



Wrattonbully

WRATTONBULLY VINTAGE OVERVIEW



Vintage report

2005 was an interesting year for Wrattonbully. While white varieties yielded well, reds ended up with below average yields, due to a combination of poor fruit set and late development of full fruit flavour, leaving grapes on the vines late and exposing them to the effects of Bunch Stem Necrosis and shrivel.

Wine quality has been reported as exceptional for all varieties.

A very dry finish to the season removed any threat of disease during harvest after rain in February provided a scare with Botrytis – particularly in Chardonnay. The dry conditions prevailed and as a result, there was no fruit affected.

The spring conditions this year were excellent, with good soil moisture evident and vibrant early budburst and vine growth. Flowering in early varieties (Chardonnay in particular) was followed by excellent fruit set. Red varieties encountered poorer flowering conditions, leaving berry numbers per bunch lower than desired.

Vintage started at least two weeks ahead of average – again early varieties benefiting from this. Red varieties were not picked earlier than usual, however; this was primarily a function of waiting for full flavour maturity.

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Overview of vintage statistics

Wrattonbully produced 16,781 tonnes in 2005 – a 40% drop after the record 2004 harvest. There was a 10% shortfall compared with wineries' preferred intake. 87% of the region's production was in red varieties, compared with 64% across the state. The average purchase value for Cabernet Sauvignon increased slightly, Shiraz decreased by \$50 per tonne, and the average value for Chardonnay and Merlot dropped by over \$300 per tonne. Total income to growers was down by nearly 50% - mainly because of the greatly reduced production, while the total value of grapes to the region decreased from around \$37 million in 2004 to just under \$21 million.

The forecast is for preferred intake to increase from around 17,000 tonnes in 2006 to \$20,000 tonnes in 2010. Cabernet Sauvignon accounts for nearly half of the region's production, with Shiraz next at around 25%.

There were only 21 hectares (1%) of new plantings in Wrattonbully in 2004 – 20 hectares in Chardonnay.

Based on the current vineyard area in the region, and using estimated yield figures of 9t/ha for reds and 10t/ha for whites, the estimated production for Wrattonbully in 2008 is around 22,000 tonnes. This is only 1,000 tonnes higher than the estimated intake, but 3,000 tonnes higher than the preferred intake for that year.

WRATTONBULLY CURRENT PLANTINGS BY VARIETY AND YEAR PLANTED

Table 14.1

Variety	Current area in hectares by year planted						Total area	% planted in 2004
	Pre-2000	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004		
RED WINEGRAPES								
BARBERA	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0%
CABERNET FRANC	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0%
CABERNET SAUVIGNON	967	54	111	18	2	1	1153	0%
MALBEC	4	0	2	0	0	0	6	0%
MERLOT	225	16	44	11	7	0	304	0%
PETIT VERDOT	5	0	0	1	0	0	6	0%
PINOT NOIR	15	0	0	0	0	0	15	0%
SANGIOVESE	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	0%
SHIRAZ	471	31	84	56	41	0	683	0%
TEMPRANILLO	0	1	1	7	0	0	9	0%
OTHER RED	3	0	2	0	0	0	5	0%
TOTAL RED WINEGRAPES	1695	104	246	93	50	1	2188	0%
WHITE WINEGRAPES								
CHARDONNAY	63	7	36	36	27	20	189	11%
MARSANNE	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0%
PINOT GRIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100%
RIESLING	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	0%
SAUVIGNON BLANC	20	4	0	0	5	0	29	0%
SEMILLON	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0%
VIOGNIER	5	0	3	2	0	0	9	0%
TOTAL WHITE WINEGRAPES	95	11	39	37	39	20	242	8%
TOTAL ALL VARIETIES	1790	115	285	130	89	21	2430	1%



WRATTONBULLY TONNES CRUSHED BY VARIETY - VINTAGE 2005

Table 14.2

Variety	Total winery grown	Total other growers	Total crushed	Total preferred	Tonnes from other growers as % of total	% of demand supplied	Number of wineries reporting tonnages (>0) for		
							Own	Other	Preferred
RED									
Cabernet Sauvignon	3,080	3,694	6,774	9,269	55%	73%	4	16	15
Malbec	0	19	19	19	100%	98%	0	1	1
Merlot	1,268	1,164	2,432	2,121	48%	115%	2	9	6
Meunier (Pinot Meunier)	29	0	29	32	0%	90%	1	0	1
Other red	19	0	19	19	0%	102%	1	0	1
Petit Verdot	81	3	84	3	4%	2802	1	1	1
Pinot Noir	301	0	301	200	0%	150%	1	0	1
Sangiovese	53	10	63	63	16%	101%	1	1	2
Shiraz	2,311	2,446	4,757	4,669	51%	102%	4	15	15
Tempranillo	0	76	76	83	100%	92%	0	2	2
Total RED	7,142	7,412	14,555	16,478	51%	88%			
<i>% of grand total</i>			87%	90%					
WHITE									
Chardonnay	503	847	1,350	1,010	63%	134%	2	6	5
Marsanne	39	0	39	39	0%	99%	1	0	1
Sauvignon Blanc	659	48	706	710	7%	99%	1	1	2
Semillon	71	0	71	71	0%	100%	1	0	1
Viognier	53	7	60	53	12%	114%	1	2	1
Total WHITE	1,324	902	2,226	1,883	41%	118%			
<i>% of grand total</i>			13%	10%					
Grand Total	8,466	8,314	16,781	18,361	50%	91%			

