



GRAND CORBIN-DESPAGNE

Newsletter No. 12

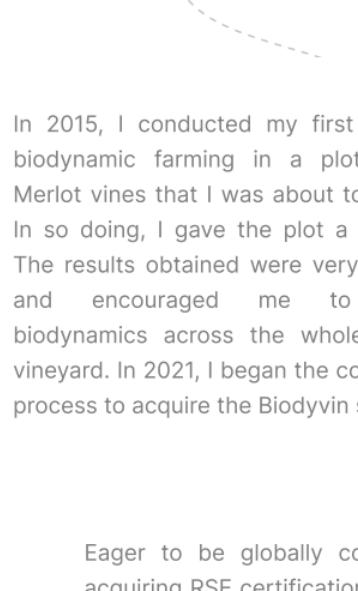
Ode to the environment

Dear friends,

While we celebrate this year our eleventh anniversary of having acquired organic farming certification in 2013, it is worth remembering that we didn't achieve that status overnight. Let me share with you some of that journey, so that you may gauge the impact that organic farming has had at our estate and also get to know what we have in store for the future, as we seek to move yet further forward.

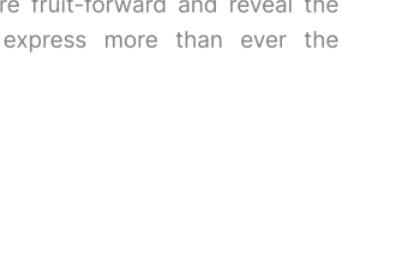


1996



As you may know, I took over the reins of Grand Corbin-Despagne in 1996. I immediately joined a think tank set up by the Gironde Chamber of Agriculture with the object of exploring biodiversity in farming. This first introduction to sustainable environmental practices motivated me to work towards gaining certification in "Agriculture Raisonnée" (sustainable farming practices).

1998



In parallel, as from 2012, I had eagerly joined SME, the first Environmental Management System association, which was set up by Bordeaux's CIVB (Wine Council) in order to determine the environmental impact of the wine-growing world. The association quickly acquired ISO 14001 certification which helped foster most particularly the decrease of water, electricity and fuel consumption across all wine estates.

2004

In 2015, I conducted my first trials in biodynamic farming in a plot of old Merlot vines that I was about to pull up. In so doing, I gave the plot a reprieve and encouraged me to adopt biodynamics across the whole of the vineyard. In 2021, I began the conversion process to acquire the Biodynamic seal.

My very best wishes for a wonderful, healthy and prosperous 2024!

François Despagne

Famille Despagne

Ever-present in Saint-Emilion

Owners since 1812

Château Grand Corbin-Despagne

Grand Cru Classé

Organic since 2004, officially certified since 2013

2023 • the 212nd vintage of the Despagne family
in the Grand Corbin terroir

The 28th vintage of François Despagne

2024 Château Grand Corbin-Despagne