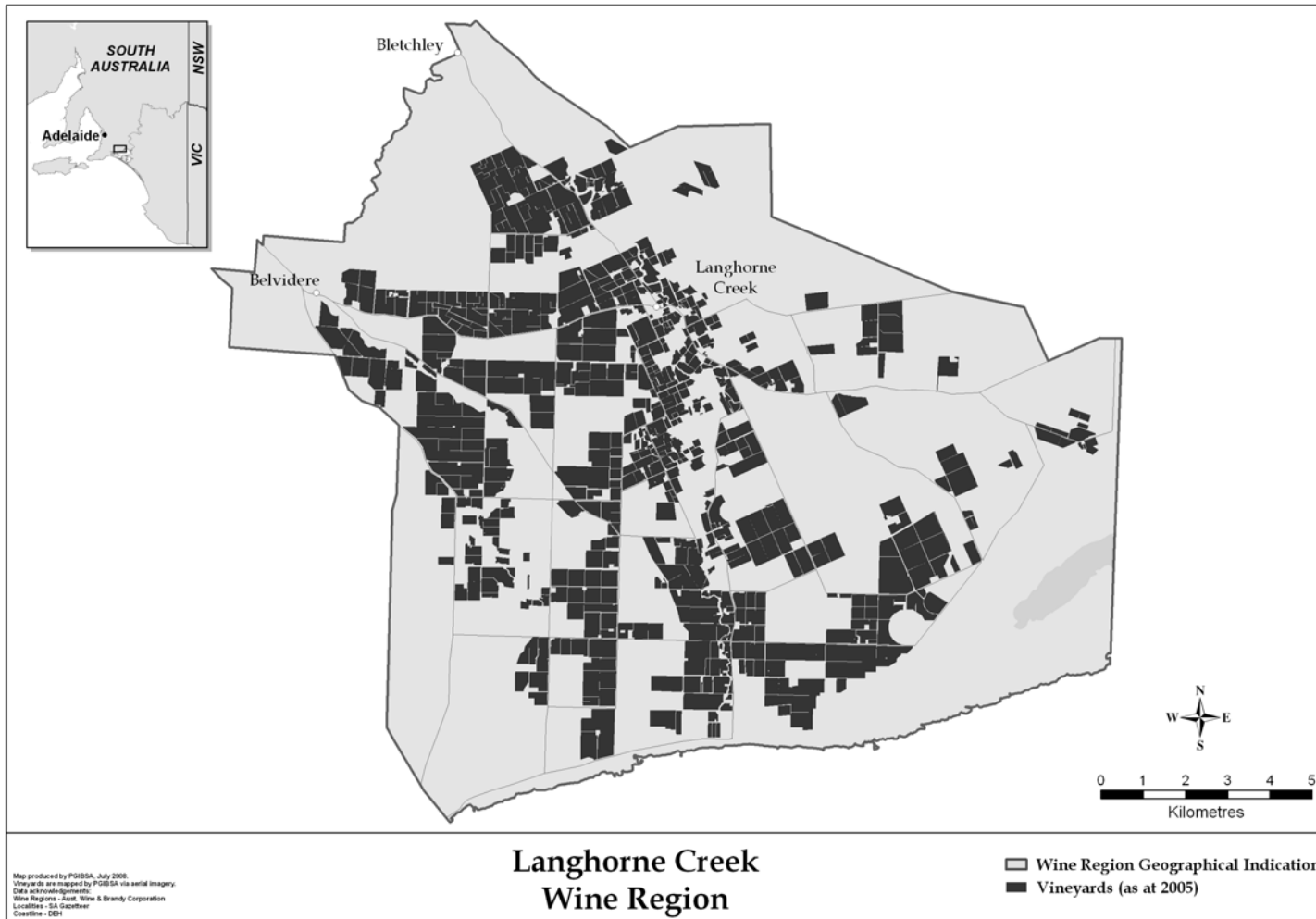


# Langhorne Creek Wine Region

## Regional summary report 2008



### *Vintage report*

2008 was once again an early, compressed vintage period for Langhorne Creek, with harvesters rolled out at the start of February and all but packed away by the end of March. 2008 has been a vintage of extremes and logistical chaos to say the least, but resulting in a surprisingly good tonnage and some excellent parcels of fruit. There were above average yields for most white varieties in particular.

