



Currency Creek Wine Region

Regional summary report

2011

DATUM: GDA94
 PROJECTION: MGA Zone 54
 DATE: 8th April 2011
 SOFTWARE: ESRI ArcGIS v10
 DATA SOURCE:
 Vineyard Blocks - PGISA
 Wine Regions - Wine Australia
 Localities - SA Gazetteer
 Roads - DTI

Currency Creek Wine Region

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Explanations and Definitions

INTAKE (CURRENT VINTAGE) DATA

Definition of regions

Regions have been defined in accordance with Geographical Indication (GI) boundaries. If a GI region has not been declared, or produces less than 5,000 tonnes, then the data is aggregated into the relevant GI zone. Disaggregation of data into smaller regions such as Southern Fleurieu and Mount Benson is available on request from the Board's office.

Total crush

The **total crushed** is the total tonnes of grapes crushed from a particular source region, whether processed in that region, another region in SA or interstate. All wineries in Australia that are known to source fruit from South Australian vineyards are included in the survey collection process. However, not all wineries submit a survey form - therefore the total tonnage reported may underestimate the true crush. An estimate of the non-response rate for each region is provided below each intake summary report. Reported fruit is separated into fruit produced from the winery's own or associated vineyards ("own grown") and from independent vineyards ("purchased").

Crop value data

On the survey forms, wineries are asked to record **total purchase value**. This is the total amount paid for fruit of a particular variety at the point of receipt – NOT including freight. It includes any penalties or bonuses (eg Baumé) applied at the weighbridge, but DOES NOT INCLUDE other bonuses or adjustments such as end use quality bonuses, which are not available at the time the survey is conducted.

The **calculated average purchase value per tonne** is the average amount paid per tonne of fruit across all wineries. Winery grown grapes are not included in the calculation of average purchase value; nor are grapes grown by companies connected with the winery or under lease arrangements. The **estimated total value of purchased grapes** is calculated by multiplying the average purchase value per tonne by the total tonnes purchased. The **estimated total value of total grapes** is calculated by multiplying the average purchase value per tonne by all tonnes crushed. If there is a variety where there are no purchases, then the average purchase value across all other varieties of the same colour in the same region is used to determine an estimated value for the own grown grapes.

Note: in small varieties there may sometimes be only one winery contributing towards a calculated average purchase value per tonne.

Important note on average purchase value

There is considerable variation in the pricing arrangements made by different wineries. For example, some wineries make adjustment payments based on the average value per tonne reported in this survey and some pay quality bonuses based on the end use of the product. These additional payments are not included in the reported figures. The average price also does not give any indication of the distribution of prices, or variables that go into individual contracts. Therefore the average price should not be compared directly with an individual grower's arrangement.

Highest and lowest price

Wineries are asked to report the highest and lowest prices paid for any parcel of fruit of a particular variety, of any size. The highest of all highest prices, and the lowest of all lowest prices are reported – provided that at least three wineries have provided this information for any particular variety. *Note: the highest or lowest price may be for a very small parcel of fruit - and/or reflect an unusual pricing arrangement - eg payment by the hectare rather than per tonne, "spot market" sales of excess fruit etc.*

FORECASTS

Estimated supply

Supply forecasts have been calculated independently using the planting information obtained from the PGIBSA vineyard register (see below). They are calculated by multiplying the area of vines by an estimated yield figure determined separately for each variety in each region, which takes into account industry practices and objectives as well as historical averages. However, the supply forecasts do not make any allowance for future vine removals or mothballing, yield capping or the effects of ongoing water restrictions or unusual seasonal conditions.

Committed intake

Committed intake is the amount of fruit that wineries are *already* committed to take in, for a given future year. It is made up of winery grown fruit and contract purchases. Only existing or ongoing contracts are included – not intended future signings or renewals.

Explanations and Definitions

Available supply

Available supply (uncommitted fruit) is the difference between estimated supply and committed intake. It is the amount of fruit estimated to be available on the open (spot) market. NB If the committed intake is higher than the estimated supply, this indicates a discrepancy between the independent supply forecasts and the wineries' estimates of future production. In this case, available supply is recorded as zero – rather than as a negative number.

