

Coonawarra

Vintage overview

Vintage report

Coonawarra has experienced an excellent vintage which was characterised by a warm, dry summer and then a cool autumn.

After a warm, fast flowering period, we saw an even set with high berry numbers per bunch. The excellent set necessitated significant fruit thinning at veraison which was advanced by approximately a week by the warmer weather. However, a late “Indian summer” afforded winemakers the opportunity to steadily pick the grapes without the pressure of an early season break.

These conditions have been optimal for our reds (primarily Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz). As a result there are strong wines with high colour density, fruit concentration and tannin structure.

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Overview of vintage statistics

The harvest from Coonawarra was 34,300 tonnes in 2013, significantly up by 10,380 tonnes (43.4%) from the 2012 harvest of 23,920 tonnes. The total value of grapes increased from \$27.6 million to \$46.7 million. The average purchase value for the three major varieties increased – Cabernet Sauvignon up by \$195 per tonne to \$1,556 per tonne; Shiraz up by \$282 per tonne to \$1,416 per tonne and Chardonnay up by \$48 per tonne to \$659 per tonne.

There were 41 hectares of new plantings in Coonawarra in spring 2012 (including top-working and replacements) compared with 9 hectares planted in 2011. Of the new plantings, Cabernet Sauvignon accounted for 70.7% and Sauvignon Blanc 12.2%. The total planted area of vines in the region decreased by 61 hectares compared with an increase in vines by 34 hectares in 2011.

The estimated production from the Coonawarra region for 2014 is 41,200 tonnes, with the wineries’ committed intake being around 34,000 tonnes. This leaves an estimated 7,200 tonnes (17.5%) of uncommitted fruit.

In 2018, the estimated production remains stable at 41,500 tonnes of which 32,100 tonnes is already under contract or winery grown fruit. This leaves around 9,400 tonnes (22.6%) yet to be contracted or is available on the open market.

Winegrape intake summary - vintage 2013

Variety	Tonnes purchased	Lowest price ¹	Highest price ¹	Total value purchased grapes	Calc avg. purch. value per tonne	Winery grown fruit	Total crushed ²	Est total value ALL grapes
RED								
Cabernet Franc	54	\$800	\$850	\$45,624	\$840	216	270	\$226,642
Cabernet Sauvignon	7,608	\$800	\$4,200	\$11,837,234	\$1,556	10,961	18,569	\$28,890,275
Malbec	0			\$0	\$0	51	51	\$74,806
Merlot	694	\$400	\$1,800	\$645,020	\$930	1,802	2,496	\$2,319,794
Meunier	0			\$0	\$0	24	24	\$35,955
Other red	5			\$5,632	\$1,100	1	6	\$6,182
Petit Verdot	8			\$9,020	\$1,100	212	220	\$242,454
Pinot Noir	105	\$600	\$1,170	\$117,301	\$1,118	184	289	\$323,140
Ruby Cabernet	0			\$0	\$0	5	5	\$7,664
Shiraz	1,895	\$800	\$2,100	\$2,683,866	\$1,416	6,418	8,313	\$11,772,429
Tempranillo	0			\$0	\$0	3	3	\$3,817
Total Red winegrapes	10,370			\$15,343,697		19,875	30,245	\$43,903,159
WHITE								
Chardonnay	567	\$400	\$1,200	\$373,745	\$659	1,977	2,544	\$1,677,058
Other white	0			\$0	\$0	6	6	\$3,761
Pedro Ximenes	0			\$0	\$0	13	13	\$8,890
Riesling	41			\$30,999	\$750	604	645	\$484,243
Sauvignon Blanc	70	\$600	\$1,035	\$59,294	\$845	679	749	\$632,658
Semillon	0			\$0	\$0	77	77	\$52,481
Traminer	0			\$0	\$0	10	10	\$6,634
Viognier	0			\$0	\$0	11	11	\$7,591
Total White winegrapes	679			\$464,038		3,376	4,055	\$2,873,317
Grand Total All winegrapes	11,049			\$15,807,735		23,252	34,300	\$46,776,476

¹ Lowest and highest prices are only reported when there are at least three purchasers. Very low prices may relate to extremely small parcels of fruit or fruit delivered that was over the contract amount or penalised for other reasons.

