Forteto della Luja • Loazzolo

Forteto della Luja came to Giancarlo by way of his father, who purchased the farm from the original family in the 1970s. Forteto della Luja is more than a winery or a farm, it is an ecosystem of more than twenty unique species of floral and fauna, protected by the World Wildlife Fund. "WWF" winery... the first of its kind in Italy. Today’s protectors of Forteto is Giovanni, Giancarlo's child who grew-up with the bright colors and humming sounds that city kids dream-of. Whether it’s the power of "Le Grive," the meditation of "Pian dei Sogni," or the pure pleasure of "Piasa San Maurizio," it's obvious he has inherited his father’s obligation to mother nature. Advocates of solar power, he installed photo-voltaic panels on the cellar roof’s south side. These panels produce and feed electricity to the winery, every day of the year, the first of its kind in Piedmont. He describes their farming practice as "Biological Agriculture." Horses are their plows, wooden nests and birds are their friends, artificial sprays are their enemies, and absolutely no weed killers!

Monferrato Rosso "Le Grive" 2017

Another monopole vineyard from the Scaglione family, “Le Grive” has an elevation of 1,540 ft. The family named the wine after the birds which nibble on the thick juniper bushes that surround the vineyard. The bowl-shaped southwest facing site is home to old-vine Barbera and even older vines of Pinot Noir. The wine is typically about 80% Barbera and 20% Pinot Noir, aged in a combination of used and new 225 liter barrels and finished with a very light sulfur application. This wine shows a heady, wild camphor aroma and satisfies with suave, velvety depth, silken texture, and a bowl-of-berry fruit richness & variety.

![Monferrato Rosso "Le Grive" 2017](image-url)