The first half of the vintage was tremendous, with excellent, mild and dry climatic conditions throughout February resulting in high natural acidity and flavour development in white varieties and wonderful characters in early-mid ripening red varieties.

As with many South Australian wine regions this year, the second half of vintage would be best described as varying between terrific and disastrous, as the record-breaking March heatwave gripped the state. Fifteen consecutive days with the mercury above 35° C pushed growers, wineries, freight and harvesting contractors to their limits. With fruit dehydration and sugar levels never before experienced by growers or winemakers, the pressure was on to harvest quickly and minimise damage if at all possible. It is estimated the last 20-30% of the vintage was severely heat affected. Cabernet Sauvignon in particular suffered across the region.

It was certainly a very harsh way to end a vintage that started out so well!

Overall, a vintage of extremes with excellent whites, a good amount of superb quality Shiraz and Malbec and other early reds, concluding with a mix of terrific, and sadly, ultimately lost Cabernet Sauvignon and later ripening reds.

*Tom Keelan  
Chairman*

*Langhorne Creek Wine Grapegrowers Association Inc.*

### *Overview of vintage statistics*

The harvest from Langhorne Creek was 61,944 tonnes in 2008, up 50% on the record low 2007 vintage and the second highest ever in the region. Langhorne Creek had the second largest vintage outside of the Riverland this year – exceeding McLaren Vale by 7,000 tonnes. The total value of grapes from the region was \$66 million, compared with \$41 million in 2007, with the average purchase value for Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon increasing again slightly despite the increase in supply (Cabernet Sauvignon up by \$160 per tonne).

There was almost no new planting at all in Langhorne Creek in spring 2007 – not even a 1% normal replacement level.

The estimated production from Langhorne Creek for 2009 is 61,000 tonnes (this estimate is based on an assumption of reasonable access to water). The wineries' committed intake is almost equal to that amount, so there is not expected to be any surplus fruit. In 2013, assuming a return to normal growing conditions, the estimated production is 63,000 tonnes, of which half (32,000 tonnes) is already under contract or winery grown fruit. This leaves an estimated 32,000 tonnes as yet uncommitted. The amount of reportedly contracted fruit has greatly reduced in this region over the forecast period compared with last year's survey, indicating that contracts may have been cancelled.

Across the state, even if growing conditions return to "normal", there is expected to be little or no overall surplus compared with demand in 2013 (see State Summary section).

