



Business case Bodega Catena Zapata

Location:	Bodega Catena Zapata Farm, Cafayate, Argentina
Application context:	Vineyard (<i>Food production</i>)
Problem definition:	Crop losses due to parrots eating grapes and cutting clusters
Pest bird species:	Burrowing parrot (<i>Psittacidae</i>)
Time of the year with bird problem:	January - Half April
Time of the day with bird problems:	All day
Number of systems:	1 x Agrilaser Autonomic 500 with solar panel
Laser projection area:	39 ha
In use since:	January 2017
No. of birds before installation:	100s
No. of birds after installation:	0
Reduction in bird numbers:	100%

Annual loss:	Before Autonomic	After Autonomic
- Cabernet 3 ha	USD 2,825	USD 0
- Malbec 11 ha	USD 10,325	USD 0
- Torrontes 25 ha	USD 10,325	USD 0
Total damage per year caused by the presence of birds:	USD 23,475	USD 0

Situation before

Bodega Catena Zapata Farm in Cafayate has been suffering crop losses for years due to flocks of parrots eating grapes and cutting grape clusters.

Situation after

Bodega Catena Zapata Farm reports complete success. Since the installation of the Agrilaser Autonomic 500, the parrots have been fully deterred and have caused no crop losses.

Contact

North American office

Headquarters



“For the first time during harvest, we had silence on the farm, unlike previous years.”

Bodega Catena Zapata Farm was founded in Cafayate in 1902. The farm is recognized for its pioneering role in reviving the Malbec grape varietal and discovering terroirs of extreme height at the foot of the Andes. The farm experienced significant crop loss and noise nuisance for multiple years due to local parrot flocks.



Severe losses

For years the parrots were an ongoing problem for Juan Prates, Agricultural Engineer, who is in charge of the farm. “We were very skeptical about it, after years of heavy losses in our grapes,” advised Mr. Prates. “Not only do they eat the grapes, they also cut whole clusters, generating large losses of up to 1000 kg per ha. Since we began to use this technology, we were struck by the lack of damage from cuts in grape clusters by the parrots. For the first time during harvest, we had silence on the farm, unlike previous years when we could not talk or listen to each other

due to the noise caused by a large number of parrots that soon produced serious damage.”

Worry-free results

The Agrilaser Autonomic is an innovative solution and an environmentally friendly technology. Since the farm opted to install the optional solar energy solution, no source of electricity and no ongoing maintenance was required. Aguila Andina de Mendoza, who was in charge of the installation and service of the Agrilaser Autonomic 500, stated, “It is clear that since we have the Agrilaser Autonomic 500 installed, it has stopped the damage. The effect of the technology is impressive. We did not find any damage in the covered area. However, we saw a lot of damage in neighboring areas not covered by the laser.”

Benefits for Catena Zapata

- The Agrilaser Autonomic requires no maintenance after installation
- The Agrilaser Autonomic prevents significant crop loss caused by birds
- The farm realized a return on their investment within one year