

## **Salton seeks full sustainability.**

*Winery closes partnership with the University of Caxias do Sul to review all its processes from the perspective of environmental impact; Project is part of the innovation Center Research & Development created in the company.*

A broad study with three work fronts in parallel and duration of one year should put Salton at an unprecedented level for national wine making: the century-old winery of Bento Gonçalves intends to become the first company in the sector to be carbon neutral in its entire production chain, by 2030. The project developed in partnership with the University of Caxias do Sul (UCS) is part of the innovation Center Research & Development created in the company (more information below).

One of the three fronts of the work with UCS is aimed at creating an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions that should, within 5 months, identify the environmental impact of our products in this area, mapping best practices, proposing mitigation actions, preparing the company to reduce new emissions and, possibly, compensate those that cannot be avoided, either by purchasing carbon credits or environmental reserves.

A second scope of the research, with an expected duration of 12 months, evaluates the complete life cycle of the production process. From the use of natural resources to waste production, Salton will evaluate the environmental impacts of its activity and how to achieve the best possible efficiency while respecting the new parameters established. On the other hand, the third front of the work with UCS, which should occupy a semester of 2021, seeks to evaluate the technical and environmental feasibility of gasification and/or combustion of waste, in view of not only the decrease in volume of this material, but also its possible reuse as an energy source and supplies, promoting the circular economy.

"From the input that our winegrower uses to the reverse logistics of the bottles we use, we want to have the science and monitoring of the whole process. The future clearly points to this need and we need to anticipate. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure the prosperity of natural resources and the sustainable development of future generations. Our commitment as a company transcends the productive-economic sphere," says Maurício Salton, CEO.

### **Salton Innovation, Research & Development Center**

The study in partnership with UCS is part of the scope of Salton's Innovation, Research & Development Center, created in 2020 to unify all projects that occur in parallel within the company involving the areas of viticulture, oenology, production, and distribution. Also part of the Core are the Terroir Project, started in 2014, and the Campaign Project, created in 2016 and which includes a partnership with the Federal University of Santa Maria (UFSM). While the former integrated and brought about 40 families of winegrowers from Rio Grande do Sul salton partners around an advanced program of good wine practices, which allowed the qualitative development of the raw material and the technical improvement of the elaborated products, the second search, in the Gaucho Campaign, to deepen the technical knowledge and the wine-growing potential of the region, performing advanced soil analyses, comprising its physicochemical characteristics, its interaction with the vine and the ideal interventions for an efficient, productive and sustainable vineyard.