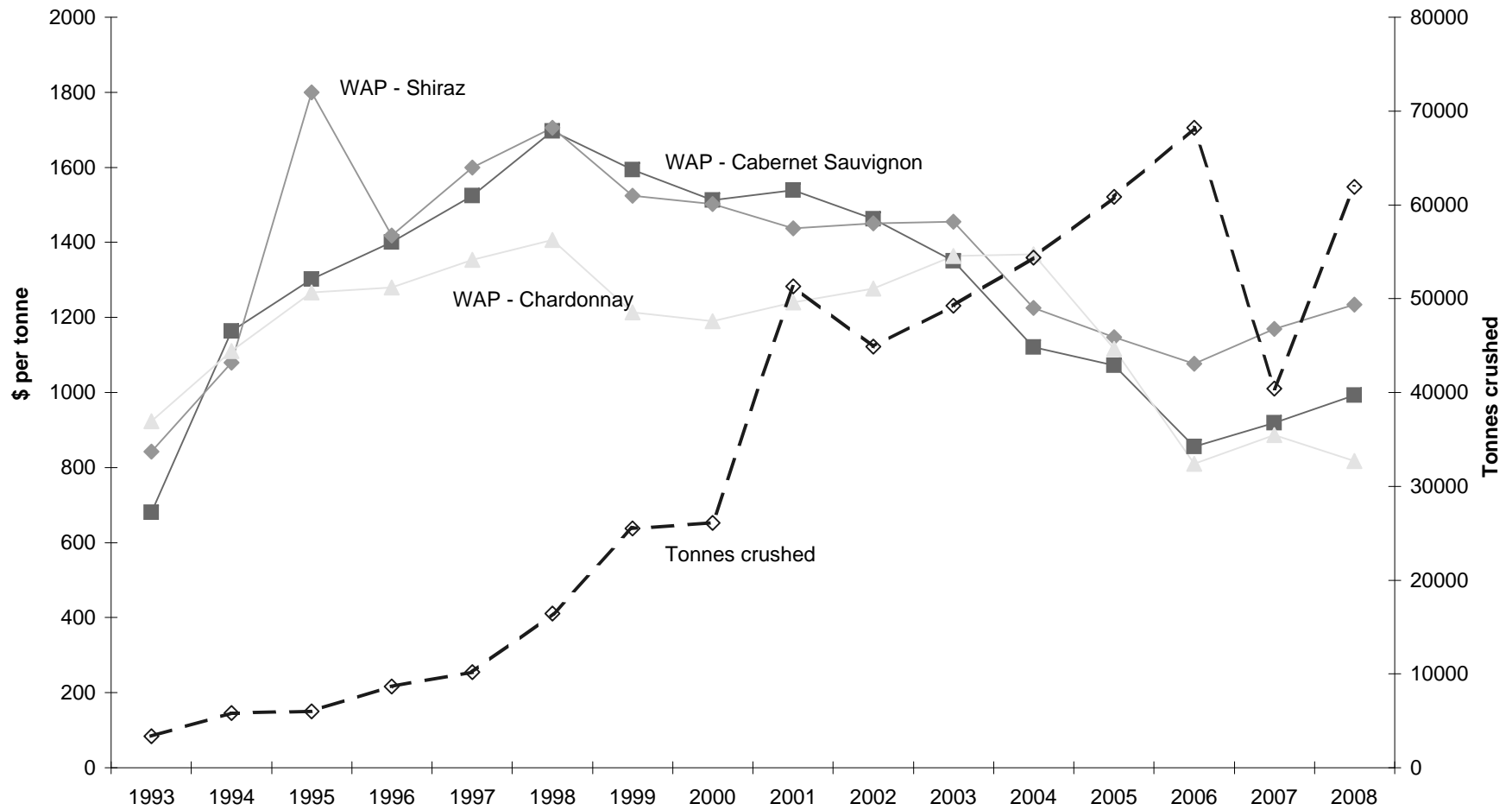
## Langhorne Creek

## Winegrape intake summary - vintage 2008

Variety	Tonnes purchased	Lowest price <sup>1</sup>	Highest price <sup>1</sup>	Total value purchased grapes	Calc avg. purch. value per tonne	Winery grown fruit	Total crushed	Est total value ALL grapes
<b>Red winegrapes</b>								
Barbera	11			\$18,121	\$1,599	0	11	\$18,121
Cabernet Franc	80			\$72,378	\$900	3	83	\$74,952
Cabernet Sauvignon	11,807	\$100	\$2,300	\$11,718,225	\$992	3,474	15,281	\$15,165,525
Grenache	803	\$500	\$956	\$654,746	\$816	850	1,652	\$1,347,763
Malbec	294	\$700	\$1,800	\$364,143	\$1,237	47	341	\$421,876
Mataro	65			\$81,106	\$1,247	5	70	\$87,340
Merlot	2,516	\$600	\$1,796	\$2,659,233	\$1,057	1,329	3,845	\$4,063,232
Nebbiolo	27			\$29,546	\$1,100	9	36	\$39,358
Other Red	179	\$850	\$1,500	\$234,937	\$1,310	0	179	\$234,937
Petit Verdot	292	\$500	\$1,200	\$279,636	\$959	63	355	\$340,023
Pinot Noir	485	\$950	\$1,350	\$568,536	\$1,172	285	771	\$902,990
Sangiovese	562	\$250	\$1,400	\$561,388	\$998	5	567	\$566,379
Shiraz	17,080	\$100	\$5,000	\$21,083,473	\$1,234	4,817	21,896	\$27,029,186
Tempranillo	17			\$25,710	\$1,500	0	17	\$25,710
Touriga	6			\$10,128	\$1,600	0	6	\$10,128
Zinfandel	32			\$35,472	\$1,098	0	32	\$35,472
<b>Total red winegrapes</b>	<b>34,259</b>			<b>\$38,396,778</b>		<b>10,885</b>	<b>45,144</b>	<b>\$50,362,992</b>
<b>White winegrapes</b>								
Chardonnay	9,483	\$250	\$1,691	\$7,750,793	\$817	2,470	11,953	\$9,769,758
Muscat a Petit Grains Blanc	0					11	11	\$9,837
Other White	22			\$20,495	\$919	0	22	\$20,495
Pinot Gris	325	\$900	\$2,000	\$505,018	\$1,555	25	350	\$544,542
Riesling	930			\$936,124	\$1,006	1,345	2,275	\$2,289,511
Sauvignon Blanc	316	\$1,000	\$1,900	\$445,353	\$1,407	414	730	\$1,028,004
Traminer	352			\$253,232	\$719	0	352	\$253,232
