



Padthaway wine region

Regional summary report

2007

Padthaway

Vintage overview

Vintage report

The 2006/07 season was extremely difficult in that rainfall was exceedingly low, temperatures were high and spring frosts dramatically impacted on production. However, there were some outstanding parcels of fruit harvested from the 2007 vintage.

A very good bud burst occurred that was slightly earlier than the last few seasons. However, then the frosts arrived and did significant damage. A considerable number of damaging frosts were recorded throughout the Limestone Coast in spring. In Padthaway damaging frosts were experienced on at least three occasions during October, and these resulted in significant crop loss to most growers throughout the district and for some virtually total crop loss. Production for Padthaway ultimately was reduced by some 40% - 50% of long term average as a consequence of these frosts.

Rainfall registrations from late May until mid-January were less than 30% of long- term average. There was a good rainfall event in mid-January; then it remained relatively dry right through the vintage and up until the start of the 2007 growing season.

Compared with the long-term average, the season was warmer than normal with the heat summation of 1837 degree days being almost 20% above the average of the last 20 years.

Vintage commenced in early February. As it progressed, conditions were relatively warm to mild and dry, conditions that were ideal for the ripening crop. Vintage was completed for most growers in mid-March, far earlier than normal. The quality of both white and red varieties was very good, with Chardonnay and Shiraz being the highlights.

*Graham Kaye
President, Padthaway Grape Growers Association*

Overview of vintage statistics

The harvest from Padthaway was 23,787 tonnes – barely half of the 2006 harvest. The total value of grapes from the region also decreased, but only by one third, from \$38 million to \$24 million, indicating an increase in average prices as a result of the low crop. The average purchase value for Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon were both up by around \$200 per tonne.

There was very little new planting in Padthaway in spring 2006. Most of the new planting was in Pinot Gris (13 hectares). This can include top-working or replacement as well as additional area.

The estimated production from the Padthaway region for 2008 is 27,000 tonnes, as a result of the continuing dry conditions and after-effects of the severe frosts in the 2006-07 season. The wineries' committed intake is well above this estimate, so there is not expected to be any surplus fruit. By 2012, assuming a return to normal growing conditions, the estimated production is 44,000 tonnes, of which 70% (31,000 tonnes) is already under contract or winery grown fruit. This leaves around 13,000 tonnes (30% of estimated production) available on the open market. There is likely to be a return to over-supply on the open market across the state by 2012, if growing conditions return to "normal" (see State Summary section for details).

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Winegrape intake summary – vintage 2007

Variety	Tonnes purchased	Lowest price ¹	Highest price	Total value purchased grapes	Calc avg. purchase value per tonne	Winery grown fruit	Total crushed	Est total value ALL grapes
RED								
Cabernet Franc	0					44	44	\$48,105
Cabernet Sauvignon	2,448	\$800	\$1,700	\$2,478,396	\$1,012	2,307	4,755	\$4,813,928
Malbec	34			\$33,680	\$1,000	44	77	\$77,270
Merlot	158			\$155,809	\$989	906	1,063	\$1,051,688
Petit Verdot	0					16	16	\$17,602
Pinot Noir	0					646	646	\$703,270
Shiraz	2,827	\$500	\$3,000	\$3,282,551	\$1,161	3,569	6,395	\$7,426,365
Total red winegrapes	5,466			\$5,950,437		7,531	12,998	\$14,138,227
WHITE								
Chardonnay	2,905	\$600	\$1,500	\$2,612,520	\$899	4,113	7,018	\$6,312,307
Other White	0					64	64	\$60,124
Pinot Gris	235			\$234,670	\$1,000	119	354	\$353,775
Riesling	233			\$232,610	\$1,000	1,562	1,794	\$1,794,190
Sauvignon Blanc	445	\$1,000	\$2,200	\$519,782	\$1,168	251	696	\$812,614
Semillon	0					266	266	\$247,780
Traminer	182			\$126,406	\$694	80	263	\$182,202
Verdelho	0					236	236	\$219,962
Viognier	69			\$69,490	\$1,000	30	100	\$99,560
Total white winegrapes	4,069			\$3,795,478		6,721	10,790	\$10,082,515
Total all winegrapes	9,535			\$9,745,915		14,253	23,787	\$24,220,742

¹ Lowest and highest prices paid are only reported where there are at least three purchasers

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Current plantings and projected production 2008 - 2012

