



Adelaide Plains Wine Region

Regional summary report

2008

Adelaide Plains

Vintage overview

Vintage report

The 2007/2008 season will be remembered for its extreme weather conditions, which appear to be becoming the norm rather than the exception. The 08 vintage was affected by three weeks of extremely high temperatures during harvest.

On the weather front average minimum temperatures during the 07/08 growing season were lower than the long term average, resulting in very large diurnal temperature variations throughout the growing season. Maximum daily temperatures were generally higher than the long term maximum average apart from February which was substantially cooler than average. March received a very high average maximum temperature of 27.6°C, 4.7°C above the March long term average.

Accentuating the high temperatures received during the growing season was the rainfall that only reached 64% of the long term average. These two factors put further pressure on the need for irrigation water. There was some significant rainfall in December that was greatly appreciated in the lead up to the dry summer, which no doubt eased the stress on the vines. Apart from the rain in December the 07/08 season was a relatively low disease pressure year resulting in less fungicide sprays compared to previous seasons. The low rainfall also resulted in less need for slashing and herbicide passes in the vineyards.

Overall the 2007/2008 growing season was reasonably trouble free. Crop levels were generally around the average.

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Overview of vintage statistics

The harvest from the Adelaide Plains was 6,492 tonnes in 2008, 30% above the 2007 harvest. The total value of grapes from the Adelaide Plains increased by 50% to just over \$6 million in 2008 compared with \$4 million in 2007. The average purchase value for the major varieties was significantly higher, with Shiraz up by nearly \$150 per tonne.

There were no new plantings recorded in the Adelaide Plains region in spring 2007.

The estimated production from the Adelaide Plains vineyards for 2009 is 7,000 tonnes, most (5,800 tonnes) of which is already committed to the wineries, leaving around 1,200 tonnes uncommitted. These figures do not change substantially over the forecast period. 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).

Adelaide Plains

Winegrape intake summary - vintage 2008

Variety	Tonnes purchased	Lowest price ¹	Highest price ¹	Total value purchased grapes	Calc avg. purch. value per tonne	Winery grown fruit	Total crushed	Est total value ALL grapes
Red winegrapes								
Cabernet Sauvignon	476	\$400	\$1,775	\$489,397	\$1,028	53	528	\$543,513
Grenache	258	\$100	\$900	\$213,268	\$828	14	271	\$224,695
Mataro	63			\$73,450	\$1,166	0	63	\$73,450
Merlot	447	\$600	\$1,100	\$395,406	\$886	4	451	\$398,948
Other Red	0					11	11	\$10,216
Petit Verdot	2			\$2,688	\$1,200	10	12	\$14,688
Pinot Noir	252			\$254,786	\$1,012	0	252	\$254,786
Sangiovese	0			\$0	\$0	14	14	\$13,176
Shiraz	1,754	\$250	\$1,800	\$1,723,776	\$983	94	1,848	\$1,816,383
Tempranillo	5			\$5,824	\$1,294	0	5	\$5,824
Zinfandel	26			\$16,501	\$625	0	26	\$16,501
Total red winegrapes	3,282			\$3,175,096		199	3,481	\$3,372,180
White winegrapes								
Chardonnay	1,277	\$250	\$1,100	\$1,014,953	\$795	20	1,296	\$1,030,455
Chenin Blanc	63			\$69,542	\$1,104	0	63	\$69,542
Colombard	80			\$59,775	\$750	185	264	\$198,225
Muscat Gordo Blanco	21			\$12,589	\$611	0	21	\$12,589
Pinot Gris	112			\$156,632	\$1,400	0	112	\$156,632
Riesling	52			\$34,997	\$670	0	52	\$34,997
Sauvignon Blanc	887			\$908,995	\$1,025	21	907	\$930,025
Semillon	77			\$61,446	\$803	0	77	\$61,446
Verdelho	0					12	12	\$11,150
Viognier	207			\$259,025	\$1,250	0	207	\$259,025
Total white winegrapes	2,774			\$2,577,954		237	3,011	\$2,764,087
Total all winegrapes²	6,056			\$5,753,050		435	6,492	\$6,136,267

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 The estimated non-response rate for the Adelaide Plains is 9%.

