



# SA Winegrape Crush Survey Regional Summary Report – 2015

## Adelaide Plains Wine Region

DATUM: GDA94  
 PROJECTION: MGA Zone 54  
 DATE: 26 July 2013  
 SOFTWARE: ESRI ArcGIS v10.1  
 DATA SOURCE:  
 Vineyard Blocks - PGIBSA  
 Wine Regions - Wine Australia  
 Localities - SA Gazetteer  
 Roads - DTEI

### Adelaide Plains 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 Wine Australia.

#### *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 are included in the survey collection process. However, not all wineries respond to the survey - therefore the total tonnage reported may underestimate the true crush. It is estimated that the overall response rate for the survey is 90%; however, individual regions may vary. Reported fruit is separated into fruit produced from the winery's own or associated vineyards ("own grown") and from independent vineyards ("purchased").

#### *Calculated average purchase value*

The survey requests wineries to provide the total amount paid for each parcel of fruit purchased (or the price per tonne). This is the price 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 (May 2015).

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.

#### **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. It should also be noted that in minor varieties there may sometimes be very few purchases contributing towards a calculated average purchase value.

#### *Price dispersion data (shaded columns in Intake Summary tables)*

All purchases for each variety are grouped into categories according to the price paid for that fruit. The tonnes in each category are converted into a percentage of the total tonnes purchased, giving an indication of what share of fruit was purchased in each price range category. The categories are given nominal titles of A to E for convenience but these do not correspond with grades used by any particular winery.

#### *Estimated total value of all grapes*

The estimated total value of all 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.

## Explanations and Definitions cont.

### PLANTING DATA

#### *Source of planting data tables*

Planting data is not collected by the 2015 Australian Wine Sector Survey. 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 report details of their plantings on an annual basis. This information is kept strictly confidential.

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.

For more information on registration of vineyards, please contact the Phylloxera and Grape Industry Board office on (08) 8273 0550.

#### *Explanatory notes for planting data tables*

1. Planting data tables are current as at April 2015 and include all plantings from the 2014 planting season.
2. 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 2015 report compared with previous reports.
3. Where a zero (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.

## ADELAIDE PLAINS

## Vintage overview

### *Vintage report*

The 2015 Vintage proved to be testing in many ways in the Adelaide plains. Hard, fast and early was the theme, with harvest of some blocks occurring between three days and four weeks earlier than in the 2014 vintage.

Spring rainfall was below average, with the temperature slightly higher than average. Budburst was slightly early, but with the cool nights persisting, it looked very even across the vineyards. A warm spell near the end of October pushed shoot growth along significantly, requiring vigilance with the irrigation to avoid stressing the vines. In spite of a constant blustery south-westerly, flowering was solid and even.

The warm day/cool night scenario persisted through the first half of January, and looked promising for a textbook but early vintage. A hot spell occurred mid-January, pushing Baumés upward very fast. Colour, tannin and flavour development stalled during this period, with canopies showing signs of stress, and exposed fruit beginning to shrivel.

Harvesting started with Sauvignon Blanc on 23rd January, about 3 – 5 day earlier than normal. All harvesting was completed by 24th Feb.

Grape yields were generally around 20% below what we would normally harvest off these vineyards, with juice/wine yields about 20 - 40 litres per tonne lower than average.

Overall wine quality was good to very good, in spite of the challenging vintage conditions.

*Tony Carapetis, Winemaker, Virgara Wines*

### *Overview of vintage statistics*

A total of 3,091 tonnes of Adelaide Plains winegrapes were crushed in 2015, down from 4,360 in 2014. The total value of winegrapes also declined from \$3.4 million to \$2.3 million as lower yields offset slightly stronger to firming prices.

For most varieties the average price paid was slightly higher. Chardonnay was the only major variety to record a decrease, down by \$3 to \$600 per tonne while the other major whites increased - Sauvignon Blanc increased by \$21 to \$702 per tonne and Pinot Gris/Grigio by \$13 to \$936 per tonne. Meanwhile the results for the major red varieties were positive; the average for Shiraz increased by \$17 to \$814 per tonne, Cabernet Sauvignon increased by \$108 to \$882 per tonne while the average for Merlot increased by \$2 to \$644 per tonne.

