

Conservation at Tye Vineyards/Buchanan Family Farms



The first thing you notice when you enter are the **mature field edges and riparian borders, wide fence rows, and grassy farm roads** that connect lush habitat throughout the fields at Tye. This habitat provides wildlife, beneficial insects, and native pollinators with a means to move through the landscape. **These corridors provide excellent flight, paw, and scent paths, nest sites, shelter, food, and perches for predatory birds, bats and other mammals that keep on-farm insect and rodent pest populations in balance.** Dave Buchanan boasts the planting of **10,000 trees!**



Ancient gallery oaks, majestic remnants of the oak savannah, provide excellent shelter, food and homes for the **140 species of birds** identified on the farm. As they die, these trees **provide vital nesting sites for owls and native bees** in their hollowed out limbs and snags, and **homes for many wood boring insects which in turn provide a constant source of food for insectivorous birds and mammals.**



Mature trees flank the two creeks that meander through the farm and provide leaves and other organic debris that supports a diversity of aquatic insects, amphibians and fish. The tree **canopy provides shade that cools the streams.** **These non-polluted, cooler streams hold more oxygen and are vital to the survival of many northwest fish species such as cutthroat trout.** Their long branches and giant trunks provide **logs that slow the creeks current and provide backwaters** that host a wide variety of animals, from crayfish to great blue herons. The debris backs up water that spreads out into broadened flood plains covered in native grasses and forbs that provide additional food and shelter for many insects. These floodplains also **filter sediment and pollutants, such as fertilizers, pesticides, and harmful bacteria from fecal matter, that would otherwise enter the streams.** Wetland Reserve Program funds were used for much of the riparian restoration.



The Buchanans have not used herbicides or insecticides on their grapes since 1999. They **augment the biodiversity of their mature riparian areas and field margins with flowering plants, such as roses, lavender and showy milkweed, that provide pollen and nectar for native bee and beneficial insects.** They do not rent European honey bees, as there are many native bees on the farm and several “bee trees” with naturally occurring European honey bee hives.



The Buchanans have participated in several research projects in their hazelnut orchard over the years. They are currently working with OSU researchers to find **alternatives to current management techniques for the filbert worm.** In the past, cooperation with OSU researchers yielded very positive long-term results by **increasing on-farm populations of parasitoids that attach the filbert aphid.**

In terms of the farm's bottom line, the Buchanans believe these conservation measures:

- 🐜 **enhance the quality of their fruit and nuts;**
- 🐜 **broaden their market appeal with an ecological label;**
- 🐜 **increase public interest in their farm;**
- 🐜 **contribute to their own enthusiasm and interest in work and home; and**
- 🐜 **add to the general health and sustainability of the farm.**