Verdelho	673	\$1,000	\$1,300	\$766,157	\$1,139	146	819	\$932,264
Viognier	277	\$500	\$1,700	\$392,637	\$1,417	10	287	\$407,292
<b>Total white winegrapes</b>	<b>12,379</b>			<b>\$11,069,808</b>		<b>4,422</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>\$15,254,934</b>
<b>Total all winegrapes<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>46,637</b>			<b>\$49,466,586</b>		<b>15,307</b>	<b>61,944</b>	<b>\$65,617,926</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> The estimated non-response rate for Langhorne Creek is 2%.



# Langhorne Creek

## Current plantings by variety and year planted

Variety	Current area in hectares					Total area	% planted in 2007
	Pre-2005	2005	2006	2007			
<b>Red winegrapes</b>							
Cabernet Franc	14	0	0	0	14	0%	
Cabernet Sauvignon	1937	0	0	0	1937	0%	
Dolcetto	5	9	0	0	13	0%	
Grenache	121	0	0	0	121	0%	
Lagrein	1	9	1	0	12	0%	
Malbec	45	1	1	0	47	0%	
Mataro (Mourvedre)	7	0	0	0	7	0%	
Merlot	398	19	5	1	423	0%	
Nebbiolo	13	0	0	0	14	0%	
Other red	8	3	0	0	11	0%	
Petit Verdot	51	0	0	0	51	0%	
Pinot Noir	52	0	3	0	55	0%	
Sangiovese	53	0	0	0	53	0%	
Shiraz	2071	4	55	5	2135	0%	
Touriga	6	0	0	0	6	0%	
Zinfandel	7	1	0	0	8	0%	
<b>Total red winegrapes</b>	<b>4792</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4909</b>	<b>0%</b>	
<b>White winegrapes</b>							
Chardonnay	791	5	10	0	806	0%	
Other white	6	1	5	0	11	0%	
Pinot Gris	14	11	11	0	36	0%	
Riesling	175	0	0	0	175	0%	
Sauvignon Blanc	6	47	13	0	66	0%	
Semillon	29	0	0	0	29	0%	
Traminer	15	0	0	0	15	0%	
Verdelho	61	3	4	0	69	0%	
Viognier	24	18	4	0	45	0%	
<b>Total white winegrapes</b>	<b>1121</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1252</b>	<b>0%</b>	
Unknown variety	42	0	0	0	42	0%	
<b>Total all varieties</b>	<b>5955</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6202</b>	<b>0%</b>	

