and collaborators’ potential in a grid which

defines nine different profiles and enables us to manage their development and growth. Performance allows us to measure objectives and results (what do they do?) and skills, values and behaviours (how do they do it?).

Potential is assessed based on three main points: Skill, Organisational Commitment and Aspiration to be promoted to more demanding positions.

“We began the process by means of a specific training to the organisation’s leaders, where Talent review sessions were carried out and we analysed 170 collaborators,” specified María Cecilia Bertikian, Head of the Human Capital Department.

As a result of 15 talent review sessions, we obtained our talent distribution matrix. 80% of the staff assessed show a sustained performance, which reflects our cultural model focused on operation (result-oriented).



Process

In the next step, the design and implementation of the Individual Development Plan will be carried out under the 70/20/10 methodology, where 70% of the learning takes place through actual experience at the workplace, 20% results from collaborative tasks by means of feedback and observation, working with tutors and learning from others; finally, the remaining 10% results from formal learning, both face-to-face and virtual.

This process enables us to have short and mid-term replacement possibilities. In 2024, we will implement the Professional Young People Program to develop interest profiles which require long-term support.

The leaders' commitment, prominence and participation in this process was crucial for a successful implementation and development of this methodology.

Next Challenges

We aim at strengthening our organisational culture focused on innovation and continuous improvement, and on our collaborators. That is why we will prioritise:

- > The digitalisation of human capital practices and processes which allow for agility, autonomy and self-management.
- > The updating of our value proposal in all areas, making sure that we meet our (internal and external) customers' expectations.
- > The implementation of new practices in the value proposal to the employee.



José Luis Palacio
Human Capital Manager



María Cecilia Bertikian
Head of the Human Capital Department



Agriculture and Livestock Farming

We Added Rapeseed to Our Crop Portfolio

Viluco has harvested rapeseed crops for the first time, as an option for production diversification and agricultural rotation, and to attract new market opportunities.

Rapeseed is a herbaceous plant whose seeds can provide oil which is used as raw material in the food industry to produce cooking oils, margarines and mayonnaises. In addition, unlike in Argentina, where we use soybeans, it is used in Europe to produce biodiesel. Rapeseeds are twice richer in oil in comparison with soybeans and they are more efficient when it comes to transforming into biodiesel.

As a matter of fact, Viluco's rapeseed exploitation is meant for export in order to supply the demand of the European industry.

The Challenges of a New Crop

The incorporation of this crop poses new challenges to Viluco when it comes to its implementation in northwestern Argentina.

"Rapeseed is different from wheat or chickpeas. Its seed is really small and this caused some difficulties when sowing due to the type of technology in our machines. In addition, we had to face many situations during the harvest period since, due to its size and specific characteristics, it is lost when it is loaded in the machines", says Ramiro Aznar, Agriculture Manager at Viluco.




Sowing time:
May



Harvesting period:
October

 Rancho Grande
(200 hectares)

 Coromama
(440 hectares)

 Las Marías
(310 hectares)



Insights

We managed to add a new crop to our portfolio and got new agronomic insights. The results during the first year with this crop were diverse. Our crop yields were between 300 and 2,200 kg/ha, depending on the environment, water availability and harvest management.



Benefits of Rapeseed

Apart from being a profitable crop, rapeseed contributes to agricultural rotation in winter. Introducing this kind of crop increases diversity and brings important benefits to soil, contributing to sustainable practices.

In Coromama, particularly, it is used to control nematode plagues, which affect the crops at the establishment, thus its use brings a great benefit. Such verified nematicide effect of rapeseed enables us to control such bugs and replace the use of agro-chemicals.

Outlook

Humidity is the key variable since it defines the possibility to sow winter crops. In this opportunity, we carried out rainfed agriculture at several establishments and we also planted rapeseed in 180 hectares under irrigation at Las Marías Establishment. The results will be analysed in order to consider the possibility of sowing rapeseed in a limited area every year, regardless of the humidity characteristics.