Comparing supply and committed intake

In order to compare supply with committed intake, the latter figures are “raised” to compensate for non-respondents. There is no raising of supply figures because it is assumed that the PGIBSA vineyard planting information is close to 100% complete. The non-response rate is calculated separately for each region and is indicated below the relevant tables.

PLANTING DATA

Derivation of planting data tables

Planting data is **not** derived from the 2011 South Australian Utilisation and Pricing Survey of wineries. The information is obtained from the vineyard register maintained by the Phylloxera and Grape Industry Board of South Australia.

The Board is required under the *Phylloxera and Grape Industry Act 1995* to maintain a complete and accurate register of grapegrowers in the state. All vineyard owners with more than 0.5 hectares are required by law to register with the Board, and to complete an accurate vineyard return each year, giving details of their plantings. This information is kept strictly confidential. An accurate vineyard register enables the Board to produce complete, up-to-date statistical information on vineyard plantings by variety, year planted and location.

For more information on registration of vineyards, please contact the Phylloxera and Grape Industry Board office on 08 8362 0488.

Explanatory notes for planting data tables

1. Planting data tables are current as at April 2011 and include all plantings from the 2010 planting season. Vines planted in a particular year may include topworked or replaced vines, as well as new plantings in virgin ground. Where vines have been replaced or topworked, the old variety record is removed. This explains why the area planted for earlier years may be different in the 2011 report compared with previous reports.
2. Vineyard plantings are recorded by Geographical Indication. Planting details for smaller regions not included in the survey report are available on request from the Board.
3. Where a 0 appears in a table, this may indicate the presence of a planting of less than 0.5 hectares, or it may indicate zero plantings. Rounding may produce a slight error in totals or percentages.

Vintage report

Grape maturity for the 2011 vintage in the Currency Creek Wine Region developed about three weeks later than the average season, with harvest commencing in the first week of March.

Good winter rainfall created excellent subsoil moisture levels which led to even and consistent early season vine growth and allowed a late start to the supplementary irrigation applications.

Disease pressures were much higher than those experienced during a normal season, resulting in higher costs of production and significant demands on personnel and machinery resources.

While all varieties produced high quality fruit during this vintage, the stand out for reds was Cabernet Sauvignon and for whites was Chardonnay and Pinot Gris. It was evident early in the growing season that this was going to be an outstanding Cabernet Sauvignon season with excellent berry size and ideal overall crop to canopy balance.

The later part of the maturation season, from the final week of March onwards, was dry and warm, thereby allowing the reds to continue to hang on the vine and develop mature flavours along with soft and dusty tannins. The last fruit was picked on 10th May, three weeks later than the 2010 vintage.

Crop yields were down for Shiraz and some Sauvignon Blanc blocks, average for Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot blocks and above average for Chardonnay, Pinot Gris and Riesling blocks.

While early Downy and Powdery Mildew challenges were able to be dealt with effectively by additional spray applications, the Currency Creek Region suffered little Botrytis pressure and benefited greatly from the warm and dry finish to the season.

Overall, the 2011 vintage will be classed as good for the region with an uptake in fruit demand once the disease problems of some of the earlier maturing regions became evident. This was coupled with consistently

good fruit quality that was allowed to develop on the vine by the late seasonal rainfall break in this cooler than average season.

David Watkins, President
Currency Creek Wine Region Association

Overview of vintage statistics

The reported harvest from Currency Creek was 6,488 tonnes in 2011, a 27.5% fall for the region in 2010. The total value of grapes from Currency Creek decreased to \$5.2 million, compared with \$6.9 million in 2010. The average purchase value for all major varieties increased slightly, with Chardonnay up by \$78 to \$797.

There were no new plantings in Currency Creek for the spring 2010 (including top-working and replacements), although the total vineyard planted area increased slightly for the second year in a row.

The estimated production from Currency Creek vineyards for 2012 is around 9,600 tonnes with a wineries committed intake of 7,300 tonnes, leaving 2,300 tonnes of uncommitted fruit.

By 2016, the estimated production is expected to remain stable at 9,600 tonnes, of which only 1,200 tonnes is already committed.

