

Reggio Calabria, Italy

BELLA VISTA FARM

Partner since 2019

Botanical sourced from this farm: Bergamot



FARM LOCATION AND BACKGROUND

The Bella Vista Farm is a third-generation farm and cold-press facility located outside the city of Reggio Calabria, Italy—a region that produces most of the world's Bergamot essential oil. Founded in the early 1930s, the farm uses best practices to ensure Seed to Seal® quality and purity while helping Young Living keep up with the demand for this popular essential oil. The farm takes full advantage of southern Italy's sunny climate, using solar energy to power all of its buildings during the off season.

BOTANICAL BACKGROUND

The name of the bergamot tree, *Citrus Bergamia*, is taken from the Italian word *bergamotto*, which came to Italy by way of Turkey, where it means “lord’s pear.” The citrus fruit produced by the bergamot tree actually resembles an orange in size and shape, while its peel is usually yellow or green like a lime’s. Bergamot fruit is a prized ingredient in many perfumes, teas, and infusions.

**Bella Vista Farm
is known for the
bergamot tree.**

HARVESTING AND COLD PRESSING

The farm is located 20 miles away from the city of Reggio Calabria, where the year-round sunny and warm climate makes it ideal for citrus cultivation. Rich with argillite, limestone and alluvial deposits, the area’s fertile soil is ideal for cultivating high-quality bergamot.

Like other citrus essential oils, Bergamot is obtained by cold pressing the zest of the fruit, rather than through distillation. The farm’s goal is to implement a new peeling machine to the process that, through an innovative system, will recycle the water used during essential oil production.



HOW THE FARM GOT ITS START

The La Face family has owned the Bella Vista Farm since 1930, when Francesco La Face founded it. Francesco was a famous chemist and an authority in the citrus oil field. Since then, the farm has passed through three generations of the La Face family, who have all worked to expand and refine its work.

Today's managing director, Giorgio, carries his family's legacy forward by improving the farm's facilities. He has overseen the building of a new facility and improved quality control through implementing modern technology, all while following his ancestors' values of tradition, quality and service. It's these shared values that make the Bella Vista Farm a natural fit for Young Living as a partner farm.



DID YOU KNOW?



The bergamot fruit is called “the gold of Reggio Calabria” because it represents the main livelihood in that area.



Over 80 percent of the world's supply of bergamot fruit is grown in Calabria.



Located on the western coast of southern Italy, Calabria is a breathtaking mix of bustling ports, seaside cliffs, wood hills and mountains.



LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY



Implementing solar power. The sunny climate of southern Italy is perfect for solar power. During the off season, the buildings on the farm rely 100 percent on solar energy.

Providing local opportunities. Calabria is not a wealthy region, which is why the farm hires workers from nearby towns, providing them with favourable working conditions and fair pay. The citrus industry provides opportunities to the people, who bring with them a rich knowledge of the land and its crops.