

A SHORT HISTORY OF BIODIVERSITY AND WINE

- 1998** The scheme for the Integrated Production of Wine (IPW) is introduced by industry to promote environmental good practice
- 2004** The Biodiversity and Wine Initiative (BWI) is launched and housed by the Botanical Society of South Africa
- 2005** In March, Vergelegen becomes the first BWI Champion
In June, Mociplass becomes the first BWI Member
- 2005–2006** BWI pilot phase funded by the global Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
- 2005–2007** BWI office space provided by the South African Wine Council in Stellenbosch
- 2006** In September, Wines of South Africa (WOSA) launches the tagline 'variety is in our nature' as an overseas brand campaign to raise awareness of the abundant biodiversity in South Africa
- 2007** BWI Representative Steering Committee established, with Duimpie Bayly as Chairman and representatives from industry, conservation and agriculture partners and BWI producers
- 2007–2010** BWI funded by WOSA and the WWF Nedbank Green Trust
- 2008** The BWI logo – a sugarbird on a protea – is launched on 22 May, International Biodiversity Day
- 2008** In August, Vogelfontein joins BWI and commits 21,000 hectares, a massive milestone that catapults the BWI above the 100,000 hectares under conservation mark, thus surpassing the total area under vineyards
- 2009–2013** BWI receives additional co-sponsorship from RMB Fund and vehicle sponsorship from Mazda Wildlife Fund
- 2009** In July, Black Oystercatcher becomes the 100th BWI Member
- 2009** BWI formally housed within WWF South Africa (WWF-SA)
- 2010** Launch of the IPW's Sustainable Wines South Africa 'Integrity & Sustainability' seal
- 2015** In June, 10 years of conservation success is celebrated – with 35 BWI Champions, 18 BWI Producer Cellars and 168 BWI Members, with a combined 143,877 hectares committed to conservation
- 2015** Following an assessment of 10 years of investment and conservation impact, WWF-SA makes a bold move to re-set the level of environmental aspiration