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Current plantings by variety and year planted

Variety	Current area in hectares				Total area	% planted in 2007
	Pre-2005	2005	2006	2007		
Red winegrapes						
Cabernet Franc	1	0	0	0	1	0%
Cabernet Sauvignon	80	0	0	0	80	0%
Grenache	39	0	0	0	39	0%
Malbec	6	0	0	0	6	0%
Mataro (Mourvedre)	12	0	0	0	12	0%
Merlot	53	0	0	0	53	0%
Other red	5	0	0	0	29	0%
Petit Verdot	2	0	0	0	2	0%
Pinot Noir	16	0	0	2	18	11%
Ruby Cabernet	8	0	0	0	8	0%
Sangiovese	6	0	1	0	7	0%
Shiraz	267	0	0	0	267	0%
Tempranillo	0	0	2	0	2	0%
Total red winegrapes	495	0	3	2	523	0%
White winegrapes						
Chardonnay	101	0	0	0	101	0%
Chenin Blanc	7	0	0	0	7	0%
Colombard	13	0	0	0	13	0%
Muscat Blanc (Frontignac)	1	0	0	0	1	0%
Muscat Gordo Blanco	3	0	0	0	3	0%
Other white	2	0	0	0	2	0%
Pinot Gris	0	0	13	0	13	0%
Riesling	17	0	0	0	17	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	59	0	0	0	59	0%
Semillon	9	0	0	0	9	0%
Verdelho	1	0	0	0	1	0%
Viognier	16	0	0	0	16	0%
Total white winegrapes	230	0	13	0	242	0%
Unknown variety	24	0	0	0	24	0%
Total all varieties	748	0	16	2	766	0%

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Estimated supply and committed intake 2009 - 2013

Variety	2009				2011				2013			
	Est Supply ¹	Total committed intake ²		Available supply ³	Est Supply ¹	Total committed intake ²		Available supply ³	Est Supply ¹	Total committed intake ²		Available supply ³
		Winery grapes	Contract purchases			Winery grapes	Contract purchases			Winery grapes	Contract purchases	
Red winegrapes												
Cabernet Sauvignon	577	59	238	281	549	64	213	272	549	75	213	261
Grenache	363	17	22	324	374	22	22	329	374	22	0	352
Mataro	69	0	44	25	67	0	44	23	67	0	44	23
Merlot	624	17	537	70	591	17	420	155	591	22	420	149
Other Red	196	11	0	185	170	11	0	159	170	11	0	159
Petit Verdot	17	0	6	11	15	0	6	9	15	0	6	9
Pinot Noir	194	0	271	0	206	0	177	29	206	0	177	29
Sangiovese	75	22	0	53	89	22	0	66	89	33	0	55
Shiraz	2,022	88	1,333	600	1,871	88	1,029	754	1,871	110	1,029	732
Tempranillo	0	0	11	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	13	0
Zinfandel	132	0	28	104	147	0	28	120	147	0	28	120
Total red winegrapes	4,267	213	2,489	1,565	4,078	224	1,951	1,903	4,078	274	1,929	1,875
White winegrapes												
Chardonnay	1,327	9	1,274	44	1,293	9	1,193	91	1,293	9	1,193	91
Chenin Blanc	92	0	0	92	91	0	0	91	91	0	0	91
Colombard	226	199	88	0	236	199	88	0	236	199	88	0
Muscat Gordo Blanco	21	0	29	0	20	0	29	0	20	0	29	0
Pinot Gris	10	0	199	0	10	0	265	0	10	0	265	0
Riesling	106	0	48	59	106	0	0	106	106	0	0	106
Sauvignon Blanc	759	33	989	0	745	44	950	0	745	44	950	0
Semillon	147	0	55	92	132	0	55	77	132	0	55	77
Verdelho	11	0	0	11	41	0	0	41	41	0	0	41
Viognier	205	0	265	0	184	0	265	0	184	0	265	0
Total white winegrapes	2,905	241	2,946	0	2,858	252	2,846	0	2,858	252	2,846	0
Total all winegrapes	7,172	454	5,435	1,283	6,936	476	4,797	1,663	6,936	526	4,775	1,636

¹ Supply forecast produced by ABARE based on the ABS Vineyard Survey 2007

² A raising factor of 1.11 has been applied to committed intake to allow for non-respondents

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