² It is estimated that the non-response rate for Coonawarra is 1.7%.

Historical Weighted Average Price vs tonnes crushed



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Current plantings by variety and year planted

Variety	Current area in hectares				Total area	% planted in 2012
	Pre-2010	2010	2011	2012		
Red winegrapes						
Cabernet Franc	38	0	0	0	38	0%
Cabernet Sauvignon	3,383	17	3	29	3,432	1%
Malbec	11	0	6	0	17	0%
Merlot	389	0	1	0	390	0%
Other Red	6	0	0	1	7	17%
Petit Verdot	18	0	0	0	18	0%
Pinot Noir	45	0	0	0	45	0%
Shiraz	1,146	12	0	4	1,162	0%
Total red varieties	5,035	29	10	34	5,108	1%
White winegrapes						
Chardonnay	341	0	0	0	341	0%
Other White	2	4	0	0	7	0%
Riesling	87	0	0	0	87	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	96	0	2	5	103	5%
Semillon	10	0	0	2	12	16%
Traminer (Gewurztraminer)	2	0	0	0	2	0%
Viognier	3	0	0	0	3	0%
Total white varieties	540	4	2	7	554	1%
Unknown variety	25	0	0	0	25	0%
Total all varieties	5,600	34	12	41	5,686	1%

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Estimated supply and committed intake 2014 - 2018

Variety	2014				2016				2018			
	Est Supply ¹	Committed intake ²			Est Supply ¹	Committed intake ²			Est Supply ¹	Committed intake ²		
		Winery grapes	Contract purchases	Total committed intake		Winery grapes	Contract purchases	Total committed intake		Winery grapes	Contract purchases	Total committed intake
Red winegrapes												
Cabernet Franc	305	98	57	155	305	98	48	146	305	98	48	146
Cabernet Sauvignon	23,775	11,826	6,623	18,450	23,916	11,806	6,216	18,022	23,916	11,938	4,857	16,795
Malbec	110	72	0	72	119	92	0	92	119	92	0	92
Merlot	2,726	2,045	561	2,605	2,727	2,040	550	2,589	2,727	2,040	550	2,589
Other red	146	32	7	39	151	32	11	43	151	32	12	44
Petit Verdot	146	202	9	211	146	202	9	211	146	202	9	211
Pinot Noir	357	335	67	401	357	335	67	401	357	335	67	401
Ruby Cabernet	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	6
Shiraz	8,080	6,199	2,170	8,369	8,118	6,476	2,153	8,629	8,118	6,261	2,067	8,328
Tempranillo	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	5	0	5
Total red winegrapes	35,644	20,818	9,494	30,312	35,839	21,090	9,053	30,144	35,839	21,009	7,609	28,618
White winegrapes												
Chardonnay	3,408	1,858	393	2,251	3,408	1,858	232	2,090	3,408	1,858	232	2,090
Other white	185	10	0	10	207	10	0	10	207	10	0	10
Pedro Ximenes	0	7	0	7	0	7	0	7	0	7	0	7
Riesling	956	570	42	612	956	570	42	612	956	570	42	612
Sauvignon Blanc	870	650	38	689	896	652	38	691	896	652	38	691
Semillon	90	83	0	83	98	83	0	83	98	83	0	83
Traminer	20	20	0	20	20	20	0	20	20	20	0	20
Viognier	21	10	0	10	21	10	0	10	21	10	0	10
Total white winegrapes	5,550	3,209	474	3,683	5,606	3,211	313	3,524	5,606	3,211	313	3,524
All winegrapes	41,193	24,027	9,968	33,995	41,445	24,302	9,366	33,667	41,445	24,220	7,922	32,142

¹ Supply forecast produced by PGIBSA based on the South Australian vineyard register

² A raising factor of 1.008 has been applied to committed intake to allow for non-respondents