



BAYER FORWARD FARMING WELCOMES CHILEAN FARM INTO GLOBAL NETWORK

FORWARD FARMING EXPANDS NETWORK IN LATIN AMERICA WITH ADDITION OF CHILEAN FARM, LA HORNILLA – FUNDO SANTA INÉS

On 4 October 2018, more than 50 customers, agricultural experts, farmers and researchers visited La Hornilla – Fundo Santa Inés farm for the inauguration of Bayer ForwardFarming in Chile. At the event, visitors had the chance to learn about the diverse solutions and innovative technologies that are being implemented on the farm to face the challenges of modern agriculture.

Established in 1986, Santa Inés is located near the Chilean capital of Santiago and is managed by Cristián Allendes with the support of his two sons. The Allendes family produces table grapes, plums, peaches and nectarines on the farm's 158 hectares of land and are recognized as local leaders in the implementation of modern and sustainable agricultural techniques. "I think ForwardFarming is a very positive initiative for the agricultural sector," said Allendes. "Being able to observe what we are doing at Santa Inés in practice motivates other farmers. We are proud to be the first in Chile to implement this program and we will continue to work toward sustainability as a goal."

Gabriel Assandri, Country Head for Crop Science Chile, shared in Allendes' excitement for ForwardFarming, noting, "We are very happy to have officially launched this project in Chile. It was very satisfying to work with Cristián Allendes, his family and the farm employees, all of whom share a similar view to Bayer's about the future of farming." During a tour of the farm, attendees were able to visit interactive stations and see for themselves how Santa Inés is working to increase harvest quality and productivity, preserve scarce resources like water, protect pollinator habitat and implement an integrated management approach to ensure human health and safety.

Karina Buzzetti, PhD and agri development researcher, expressed her appreciation of the innovative and sustainable activities taking place on the farm. "Everything we saw is implemented in a sustainable manner and is economically feasible for the producer," noted Buzzetti. "Given that we are food suppliers for the rest of the world, Chile should reach to new horizons taking into account what we saw today in terms of food safety and sustainability."

Max Donoso, general manager of Coagra S.A. and director of the Chilean Agricultural Input Distribution Association (ADIAC) echoed Buzzetti's thoughts. "This initiative is a first step to continuing the advancement of agricultural production – increasing production per hectare while lowering costs, reducing the impact of product application and generating greater sustainability of production."

To learn more about La Hornilla – Fundo Santa Inés and the global ForwardFarming network, visit www.forwardfarming.com.



Farmer Cristián Allendes, left, with Gabriel Assandri, Country Head for Crop Science Chile, at the inauguration of ForwardFarming in Chile



The event was attended by more than 50 agriculture experts and enthusiasts, who gathered at La Hornilla farm for a day of demonstration and dialogue.



Participants were able to witness the sustainable and innovative work happening at La Hornilla. Here, a group learns about the farm's efforts to protect and support pollinators.