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 Sauvignon	2,541	\$450	\$1,305	\$2,151,405	\$847	0	2,541	\$2,151,405
Grenache	75			\$44,874	\$600	0	75	\$44,874
Merlot	525	\$525	\$1,215	\$491,572	\$936	0	525	\$491,572
Other Red	6			\$6,828	\$1,215	0	6	\$6,828
Pinot Noir	27			\$17,585	\$654	0	27	\$17,585
Sangiovese	40			\$48,017	\$1,215	0	40	\$48,017
Shiraz	2,039	\$400	\$1,305	\$1,488,809	\$730	0	2,039	\$1,488,809
Tempranillo	9			\$11,178	\$1,215	0	9	\$11,178
Total Red winegrapes	5,262			\$4,260,267		0	5,262	\$4,260,267
WHITE								
Chardonnay	892			\$710,824	\$797	0	892	\$710,824
Other White	32			\$32,747	\$1,035	0	32	\$32,747
Pinot Gris	14			\$14,759	\$1,035	0	14	\$14,759
Riesling	65			\$45,241	\$700	0	65	\$45,241
Sauvignon Blanc	174			\$121,660	\$700	0	174	\$121,660
Traminer	50			\$30,114	\$600	0	50	\$30,114
Total White winegrapes	1,226			\$955,345		0	1,226	\$955,345
Total All winegrapes	6,488			\$5,215,612		0	6,488	\$5,215,612

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 Currency Creek is 16.8%.

Currency Creek

Current plantings by variety and year planted

Variety	Current area in hectares				Total area	% planted in 2010
	Pre-2008	2008	2009	2010		
Red winegrapes						
Cabernet Sauvignon	296	0	0	0	296	0%
Grenache	11	0	0	0	11	0%
Lagrein	1	0	0	0	1	0%
Merlot	65	0	0	0	65	0%
Nebbiolo	1	0	0	0	1	0%
Petit Verdot	4	0	0	0	4	0%
Pinot Noir	3	0	8	0	11	0%
Sangiovese	4	0	0	0	4	0%
Shiraz	327	0	0	0	327	0%
Tempranillo	5	0	0	0	5	0%
Total red varieties	716	0	8	0	724	0%
White winegrapes						
Chardonnay	122	0	0	0	122	0%
Pinot Gris	16	0	0	0	17	0%
Riesling	15	0	0	0	15	0%
Roussanne	1	0	0	0	1	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	58	0	0	0	58	0%
Semillon	8	0	0	0	8	0%
Traminer (Gewurztraminer)	6	0	0	0	6	0%
Vermentino	3	0	0	0	3	0%
Viognier	6	0	0	0	6	0%
Total white winegrapes	235	0	0	0	235	0%
Unknown variety	4	0	0	0	4	0%
Total all varieties	955	0	8	0	964	0%

Currency Creek

Estimated supply and committed intake 2012 - 2016

Variety	2012				2014				2016			
	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 Sauvignon	2,956	0	3,030	3,030	2,956	0	696	696	2,956	0	436	436
Grenache	110	0	111	111	110	0	0	0	110	0	0	0
Merlot	648	0	812	812	648	0	103	103	648	0	48	48
Other Red	51	0	18	18	51	0	18	18	51	0	18	18
Pinot Noir	75	0	222	222	91	0	222	222	91	0	30	30
Sangiovese	39	0	42	42	39	0	42	42	39	0	42	42
Shiraz	3,271	0	2,451	2,451	3,271	0	656	656	3,271	0	575	575
Tempranillo	46	0	14	14	46	0	14	14	46	0	14	14
Total red winegrapes	7,242	0	6,700	6,700	7,258	0	1,751	1,751	7,258	0	1,164	1,164
White winegrapes												
Chardonnay	1,218	0	70	70	1,218	0	0	0	1,218	0	0	0
Other White	25	0	30	30	25	0	30	30	25	0	30	30
Pinot Gris	166	0	30	30	167	0	30	30	167	0	30	30
Riesling	152	0	64	64	152	0	0	0	152	0	0	0
Sauvignon Blanc	585	0	312	312	585	0	312	312	585	0	0	0
Traminer	61	0	118	118	61	0	0	0	61	0	0	0
Total white winegrapes	2,352	0	623	623	2,353	0	372	372	2,353	0	60	60
All winegrapes	9,594	0	7,323	7,323	9,611	0	2,124	2,124	9,611	0	1,224	1,224

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

² A raising factor of 1.2 has been applied to committed intake to allow for non-respondents