Variety	Current area in hectares by year planted						Estimated production 2008 - 2012				
	Pre-2004	2004	2005	2006	Total	% planted in 2006	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Red winegrapes											
Cabernet Franc	11	0	0	0	11	0%	68	102	124	124	124
Cabernet Sauvignon	819	0	0	3	822	0%	4916	7382	8223	8223	8223
Malbec	19	0	0	0	19	0%	112	169	187	187	187
Merlot	185	0	12	0	198	0%	1134	1746	1977	1977	1977
Meunier (Pinot Meunier)	1	0	0	0	1	0%	4	5	6	6	6
Petit Verdot	2	0	0	0	2	0%	14	20	23	23	23
Pinot Noir	92	0	9	0	101	0%	569	887	1013	1013	1013
Sangiovese	4	0	0	0	4	0%	25	37	41	41	41
Shiraz	1114	28	18	0	1159	0%	7971	10387	12754	12754	12754
Total red winegrapes	2247	28	40	3	2318	0%	14811	20734	24348	24348	24348
White winegrapes											
Arneis	0	0	0	0	0	0%	2	3	3	3	3
Chardonnay	1032	54	15	0	1101	0%	8594	10965	13211	13211	13211
Muscat Blanc (Frontignac)	12	0	0	0	12	0%	85	122	134	134	134
Pinot Gris	6	32	1	13	51	25%	198	422	544	544	544
Riesling	302	0	0	0	302	0%	2111	3015	3317	3317	3317
Sauvignon Blanc	65	18	0	3	86	4%	541	838	1034	1034	1034
Semillon	46	0	0	0	46	0%	321	458	550	550	550
Traminer	39	0	0	0	39	0%	273	390	468	468	468
Verdelho	34	0	0	0	34	0%	241	344	413	413	413
Viognier	19	0	4	0	23	0%	143	219	254	254	254
Total white winegrapes	1555	104	20	16	1695	1%	12509	16776	19927	19927	19927
Total all varieties	3802	132	60	19	4013	0%	27320	37510	44275	44275	44275

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Estimated production and committed intake 2008 - 2012

Variety	2008				Est Supply ¹	2010				Est Supply ¹	2012			
	Est Supply ¹	Winery grown grapes ²	Contract purchases ²	Un-contracted fruit ³		Winery grown grapes ²	Contract purchases ²	Un-contracted fruit ³	Winery grown grapes ²		Contract purchases ²	Un-contracted fruit ³		
Red winegrapes														
Cabernet Franc	68	135	0	-67	124	130	0	-5	124	130	0	-5		
Cabernet Sauvignon	4,916	3,900	1,923	-908	8,223	3,763	1,092	3,368	8,223	3,752	728	3,742		
Malbec	112	79	159	-125	187	74	159	-45	187	79	159	-50		
Merlot	1,134	1,467	267	-601	1,977	1,512	188	277	1,977	1,512	113	351		
Petit Verdot	14	28	0	-14	23	0	0	23	23	0	0	23		
Pinot Noir	569	1,025	0	-456	1,013	1,026	0	-12	1,013	1,026	0	-12		
Sangiovese	25	0	50	-26	41	0	50	-9	41	0	0	41		
Shiraz	7,971	5,957	3,980	-1,967	12,754	5,468	2,710	4,576	12,754	5,456	1,618	5,681		
Total red winegrapes	14,811	12,590	6,380	-4,159	24,348	11,972	4,199	8,177	24,348	11,954	2,618	9,775		
White winegrapes														
Chardonnay	8,594	7,709	2,439	-1,554	13,211	7,582	1,660	3,969	13,211	7,582	1,407	4,222		
Other White	87	2	0	85	137	2	0	135	137	154	0	-17		
Pinot Gris	198	268	337	-407	544	340	1,606	-1,402	544	378	1,895	-1,730		
Riesling	2,111	2,933	236	-1,058	3,317	2,877	236	204	3,317	2,877	236	204		
Sauvignon Blanc	541	531	327	-317	1,034	506	402	126	1,034	495	400	138		
Semillon	321	487	0	-167	550	487	0	62	550	487	0	62		
Traminer	273	334	165	-226	468	334	165	-31	468	334	165	-31		
Verdelho	241	349	0	-108	413	323	0	90	413	323	0	90		
Viognier	143	38	209	-104	254	44	209	1	254	44	97	113		
Total white winegrapes	12,509	12,651	3,713	-3,854	19,927	12,495	4,279	3,153	19,927	12,675	4,199	3,053		
Total all winegrapes	27,320	25,241	10,093	-8,014	44,275	24,466	8,478	11,330	44,275	24,630	6,817	12,828		

¹ Supply forecast derived from planting details recorded on PGIB vineyard register (see planting report)

² A raising factor of 1.020 has been applied to these figures to allow for non-respondents

³ A negative number indicates supply forecast is below wineries' estimated commitment

