



SA Winegrape Crush Survey

Regional Summary Report 2018

Currency Creek Wine Region

Wine Australia August 2018

DATUM: GDA94
 PROJECTION: MGA Zone 54
 DATE: 8th March 2017
 SOFTWARE: ESRI ArcGIS v10.4
 DATA SOURCE:
 Vineyard Block - Vinehealth Australia
 Wine Region - Wine Australia

Currency Creek Wine Region



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Currency Creek

Vintage overview

VINTAGE REPORT

After a variable start to bud burst and the season providing many disease challenges during the growing period and around veraison, a stretch of about four weeks of ideal ripening weather in the middle of vintage saved the season at Currency Creek.

Good late winter rainfall created ideal opening sub-soil moisture, a situation that prevailed during the whole growing season. Shoot length was short during the early part of the season due to cooler than average temperatures but caught up later in the season.

The weather conditions at flowering were variable but allowed good fruit set in most red varieties as well as Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Gris. Chardonnay was the big loser with very poor set leading to severely reduced yields.

Disease pressure throughout the season was high, resulting in double the normal number of fungicides being applied, and harvest was three weeks later than average.

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

The reds were left hanging to gain full physiological maturity and were picked very late this year, with first fruit coming in from about 10th April and a compressed harvest program completed by 3rd May. Such prolonged hang time resulted in great varietal character and colour and red variety yields were generally as expected.

David Watkins, Currency Creek Wine Region Association

OVERVIEW OF VINTAGE STATISTICS

The reported harvest from Currency Creek in 2018 was 5,711 tonnes, 44% down on the 2017 harvest of 9,211 tonnes. (NB year-on-year comparisons in smaller regions can be distorted by changes in the respondent group.)

Over the past five years, the average crush for the region has been 8,855 tonnes. The 2018 crush was 42% lower than the average and the lowest for at least 10 years.

The estimated total value of fruit from the region was \$4.7 million, compared with \$7 million in 2017, as a result of the lower tonnes crushed being partially offset by increases in average prices. Average prices for the two main varieties both increased significantly – Cabernet Sauvignon up by 32% to \$1036 per tonne and Shiraz up by 20% to \$1006 per tonne.

The price dispersion data shows that 96% of all purchased fruit from the region was purchased at \$600 or above, compared with 80% last year.

There were no new plantings recorded in the region for the third year in a row. Total plantings are 974 hectares, three-quarters of which are red varieties. There has been little change in plantings in the past five years; the total planted area in Currency Creek in 2013 was 960 hectares.

Currency Creek

Winegrape intake summary table

	Total tonnes purchased	Price dispersion - number of tonnes in each price range					total value purchased grapes	Average purch. value per tonne	Change in price YoY	Winery grown fruit	Share of winery grown	Total crushed	Est total value ALL grapes
		< \$300	\$300 to <\$600	\$600 to <\$1500	\$1500 to <\$2000	\$2000+							
Red													
Cabernet Sauvignon	364			364			\$377,672	\$1,036	32%	879	71%	1,243	\$1,288,487
Durif										75	100%	75	\$87,307
Grenache										41	100%	41	\$67,512
Lagrein	17			17							0%	17	\$23,688
Malbec										49	100%	49	\$55,635
Merlot	26			26						232	90%	258	\$232,155
Petit Verdot										35	100%	35	\$34,366
Pinot Noir										30	100%	30	\$51,000
Sangiovese	49			49			\$63,772	\$1,311			0%	49	\$63,772
Shiraz	833			833			\$837,470	\$1,006	20%	581	41%	1,414	\$1,421,555
Tempranillo	40			40							0%	40	\$55,300
Red total	1,328			1,328			\$1,380,996	\$1,040	27%	1,923	59%	3,251	\$3,380,776
White													
Chardonnay	68		63	5						949	93%	1,017	\$526,989
Gewurztraminer										114	100%	114	\$96,585
Pinot Gris/Grigio	50			50						423	90%	472	\$482,335
Prosecco	19			19							0%	19	\$25,298
Sauvignon Blanc	85			85						180	68%	265	\$159,018
Vermentino	38			38							0%	38	\$51,356
White total	260		63	197			\$213,526	\$822	19%	1,666	87%	1,926	\$1,341,581
Grand total	1,588		63	1,525			\$1,594,522	\$1,004	26%	3,589	69%	5,177	\$4,722,357

Note: Where there are fewer than three purchasers of a variety, the average price and total value are not reported to protect confidentiality.

