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## Matias Garcés Silva

*Executive Director, Amayna*

Matias Garcés Silva's story is one of passion. While his family had a property in Leyda that centered on grain and lamb production, it wasn't until 2000 when Matias tried to make wine from a small experimental vineyard.

In 2000, without any experience making wine (he was a wine marketer), he made 1,000 bottles of wine. The resulting wine was a disaster – he still has 950 bottles left! Later that year he began his collaboration with Jean Michel Novelle, a prestigious Swiss oenologist whom he invited to Chile to show him the terroir of Leyda. A friendship arose and in 2002, Jean Michel and Matias made a second garage-style wine with far better results. That first harvest with Jean Michel Novelle was the beginning of the Amayna wines.

Matias works hard to produce the best quality wines, which begins long before planting. He believes in making a thorough study of soils, then planting the right varieties for each type of soil. The best plants are selected and with the best technical team, the best wine is made in a gravity-fed winery that preserves the character of the vineyards.

Matias is an avid cyclist and skier and above all else, a devoted family man.