”

“We expanded our product portfolio to select the most suitable crops every year, taking into consideration the specific characteristics of the soil as well as the climate variables. In addition, by analysing market trends, we chose the most profitable crops based on the global supply and demand.”

Pablo Cianci, Agriculture and Livestock Farming CEO



Ramiro Aznar

Agriculture Manager at Viluco



Pablo Cianci

Agriculture and Livestock Farming CEO



Agriculture and Livestock Farming

First Steps in Holistic Livestock Farming

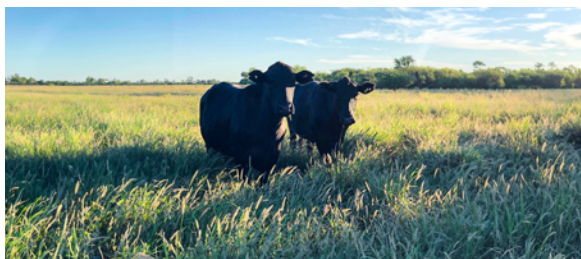
Engordar started to apply the holistic method for regenerative livestock production in order to make the most of its strategic advantages.

Regenerative livestock farming is a new paradigm in terms of management. It forges an alliance among production, environment and business. It focuses on viewing livestock farming systems as an integral part of the ecosystems where they take place.

Unlike traditional methods which focus on maximizing production, this method has broader goals, aiming at achieving a sustainable balance between livestock and land, promoting the animals' health and welfare, the regeneration and preservation of natural resources and biodiversity.

First Steps

In March 2023, in La Porteña and El Carmen establishments, located in Santiago del Estero and in the northeastern part of Catamarca, respectively, we started to implement holistic livestock farming, which considers land and grazing planning and monitoring of the conditions of the animals, the soil and the pastures on a regular basis.



In holistic livestock farming, livestock feeding is divided into two production modules during the year:

Open Plan: pasture grows in spring and summer with cattle rotations by fields every 35 to 45 days.

Closed Plan: there are longer rotations, at about every 60 days.

La Porteña:

5,000 hectares (Santiago del Estero)

Activity: **Rearing**



3,800

Annual Average

El Carmen:

9,700 hectares (Catamarca)

Activity: **Breeding and Rearing**



2,800

Cows

2,200

Rearing Heads

First we implemented the Open Grazing Plan Feeding Module in La Porteña, while, in El Carmen, due to the lack of rain during the last semester, we worked with the Closed Grazing Plan.

“We plan to put into practice this process in the seven livestock establishments. We chose to implement it first in the fields with more favourable conditions, such as a better pasture division, greater pasture coverage and better livestock management by the work team,” explained Daniel Navarro, Livestock Manager at Engordar.

“Pastoral planning implies the control and rotation of grass harvests. This guarantees that the cattle have access to pastures in good conditions at specific times, optimising their nutrition and promoting their health. It also helps maintaining an appropriate balance between grass demand and supply, preventing resource depletion and favouring sustainable productivity,” added Pablo Cianci, Agriculture and Livestock Farming CEO.

This new approach aims at eliminating monopasture, which, due to the fact that it grows and shrivels always in the same season, it prevents us from having a continuous pastoral supply throughout the year. We are replicating the natural environment, where there is a variety of pastures available.

“Our work consists in making pasture be in constant growth and development. When the pasture is fully developed, we start harvesting with our cattle and, in this way, we transform plant tissue into meat,” explained Daniel Navarro.

”

Sustainable Balance among Cattle, Land and Environment

“We always try to be as efficient as possible in each hectare we have. Practices evolve as new theories and technical approaches suggested by our team appear,” said Pablo Cianci, Agriculture and Livestock Farming CEO



Teamwork

This comprehensive system involves all the production areas, including all the staff, in its planning and execution. What used to be decided by an engineer is now carried out with all the team which gathers to think on all the work stages throughout the year.

The engineers in charge of the project were specifically trained to carry out the implementation. In addition, during this first stage, Engordar has a team of consultants who guide and provide support in this process.