Currency Creek

Current plantings by variety and year planted

Variety	Year planted				2017 Total area	% planted in 2017
	Pre-2015	2015	2016	2017		
Red winegrapes						
Cabernet Sauvignon	291	0	0	0	291	0%
Grenache	11	0	0	0	11	0%
Merlot	61	0	0	0	61	0%
Pinot Noir	11	0	0	0	11	0%
Sangiovese	4	0	0	0	4	0%
Shiraz	336	0	0	0	336	0%
Other red	26	0	0	0	26	0%
Total red varieties	740	0	0	0	740	0%
White winegrapes						
Chardonnay	111	0	0	0	111	0%
Pinot Gris	31	0	0	0	31	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	56	0	0	0	56	0%
Semillon	8	0	0	0	8	0%
Viognier	6	0	0	0	6	0%
Other white	20	0	0	0	20	0%
Total white varieties	232	0	0	0	232	0%
Unknown variety	2	0	0	0	2	0%
Total all varieties	974	0	0	0	974	0%

Source: Vinehealth Australia

Explanations and definitions

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL VINTAGE SURVEY

The information for this report has been collected and analysed by Wine Australia as part of the Australian National Vintage Survey. The SA Winegrape Crush Survey Report has been prepared by Wine Australia on behalf of the South Australian Wine Industry Association, Wine Grape Growers South Australia and Primary Industries and Regions SA.

Maps and planting data tables are provided by Vinehealth Australia (see notes on planting data tables pg 20).

The survey publication is available on Wine Australia's website wineaustralia.com, the Vinehealth Australia website vinehealth.com.au and via links from the Wine Grape Council SA website wgcsa.com.au and the South Australian Wine Industry Association website winesa.com.au

Photo credits

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Disclaimer

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Note: data published in this report supercedes that in earlier reports. Minor variations in reported figures can occur due to data revisions.

Any questions about the report should be directed to:

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Explanations and definitions - continued

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 85 per cent; however, individual regions may vary. Generally, regions will have a higher response rate when there is a high proportion of purchased winegrapes within the region.

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-June 2018).

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.

Average and total purchase values are not reported where there are fewer than three purchasers of a variety in a particular region.

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.

Price dispersion data (shaded columns in Intake Summary tables)

All purchases for each variety are grouped into price segments according to the price paid for that batch of fruit. The sum of tonnes in all the price segments may not match the total tonnes purchased where there are tonnes reported without an associated price.

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 for the same variety across similar regions, or 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 continued

PLANTING DATA

Source of planting data tables

Planting data is not collected by the 2018 Australian Wine Sector Survey. The information is obtained from the vineyard register maintained by Vinehealth Australia.

Vinehealth Australia is required under the *Phylloxera and Grape Industry Act 1995* to maintain a complete and accurate register of vineyard owners in the state. Vineyard owners with plantings of 0.5 hectares or more are required to register with Vinehealth Australia, and provide details of any changes made to these vineyard plantings within three months of any such change. This information is kept strictly confidential and provided for this survey in a deidentified and aggregated manner.

Explanatory notes for planting data tables

Regions are defined according to the Register of Australian Geographical Indications.

To protect confidentiality, the following rules are applied to reporting varieties:

- where there are fewer than 10 registered owners with plantings of a particular variety across the state, that variety is not separately identified in either the state or the regional reports but is grouped with “other red/white”, AND
- where there are fewer than three registered owners with a particular grape variety in a given region, that variety is not separately identified in the regional report but is grouped with “other red/white” unless it is a white variety listed in the top six, or red variety in the top five by planted area for the state for the current year.

- Planting data tables are current as at 30 April 2018 and include all plantings from the 2017 planting season.
- Reference to “other varieties” includes rootstock, multi-purpose and table-grape plantings.
- Vines planted in a particular year may include top-worked 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 2018 report compared with previous reports.
- 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 slight discrepancies in totals.

For more information on the planting data in this report or about registration of vineyards, please contact the Vinehealth Australia office on (08) 8273 0550.