



## **Alma Rosa Winery & Vineyards Receives Leaf Award from Greenopia**

*Twenty-Five Wineries Rated for sustainability by Greenopia. At the top of the list, receiving 3 leaves out of a possible 4, were Alma Rosa Winery & Vineyards (organic grapes), Frog's Leap (great environmental reporting and LEED-certified building), and French Rabbit (low-impact packaging in the form of the Tetra-Pak). July 2009*

**Santa Barbara County, CA** – Greenopia, an organization that rates “everything from the environmental impact of airlines, to big box stores” recently studied the environmental impact of wineries in the United States. Many large, medium and boutique-sized wineries were examined by obtaining hard data from the companies themselves pertaining to their growing practices, transportation, building logistics, and attributes of the wine packaging. Weights were set based off the relative life cycle impacts of each criterion during wine production. Utilizing a rating system of leaves, with 4 leaves representing the highest rating of sustainability, Alma Rosa topped the list with 3 of 4 leaves. Alongside Alma Rosa were Frog's Leap and French Rabbit.

Greenopia publishes a green living guide for consumers. Companies are rated on eco-friendliness. To maintain credibility and objectivity, companies may not pay to be listed in the Greenopia guide.

Of Alma Rosa, Greenopia concluded, “Alma Rosa is dedicated to producing eco-friendly wines and is one of the few companies to address the majority of wine's life cycle impacts. Alma Rosa is certified organic by the CCOF which means that it does not use synthetic pesticides and fertilizers to grow its grapes. Alma Rosa also practices other sustainable farming methods such as water conservation and bio-control techniques. Alma Rosa is one of the few premium wineries that has made any sort of effort in its bottle design, using the same shape bottle mold for all wines (regardless of varietal) which cuts down on waste in the bottle production process. The winery itself is made using principles of green building design including the use of local, recycled materials. Lastly, Alma Rosa has well above average environmental reporting for the industry.”

“We are proud and honored to be recognized by Greenopia for our deep longstanding 25-year commitment to organic viticulture, sustainability, and fair business practices,” said Thekla and Richard Sanford, owners of Alma Rosa Winery & Vineyards. “We pledge to continue our efforts toward environmental responsibility and social justice.”

To learn more about Greenopia, please visit [www.greenopia.com](http://www.greenopia.com). To learn more about the wines of Alma Rosa Winery & Vineyards, please visit [www.almarosawinery.com](http://www.almarosawinery.com).

###

ALMA ROSA WINERY & VINEYARDS 7250 Santa Rosa Road, Buellton, California 93427  
(805) 688-9090 Fax (805) 688-9001 [info@almarosawinery.com](mailto:info@almarosawinery.com) [www.almarosawinery.com](http://www.almarosawinery.com)  
Committed to Sustainable Farming. All of our estate vineyards are certified organic by CCOF. 