



Padthaway wine region

Regional summary report

2008

Padthaway

Vintage overview

Vintage report

The 2007/08 season was again a difficult one in that, after a winter of reasonable rainfall, there was a continuation of drought conditions through summer and then a prolonged period of particularly hot weather in early March that impacted on fruit maturity.

Winter was relatively mild with temperatures being slightly above average. There were good rainfall registrations recorded through winter and these continued into spring. In early spring there were a couple of light frosts but they generally did not result in any significant crop loss in the district.

In late spring and early summer average maximum temperatures were a degree or two above average - ideal conditions for early vegetative growth and fruit set. There were only a couple of hot days experienced in December and January, and average minimum temperatures close to normal. These conditions were ideal for the developing fruit. February was somewhat cooler than average and this provided a perfect start for vintage. Early March turned very warm to hot and these conditions hastened fruit maturity significantly. Adequate supplies of irrigation water were available for all irrigators throughout the season.

The start of vintage was a few days earlier than last year. Vintage had concluded for most viticulturists by the end of March; some two to three weeks earlier than normal. The very hot conditions in early March hastened the ripening of fruit and there was a very intensive period of harvesting as vineyards and wineries were seeking to harvest at optimum maturity. Fruit quality has generally been very good and some excellent wines, both red and white, have been produced.

Graham Kaye

President, Padthaway Grape Growers Association

Overview of vintage statistics

The harvest from Padthaway in 2008 was 47,087 tonnes, more than double the 2007 harvest and the second highest since data started being collected separately for this region in 2000. The total value of grapes from Padthaway increased from \$24 million to \$47 million, with average purchase values for Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon increasing slightly, despite the higher tonnages. The average purchase value for Chardonnay, however, decreased by \$140 per tonne.

There was virtually no new planting in Padthaway in spring 2007.

The estimated production from the Padthaway region for 2009 is 59,000 tonnes, assuming a return to normal growing conditions. The wineries' committed intake is 43,000 tonnes, leaving around 16,000 tonnes as yet uncontracted. In 2013 the estimated production is 58,000 tonnes, of which 59% (34,000 tonnes) is already under contract or winery grown fruit. This leaves around 24,000 tonnes (40% of estimated production) available on the open market. However, 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).

Padthaway

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 Franc	0					135	135	\$156,036
Cabernet Sauvignon	3,556	\$100	\$3,000	\$4,072,126	\$1,145	3,862	7,419	\$8,494,936
Malbec	115			\$114,740	\$1,000	78	193	\$192,550
Merlot	324	\$100	\$1,200	\$287,683	\$887	1,320	1,644	\$1,457,610
Meunier	0					4	4	\$4,871
Petit Verdot	0					22	22	\$25,014
Pinot Noir	128			\$204,832	\$1,600	1,358	1,486	\$2,377,264
Sangiovese	36			\$41,814	\$1,150	0	36	\$41,814
Shiraz	6,102	\$100	\$3,000	\$7,179,252	\$1,177	7,115	13,217	\$15,550,371
Total red winegrapes	10,262			\$11,900,446		13,893	24,155	\$28,300,466
White winegrapes								
Chardonnay	7,401	\$250	\$1,400	\$5,642,337	\$762	9,800	17,201	\$13,113,227
Muscat a Petit Grains Blanc	0					75	75	\$62,024
Other White	0					2	2	\$1,793
Pinot Gris	849			\$976,934	\$1,150	212	1,062	\$1,221,319
Riesling	308			\$307,800	\$1,000	1,324	1,632	\$1,632,230
Sauvignon Blanc	814	\$1,000	\$2,200	\$921,704	\$1,132	493	1,308	\$1,480,335
Semillon	112			\$61,452	\$550	414	526	\$289,262
Traminer	275			\$175,724	\$638	356	631	\$403,069
Verdelho	0					308	308	\$255,835
Viognier	150			\$150,480	\$1,000	37	188	\$187,740
Total white winegrapes	9,910			\$8,236,429		13,023	22,933	\$18,646,834
Total all winegrapes²	20,172			\$20,136,875		26,916	47,087	\$46,947,300

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 Padthaway is 0%.

Padthaway

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	11	0	0	0	11	0%
Cabernet Sauvignon	827	0	3	0	830	0%
Malbec	19	0	0	0	19	0%
Merlot	185	12	0	0	198	0%
Meunier (Pinot Meunier)	1	0	0	0	1	0%
Petit Verdot	2	0	0	0	2	0%
Pinot Noir	90	0	0	0	90	0%
Sangiovese	4	0	0	0	4	0%
Shiraz	1191	26	0	0	1217	0%
Arneis	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total red winegrapes	2330	38	3	0	2372	0%
White winegrapes						
Chardonnay	1089	15	0	0	1104	0%
Muscat Blanc (Frontignac)	12	0	0	0	12	0%
Pinot Gris	38	11	88	0	136	0%
Riesling	285	0	0	0	285	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	83	0	3	3	89	4%
Semillon	46	0	0	0	46	0%
Traminer	39	0	0	0	39	0%
Verdelho	34	0	0	0	34	0%
Viognier	19	2	0	0	21	0%
Total white winegrapes	1646	27	91	3	1767	0%
Unknown variety	31	0	0	0	31	0%
Total all varieties	4007	66	94	3	4170	0%

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 Franc	424	151	0	273	537	151	0	386	537	151	0	386
Cabernet Sauvignon	11,363	4,412	3,133	3,818	10,877	4,412	2,159	4,306	10,877	4,412	673	5,791
Malbec	363	60	158	145	387	60	158	168	387	60	158	168
Merlot	4,341	1,564	424	2,353	4,595	1,620	325	2,651	4,595	1,620	128	2,847
Meunier	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0
Petit Verdot	716	27	0	689	628	27	0	600	628	27	0	600
Pinot Noir	787	1,366	107	0	1,177	1,366	0	0	1,177	1,366	0	0
Sangiovese	40	0	49	0	40	0	0	40	40	0	0	40
Shiraz	19,085	6,737	5,078	7,270	14,136	6,799	3,594	3,744	14,624	6,797	1,754	6,074
Total red winegrapes	37,120	14,322	8,950	13,848	32,377	14,440	6,235	11,701	32,865	14,438	2,714	15,713
White winegrapes												
Chardonnay	15,933	7,739	4,639	3,555	16,280	7,739	3,207	5,334	16,280	7,739	1,300	7,241
Muscat a Petit Grains Blanc	81	174	0	0	81	174	0	0	81	174	0	0
Other White	100	3	0	97	122	3	0	119	122	3	0	119
Pinot Gris	1,081	323	1,301	0	1,448	378	1,862	0	2,746	378	1,862	506
Riesling	2,887	3,138	283	0	2,880	3,138	283	0	2,880	3,138	283	0
Sauvignon Blanc	667	471	435	0	919	471	492	0	1,063	471	506	86
Semillon	539	492	0	47	670	492	0	178	670	492	0	178
Traminer	407	402	170	0	384	402	170	0	384	402	0	0
Verdelho	405	376	0	29	452	376	0	76	452	376	0	76
Viognier	189	43	205	0	146	43	95	7	146	43	95	7
Total white winegrapes	22,289	13,160	7,033	2,096	23,382	13,216	6,109	4,057	24,823	13,216	4,046	7,562
Total all winegrapes	59,409	27,483	15,983	15,944	55,758	27,656	12,345	15,758	57,688	27,654	6,760	23,274

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

² A raising factor of 1.00 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.