Variety	2009				2011				2013			
	Est Supply <sup>1</sup>	Total committed intake <sup>2</sup>		Available supply <sup>3</sup>	Est Supply <sup>1</sup>	Total committed intake <sup>2</sup>		Available supply <sup>3</sup>	Est Supply <sup>1</sup>	Total committed intake <sup>2</sup>		Available supply <sup>3</sup>
		Winery grapes	Contract purchases			Winery grapes	Contract purchases			Winery grapes	Contract purchases	
<b>Red winegrapes</b>												
Cabernet Franc	99	5	72	21	99	5	5	89	99	5	5	89
Cabernet Sauvignon	19,855	5,244	12,132	2,479	19,955	5,249	6,400	8,306	20,066	5,254	2,523	12,289
Grenache	1,561	718	812	30	1,565	718	751	95	1,565	616	632	317
Malbec	285	56	231	0	294	69	207	18	303	69	141	93
Mataro	69	10	73	0	69	10	61	0	69	0	61	8
Merlot	4,261	1,678	2,717	0	4,421	1,678	1,732	1,011	4,533	1,647	1,042	1,844
Nebbiolo	10	2	30	0	10	2	0	8	10	2	0	8
Other Red	180	5	276	13	256	10	255	13	280	10	255	15
Petit Verdot	507	52	175	280	509	52	147	310	509	52	147	310
Pinot Noir	771	306	327	138	804	306	196	302	871	306	196	369
Sangiovese	534	20	294	220	533	20	69	443	533	0	69	463
Shiraz	20,301	4,673	15,621	7	20,568	4,673	9,493	6,403	21,054	4,673	5,247	11,134
Tempranillo	13	0	0	13	13	0	0	13	13	0	0	13
Zinfandel	32	0	0	32	70	0	0	70	141	0	0	141
<b>Total red winegrapes</b>	<b>48,477</b>	<b>12,770</b>	<b>32,759</b>	<b>2,947</b>	<b>49,166</b>	<b>12,793</b>	<b>19,316</b>	<b>17,057</b>	<b>50,045</b>	<b>12,635</b>	<b>10,318</b>	<b>27,092</b>
<b>White winegrapes</b>												
Chardonnay	9,058	1,932	7,786	0	9,096	1,932	5,607	1,558	9,096	1,860	2,738	4,498
Other White	21	10	20	0	37	15	0	30	43	15	0	36
Pinot Gris	218	29	317	0	303	29	315	0	413	29	223	161
Riesling	1,748	1,456	892	0	1,746	1,456	909	0	1,746	1,456	892	0
Sauvignon Blanc	280	338	399	0	375	382	612	0	498	382	562	0
Semillon	348	0	582	0	348	0	623	0	348	0	623	0
Traminer	190	0	192	0	190	0	0	190	190	0	0	190
Verdelho	664	142	330	192	708	142	350	216	795	142	391	262
Viognier	152	10	257	0	210	10	318	0	210	10	318	0
<b>Total white winegrapes</b>	<b>12,678</b>	<b>3,917</b>	<b>10,775</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13,013</b>	<b>3,965</b>	<b>8,735</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>13,339</b>	<b>3,894</b>	<b>5,748</b>	<b>3,697</b>
<b>Total all winegrapes</b>	<b>61,155</b>	<b>16,687</b>	<b>43,534</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>62,178</b>	<b>16,758</b>	<b>28,051</b>	<b>19,075</b>	<b>63,384</b>	<b>16,529</b>	<b>16,066</b>	<b>32,239</b>

<sup>1</sup> Supply forecast produced by ABARE based on the ABS Vineyard Survey 2007

<sup>2</sup> A raising factor of 1.02 has been applied to committed intake to allow for non-respondents

<sup>3</sup> Where total committed intake is greater than estimated supply, the available supply is recorded as zero.