To guarantee efficiency and the appropriate control of the progress made, we bought a new production management system, an IT platform which enables us to collect information in an automatic and precise manner, making control and planning tasks easier.

Livestock Farming Can Be Part of the Solution to Climate Change

What is a carbon bomb?

Regenerative livestock farming turns pastures into “carbon bombs”, which sequesters tons of CO₂ from the atmosphere and, in this way, producers contribute directly to solving climate change. In order to have greater carbon sequestration and increase efficiency in water use, the animal also performs other actions apart from cutting and “reactivating the bomb.” The cattle transform the plant tissue consumed into organic matter by means of their manure, and, make that organic matter return to the soil which produced it. The cattle’s urine also contributes inorganically by providing the soil with nitrogen.

There is also a mechanical effect performed by the cattle, which, while walking, kick and break down plant tissue which, if it were not for that action, would be blown by the wind. Cattle help settle it and put it into contact with the soil.

Sustainability and Livestock Production

The holistic method is crucial for the future of livestock farming due to its various advantages:

- > It ensures animal welfare.
- > It is cheaper in terms of production costs.
- > It allows for greater carbon sequestration.
- > The meats produced by this method are better in terms of fatty acids and proteins.
- > The square metre of pasture shows a better environmental balance.

How Did Holistic Management Appear?

Holistic management was developed by Allan Savory, a biologist from Zimbabwe, after 40 years of experience. Throughout his career as a conservationist, Savory was obsessed with land degradation until he found the key to solve this puzzle: the cattle can be part of the solution to this problem.

Thus, he started giving advice to livestock producers, regenerating lands all over the world, and polishing the methodology based on the problems he encountered. Despite knowing how to improve livestock management, many establishments failed usually due to the lack of financial planning and infrastructure, and, mainly, due to the lack of a context for decision making. That is how he came up with holistic management, where all these aspects are considered.

In 2011, the Savory Institute was created, a global NGO which aims at regenerating pastures on a large scale through Holistic Management.

<https://savory.global/>



Daniel Navarro
Livestock Farming Manager



Pablo Cianci
Agriculture and Livestock Farming CEO



Nueces de Catamarca

Quality Certified Chandler Walnuts

Nueces de Catamarca got GlobalG.A.P certification, which facilitates access to the main markets in the world and opens up commercialization opportunities in the European, American and Brazilian supermarket chains, as well as in the domestic market.

Walnut production joins the path towards continuous improvement which involves the comprehensive management system applied at Grupo Lucci's companies, providing healthy and safe products to our customers.

Great Teamwork

"Working on the process which laid the foundation for GlobalG.A.P. certification and which began in 2021 was a real challenge to all the team," explains Noelia Lescano, Head of Quality Assurance and Environment.



"Walnut trees require specific conditions, and, working in a coordinated manner with all Nueces de Catamarca's team, we managed to establish a management system which enables us to meet the standards of this certification. We introduced a training program in the Production, Packing and Service areas. We worked in order to streamline and prepare work procedures, documents and records to prove our strict adherence to good agricultural and manufacturing practices," adds Lescano.

This work took months and involved a thorough review of the many processes taking place at the company, including various cultural activities, irrigation system efficiency, the use of phytosanitary products, and environmental risks, among others. Each of these activities was thoroughly documented in accordance with GLOBALG.A.P. standards.

Internal audits were the first milestone in this process, and we ended it with an external audit.

"This certification ensures that the food products manufactured and processed by Nueces de Catamarca meet the criteria of food safety, environmental protection, and care for employee health, safety and well-being," explains César Tello, Nueces de Catamarca's Field Manager.



”

“All this process also involved investments in infrastructure, such as building new canteens and a new storehouse to increase our stock capacity, or building more toilets for our staff;”
explains César Tello.

GLOBALG.A.P.