Over the past five years, the average crush from this region was 4,197 tonnes, implying that 2015 yields were lower than average. The minimum crush over the period was this year's vintage with the maximum crush of 5,204 recorded in 2011.

The price dispersion data shows that 68% of red varieties were purchased at between \$600 and \$1500, while only 6% were purchased at over \$1500. 20% of red varieties were purchased at below \$300 per tonne. The distribution of prices was similar for the whites.

There were no new plantings of vines in 2014, and the total area of vines decreased substantially from 646 ha to 519 ha. Most of the decline was in white varieties, which decreased from 202 ha to 117 ha.

**ADELAIDE PLAINS**

**Winegrape intake summary – vintage 2015**

Variety	Tonnes purchased	E (less than \$300)	D (\$300- \$600)	C (\$600- \$1,500)	B (\$1,500- \$2,000)	A (above \$2,000)	Total value purchased	Calc avg.	Winery grown fruit	Total crushed <sup>2</sup>	Est total value ALL grapes
								purch. Value per tonne			
Cabernet Sauvignon	251	35%	0%	53%	12%	0%	\$221,108	\$882	11	262	\$230,629
Grenache	-	na	na	na	na	na	\$0		11	11	\$8,755
Mataro	57	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	\$85,110	\$1,500	-	57	\$85,110
Merlot	271	12%	0%	88%	0%	0%	\$174,374	\$644	-	271	\$174,374
Pinot Noir	230	28%	40%	32%	0%	0%	\$115,446	\$502	-	230	\$115,446
Shiraz	1,248	19%	3%	75%	3%	0%	\$1,015,851	\$814	15	1,263	\$1,028,103
Tempranillo	20	na	na	na	na	na	\$19,500	\$1,000	-	20	\$19,500
<b>Red Total</b>	<b>2,076</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>\$1,631,388</b>	<b>\$786</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>2,113</b>	<b>\$1,661,916</b>
Chardonnay	272	31%	28%	40%	0%	0%	\$163,431	\$600	-	272	\$163,431
Colombard	-	na	na	na	na	na	\$0		85	85	\$60,352
Pinot Gris and Pinot Grigio	200	4%	0%	96%	0%	0%	\$187,513	\$936	-	200	\$187,513
Sauvignon Blanc	372	29%	0%	71%	0%	0%	\$261,511	\$702	-	372	\$261,511
Semillon	49	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	\$25,896	\$530	-	49	\$25,896
<b>White Total</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>\$638,351</b>	<b>\$714</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>\$698,703</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,969</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>\$2,269,740</b>	<b>\$764</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>3,091</b>	<b>\$2,360,619</b>

1 Pricing grade's share of purchases for each variety

2 It is estimated that the non-response rate (NRR) nationally is 10%, however the NRR will vary for each region. Generally, regions will have a lower NRR when there is a high proportion of purchased winegrapes within the region

**ADELAIDE PLAINS**

**Current plantings by variety and year planted**

Variety	Current area in hectares				Total area	% planted in 2014
	Pre-2012	2012	2013	2014		
<b>Red winegrapes</b>						
Cabernet Sauvignon	54	0	0	0	54	0%
Grenache	32	0	0	0	32	1%
Malbec	6	0	0	0	6	0%
Mataro (Mourvedre)	9	0	0	0	9	0%
Merlot	39	0	0	0	39	0%
Other Red	11	0	0	0	11	0%
Pinot Noir	16	0	0	0	16	0%
Sangiovese	6	0	0	0	6	0%
Shiraz	197	0	1	0	198	0%
Tempranillo	2	0	0	0	2	0%
<b>Total red varieties</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>White winegrapes</b>						
Chardonnay	28	0	0	0	28	0%
Chenin Blanc	5	0	0	0	5	0%
Colombard	9	0	0	0	9	0%
Other White	4	0	1	0	5	0%
Pinot Gris	26	0	0	0	26	0%
Riesling	13	0	0	0	13	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	26	0	0	0	26	0%
Semillon	5	0	0	0	5	0%
<b>Total white varieties</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>0%</b>
Unknown variety	28	0	0	0	28	0%
<b>Total all varieties</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>0%</b>

Source: Phylloxera and Grape Industry Board of South Australia