



**Grape Compass**  
Enabling quality grapes  
Powered by HydroNET

## User case study Protea Heights Farm



### Please tell us about your organization and your farming philosophy:

The farm was bought in 2008 by Ginny Povall. This was the first protea farm in South Africa. Situated in the Devon Valley area. I started working on the farm in 2008 and we have decided to pull out some of the oldest protea blocks and replace them with vines. Today we farm with 5.5 Ha of vines and 8 Ha of proteas. We are making our own wine under Botanica Wines. We have tried to be organic on the vines since 2014 but it has been a battle since day one. Disease pressure was just too high in the Devon Valley area.

### How did you get started with Grape Compass?

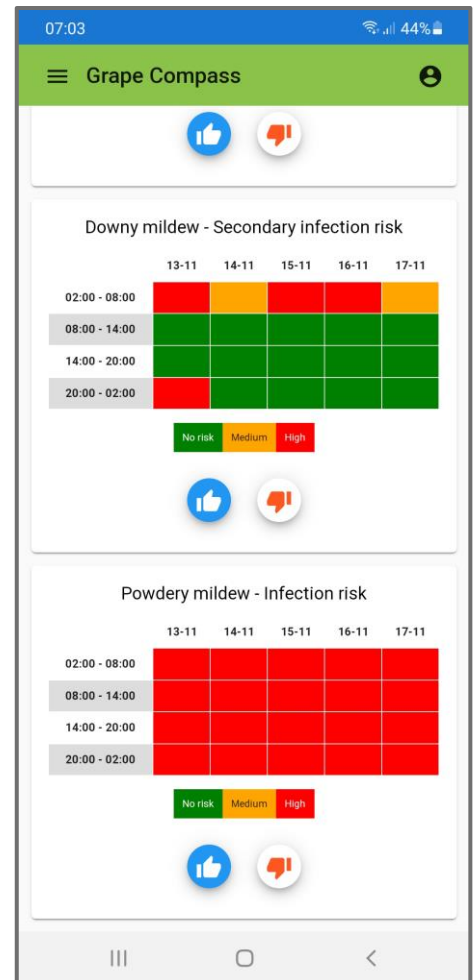
We trialled Grape Compass in the 2022 season. Since 2020 we have struggled to keep downy mildew under control with the organic spray program and decided to switch back to conventional farming but still try and farm with nature. We also then decided to make use of Grape Compass.

### How was your experience with Grape Compass?

I think for us, Grape Compass is still new and it's still a learning curve. However, it helped to have an additional tool to check when the disease pressure will be high and make the decision when to spray.

### What would you say is the biggest benefit of Grape Compass?

I think the biggest benefit was to see a few days in advance what the disease pressure will be and make additional changes to your spray program and the timing of your sprays.



Weather Impact

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