



SA Winegrape Crush Survey Regional Summary Report - 2013

Currency Creek Wine Region

Currency Creek

Vintage overview

Vintage report

Ideal Mediterranean winter and then summer conditions resulted in a well-balanced vintage for the Currency Creek region.

Above average winter rainfall compensated for a very dry spring and summer, and enabled the vine canopies to be well balanced by veraison, which occurred in mid December.

The weather conditions at flowering were variable allowing good fruit set in some varieties like Cabernet Sauvignon but poorer set in other varieties such as Shiraz. Disease pressure through-out the season was low.

Warmer than average December through to February temperatures brought harvest forward by 10 days from the average start date, with most whites starting the week of the 18th February.

Whites benefited from the cooler climatic conditions and maritime influence of Currency Creek, with good fruit ripeness and naturally balanced acidity.

The March and April temperatures continued to be above average with unusually high night time temperatures. Being a late region, these prolonged hot spells occurred early enough in the ripening cycle to minimize any negative impacts on fruit quality. No significant summer rainfall was experienced.

The reds were picked from about the last week in March through to the first week in April and benefitted greatly from the mild finish to the ripening season. Such prolonged hang time resulted in great varietal character and colour and red variety yields were generally as expected.

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Overview of vintage statistics

The harvest from Currency Creek was 10,032 tonnes in 2013, up by 4,284 tonnes (74.5%) from the 2012 harvest of 5,748 tonnes. The total value of grapes from Currency Creek increased from \$4.6 million to \$7.4 million. The average purchase value for red varieties decreased – Cabernet Sauvignon down by \$100 per tonne to \$815 per tonne and Shiraz down by \$63 per tonne to \$764 per tonne. Of the white varieties – Chardonnay decreased by \$36 per tonne to \$398 per tonne and Sauvignon Blanc was up by \$76 per tonne to \$750 per tonne.

There were minimal new plantings in Currency Creek for the spring 2012 (including top-working and replacements). The total planted area of vines in the region remains stable at 960 hectares.

The estimated production from Currency Creek for 2014 is 9,500 tonnes with the wineries committed intake of 11,800 tonnes. Given this amount is higher than the estimated supply, there is not expected to be any surplus fruit.

By 2018, the estimated production is expected to remain stable at 9,600 tonnes, of which 8,400 tonnes is already under contract or winery grown fruit. This leaves around 1,100 tonnes (11.5%) yet to be contracted or is available on the open market.

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	1,913	\$300	\$1,305	\$1,558,609	\$815	1,162	3,075	\$2,504,887
Grenache	0			\$0	\$0	97	97	\$76,732
Malbec	0			\$0	\$0	5	5	\$3,955
Merlot	755	\$400	\$1,215	\$598,975	\$794	84	839	\$665,641
Nebbiolo	0			\$0	\$0	4	4	\$3,164
Other red	14			\$17,083	\$1,215	0	14	\$17,083
Petit Verdot	0			\$0	\$0	7	7	\$5,537
Pinot Noir	21			\$18,558	\$900	19	40	\$35,658
Sangiovese	49			\$55,075	\$1,135	10	59	\$66,421
Shiraz	3,006	\$310	\$1,502	\$2,297,794	\$764	933	3,939	\$3,011,138
Tempranillo	19			\$23,061	\$1,215	0	19	\$23,061
Total Red winegrapes	5,776			\$4,569,155		2,321	8,097	\$6,413,279
WHITE								
Chardonnay	558	\$340	\$477	\$222,012	\$398	381	939	\$373,577
Other white	32			\$33,493	\$1,035	0	32	\$33,493
Pinot Gris	175	\$750	\$1,400	\$156,146	\$890	0	175	\$156,146
Riesling	85			\$44,158	\$517	33	118	\$61,209
Sauvignon Blanc	399	\$600	\$1,035	\$299,070	\$750	129	528	\$395,884
Semillon	18			\$5,499	\$300	54	72	\$21,645
Traminer	69			\$34,640	\$500	0	69	\$34,640
Total White winegrapes	1,338			\$795,018		597	1,935	\$1,076,594
Grand Total All winegrapes	7,114			\$5,364,173		2,918	10,032	\$7,489,873

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 20.5%.

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 Sauvignon	291	0	0	0	291	0%	
Grenache	11	0	0	0	11	0%	
Lagrein	1	0	0	0	1	0%	
Merlot	61	0	0	0	61	0%	
Nebbiolo	1	0	0	0	1	0%	
Other Red	0	0	0	2	2	100%	
Petit Verdot	4	0	0	0	4	0%	
Pinot Noir	11	0	8	0	19	0%	
Sangiovese	4	0	0	0	4	0%	
Shiraz	325	0	0	0	325	0%	
Tempranillo	5	0	0	0	5	0%	
Total red varieties	714	0	8	2	723	0%	
White winegrapes							
Chardonnay	122	0	0	0	122	0%	
Other White	22	0	0	2	24	7%	
Pinot Gris	17	0	0	0	17	0%	
Sauvignon Blanc	55	0	0	0	55	0%	
Semillon	8	0	0	0	8	0%	
Vermentino	2	0	0	0	2	0%	
Viognier	6	0	0	0	6	0%	
Total white varieties	232	0	0	2	234	1%	
Unknown variety	3	0	0	0	3	0%	
Total all varieties	949	0	8	3	960	0%	

Currency Creek

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 Sauvignon	2,914	1,474	2,466	3,940	2,914	1,474	1,577	3,051	2,914	1,474	1,216	2,689
Grenache	110	123	0	123	110	123	0	123	110	123	0	123
Malbec	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	6
Merlot	608	105	894	999	608	105	389	493	608	105	389	493
Nebbiolo	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5
Other red	24	0	49	49	32	0	62	62	32	0	62	62
Petit Verdot	40	9	0	9	40	9	0	9	40	9	0	9
Pinot Noir	155	25	197	222	171	25	31	56	171	25	0	25
Sangiovese	39	12	49	62	39	12	49	62	39	12	49	62
Shiraz	3,250	1,159	3,610	4,770	3,250	1,159	4,020	5,179	3,250	1,159	2,585	3,745
Tempranillo	46	0	27	27	46	0	27	27	46	0	27	27
Total red winegrapes	7,185	2,918	7,294	10,212	7,209	2,918	6,154	9,072	7,209	2,918	4,327	7,246
White winegrapes												
Chardonnay	1,218	469	146	614	1,218	469	86	555	1,218	469	86	555
Other white	53	0	41	41	61	0	41	41	61	0	41	41
Pinot Gris	167	0	109	109	167	0	109	109	167	0	109	109
Riesling	152	37	62	99	152	37	7	44	152	37	7	44
Sauvignon Blanc	553	154	448	602	553	154	127	281	553	154	127	281
Semillon	77	56	25	80	77	56	25	80	77	56	25	80
Traminer	61	0	49	49	61	0	49	49	61	0	49	49
Total white winegrapes	2,342	715	878	1,594	2,350	715	444	1,159	2,350	715	444	1,159
All winegrapes	9,527	3,634	8,172	11,806	9,559	3,634	6,598	10,232	9,559	3,634	4,772	8,405

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

² A raising factor of 1.223 has been applied to committed intake to allow for non-respondents