What is GlobalG.A.P. Certification? (Good Agricultural Practices)

This internationally recognized standard certifies good agricultural practices and authorizes produces to sell their products in global markets. In addition, it ensures that production techniques with minimal environmental impact are being employed, that natural resources are being used efficiently, and that workers, producers, distributors and consumers are safeguarded.

GlobalG.A.P. standard for fruits and vegetables is in keeping with the Principles of the Global Compact with regard to Food and Agroindustry, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. These practices encompass all the process, from production in the field to the packed end-product to be distributed in the market.

Production and Commercialization

Nueces de Catamarca has 215 productive hectares of Chandler walnuts and a daily drying capacity of 70 tons. It employs 17 collaborators under the charge of Ruben Gambarte and supervised by César Tello, Nueces de Catamarca’s Field Manager.

Due to the heavy frosts in November 2022 and an extremely rainy April in 2023, there was a significant decrease in the 2023 harvest, which amounted to 320 tons, in comparison with the 2022 harvest of 600 tons.

While 85% of our production is sold in the domestic market, 15% is sold abroad. It is expected that our exports will grow by 40% in the mid-term.

Argentina produces between 20,000 and 23,000 tons of walnuts every year, and almost 10,000 tons are consumed in the domestic market. (*)

Fair Attendance

In 2022, Nueces de Catamarca took part in important international fairs, such as Gulfood in Dubai, Anuga in Germany, and Anufood in Brazil, in order to strengthen business relations with current customers and develop new ones with potential customers.

“By attending international fairs, we managed to expand Nueces de Catamarca’s commercial horizon by getting in contact with potential customers in markets such as Africa, Middle East, India, Europe (Italy, Germany and Spain), and Brazil,” stated Octavio Murcani Fernández, Nueces de Catamarca’s Commercial Representative.

“We strengthened our relation with public bodies, business promotion agencies, producers’ associations and other relevant entities in the sector. It was really productive in order to boost Nueces de Catamarca’s global positioning,” said Martijn Hazeu, Nueces de Catamarca’s Commercial Representative.



Noelia Lescano
Head of Quality Assurance
and Environment



César Tello
Field Manager



Martijn Hazeu
Commercial
Representative



Octavio Murcani Fernández
Commercial
Representative



Fundación Vicente Lucci

Skills for the Labour Market

Together with Viluco, Fundación Vicente Lucci launched its Internship Program, which benefits students from agro-technical schools.

This action aims at strengthening the link between technical education and the world of production in order to achieve greater integration.

We contribute to SDG 4, Quality Education, by providing young people with tools for developing their skills for labour market insertion.

In September 2023, we signed agreements with three agro-technical schools from the area of influence of Grupo Lucci's agricultural production centres.

In this way, we began to develop internships and achieved the introduction of young people from the communities to the labour market and our activities.



Viluco's internships are oriented to learning about:

- > The production processes carried out and sustainable agriculture management.
- > The implementation of technologies in agriculture.
- > The definition and measurement of relevant indicators.





Scope of the Internships

- 📍 2 students from Los Pizarros Agro-technical School in La Cocha, in the south of Tucumán, did their internship in Las Marías Establishment.
- 📍 2 students from Agro-technical School No. 3,167 in Las Lajitas, in the north of Salta, did their internship in Pozo de La Espuela Establishment.
- 📍 2 students from Soldado Cajal Agro-technical School in Las Cejas, in the east of Tucumán, did their internship in Coromama Establishment.

Duration: 200 hours of professional practice from September to December.

“With this practice, students broaden their skills and, in this way, they live experiences similar to the ones they will face in the future in terms of work. Young people have access to new learnings and can perform tasks based on what they have learned,” explained Patricia Condori, Head of Fundación Vicente Lucci.

“I believe in the future of Argentina based on education and the development of these young people who are getting ready to live with those skills for the rest of their lives. We want to leave a footprint in the training of new generations and challenge them to keep studying in spite of all the obstacles. Dreams can come true if we try hard,” stated Ramiro Aznar, Agriculture Manager.

