

Ernesto Bajda
Vineyard Manager,
Bodegas Esmeralda

Ernesto (Nesti) Bajda graduated in 2002 from the Facultad de Ciencias Agrarias of the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo in Mendoza, Argentina with a degree in Agricultural Engineering, specializing in Precision Viticulture. Nesti is considered to be an industry expert in the use of infrared aerial photography (NDVI) and GPS positioning equipment in vineyard mapping and vine homogeneity analysis. For the 2005 and 2006 vintages Nesti was an assistant winemaker for Bodega Catena Zapata.

Born to Slovenian immigrants, Nesti is well known among colleagues for carrying on his Balkan ancestors' love for distilled aguardientes. His homemade grappa is a favorite at each year's end of harvest celebration!!