Really Positive Results

As a result of a joint work with the schools, the Ministries of Education of Salta and Tucumán, the company and Fundación Vicente Lucci, we managed to plan actions for students properly by means of this new learning environment.

“For students, it is crucial to do internships, since they are their only contact with the labour market where they can learn values and about the working culture. We want to thank the company for offering the school such a big learning opportunity,” said Nancy Jiménez, Headteacher at Agro-technical School No. 3,167 in Las Lajitas, Salta, highlighting the fact that having this learning environment means a great achievement for educational institutions.



20 Years of Fundación Vicente Lucci

2023 has been a very special year in our history because we have celebrated our 20 years of work and growth.

Fundación Vicente Lucci’s annual plan has an impact on rural communities by contributing to equitable and sustainable development in northwestern Argentina (NOA).

At Fundación Vicente Lucci, we are grateful because all our path has been possible thanks to the interaction with allied institutions and volunteers who joined the project.



Celebrating with Strategic Partners

“Every anniversary is a milestone, and we want to take this opportunity to reflect on the present and future of education, in order to look for new challenges to continue working through Fundación Vicente Lucci and reaffirming Grupo Lucci’s social commitment,” emphasised Daniel and Pablo Lucci, Directors.

In an event where over 80 people were invited to celebrate our 20th anniversary, program beneficiaries, headteachers, teachers, volunteers, partners and Grupo Lucci’s leaders shared a moment of reflection on the present and future of education.

During the meeting, Rosana Hadad Salomón, Engineer, Director at Instituto Superior de Educación Tecnológica de Tucumán (ISET) and winner of the Inspiring Leader-Globant award, talked about the new trends in the labour and education market and how such changes run throughout and have an impact on all of society.

Main Areas of Work

- > Education
- > Labour Inclusion & Entrepreneurship
- > Citizen Engagement

“Our work is not only limited to education and entrepreneurship. We have also promoted citizen engagement by encouraging communities to get involved with other organisations of local development. We have fostered collaboration among the different sectors in society, promoting dialogue and collective construction,” added Patricia Condori.

During the next years, we expect a future full of actions that strengthen all we have already achieved.





Learn more about Fundación Vicente Lucci



Patricia Condori
Head of Fundación Vicente Lucci



Ethics Hotline

Grupo Lucci aims at ensuring transparency and good practices in its operations, promoting good corporate governance.



How Does It Work?

1



- » Visit www.grupolucci.com.ar
- » Call +54 381 4515563
- » Go to Ruta 302 km 7, Cevil Pozo, Tucumán, Argentina.

2



Leave your suggestion or complaint.

3



The evaluation committee will analyze your case and proceed accordingly.

4



The actions necessary to address and solve the case will be determined.

YOUR SUGGESTION OR COMPLAINT MAY BE RELATED TO:



Environment



Ethics



Community



Regulations



Information



Product Safety



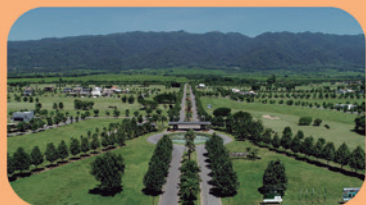
Please report any incident in an anonymous and confidential manner. We assure you that we will preserve the information and maintain discretion.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION HELPS US CONTINUE GROWING RESPONSIBLY.

Live in Phase 3 of San Pablo Country.



SAN PABLO
COUNTRY LIFE & GOLF



BUONAVENTURA
MIRADOR DEL CERRO




Phase III of San Pablo Country Life & Golf has plots from 700 m² and Residential Towers of Flats with a panoramic view which have a ground floor and three floors. The flats can have 1, 1 and a half, 2, 2 and a half, or 3 and a half rooms, and all of them have a balcony. In addition, they have one or two garages, and access to the amenities.

Build and Commercialize:



Contact us:

 **3816619074**

  **Buonaventura San Pablo Country**

Av Solano Vera, Ruta Provincial 339, T4129 San Pablo, Tucumán