WRATTONBULLY CROP VALUE DATA - VINTAGE 2005

Table 14.3

Variety	Grower grown (t)	Total crushed (t)	Estimated total value purchased grapes	Estimated total value total grapes	Lowest price ¹	Highest price	Calc average purchase value per tonne	qualifier ²
RED								
Cabernet Sauvignon	3,694	6,774	\$5,005,860	\$9,180,242	\$250	\$2,427	\$1,355	99%
Malbec	19	19	\$17,410	\$17,410			\$936	100%
Merlot	1,164	2,432	\$1,251,876	\$2,614,985	\$300	\$2,000	\$1,075	100%
Meunier (Pinot Meunier)	0	29	\$0	\$35,757			\$0	
Other red	0	19	\$0	\$24,045			\$0	
Petit Verdot	3	84	\$3,060	\$84,060			\$1,000	100%
Pinot Noir	0	301	\$0	\$374,734			\$0	
Sangiovese	10	63	\$14,000	\$88,676			\$1,400	100%
Shiraz	2,446	4,757	\$2,816,657	\$5,477,602	\$250	\$2,427	\$1,151	100%
Tempranillo	76	76	\$91,560	\$91,560			\$1,200	100%
Total RED	7,412	14,555	\$9,200,423	\$17,989,071				
WHITE								
Chardonnay	847	1,350	\$946,707	\$1,509,019	\$400	\$2,000	\$1,118	100%
Marsanne	0	39	\$0	\$43,684			\$0	
Sauvignon Blanc	48	706	\$61,240	\$908,771			\$1,287	100%
Semillon	0	71	\$0	\$79,869			\$0	
Viognier	7	60	\$10,580	\$87,144			\$1,447	100%
Total WHITE	902	2,226	\$1,018,527	\$2,628,486				
Total all varieties	8,314	16,781	\$10,218,950	\$20,617,557				

¹ The absence of lowest and highest prices means that fewer than three wineries supplied pricing data for each variety.

² This indicates the percentage of purchased fruit for which pricing information was supplied.



WRATTONBULLY ESTIMATED AND PREFERRED FUTURE INTAKE OF GRAPES 2006 TO 2010

Table 14.4

Variety	2006			2007			2008			2009			2010		
	estimated	preferred	qualifier ¹	estimated	preferred	qualifier	estimated	preferred	qualifier	estimated	preferred	qualifier	estimated	preferred	qualifier
RED															
Cabernet Sauvignon	9,996	8,320	98%	9,827	8,689	97%	9,641	9,217	97%	8,740	9,968	97%	8,128	9,978	97%
Malbec	20	20	100%	20	20	100%	20	20	100%	20	20	100%	20	20	100%
Merlot	2,901	2,055	98%	2,915	2,152	98%	2,840	2,234	97%	2,624	2,345	97%	2,482	2,380	97%
Meunier (Pinot Meunier)	34	32	100%	34	32	100%	34	0	100%	34	0	100%	0	0	0%
Other red	12	12	100%	12	12	100%	12	12	100%	12	12	100%	12	12	100%
Petit Verdot	71	5	100%	71	5	100%	71	5	100%	71	5	100%	71	5	100%
Pinot Noir	200	200	100%	200	200	100%	200	200	100%	200	200	100%	116	200	100%
Sangiovese	36	36	100%	36	36	100%	36	36	100%	36	36	100%	36	36	100%
Shiraz	5,895	4,720	95%	6,095	5,201	95%	5,896	5,375	94%	5,551	5,856	94%	5,359	5,857	94%
Tempranillo	75	75	100%	75	75	100%	75	75	100%	75	75	100%	75	75	100%
Total RED	19,240	15,475		19,285	16,422		18,825	17,174		17,363	18,517		16,299	18,563	
WHITE															
Chardonnay	1,398	1,066	98%	1,493	1,133	98%	1,478	1,087	98%	1,550	1,207	98%	1,403	1,226	98%
Marsanne	10	10	100%	10	10	100%	10	10	100%	10	10	100%	10	10	100%
Riesling	15	15	0%	20	20	0%	20	20	0%	20	20	0%	20	20	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	410	410	100%	410	410	100%	410	410	100%	410	410	100%	410	410	100%
Semillon	42	42	100%	42	42	100%	42	42	100%	42	42	100%	42	42	100%
Viognier	41	91	88%	41	91	88%	41	91	88%	41	91	88%	41	91	88%
Total WHITE	1,916	1,634		2,016	1,706		2,001	1,660		2,073	1,780		1,926	1,799	
Total all varieties	21,156	17,109		21,301	18,127		20,826	18,834		19,436	20,297		18,225	20,362	

¹ This indicates the percentage of crushed fruit in the current vintage for which forecast intake data was supplied.

WRATTONBULLY SUPPLY VS DEMAND FORECASTS 2006 AND 2008

Table 14.5

Variety	2006					2008				
	estimated bearing area (ha) ¹	estimated production (tonnes) ²	preferred intake (tonnes) ³	Difference (tonnes)	% difference	estimated bearing area (ha) ¹	estimated production (tonnes) ²	preferred intake (tonnes) ³	Difference (tonnes)	% difference
Cabernet Sauvignon	1,150	10350	8,320	2,030	20%	1,153	10377	9,217	1,160	11%
Malbec	6	54	20	34	63%	6	54	20	34	63%
Merlot	297	2673	2,055	618	23%	304	2736	2,234	502	18%
Other red	5	45	44	1	2%	5	45	12	33	73%
Petit Verdot	6	54	5	49	91%	6	54	5	49	91%
Pinot Noir	15	135	200	-65	-48%	15	135	200	-65	-48%
Sangiovese	4	36	36	0	0%	4	36	36	0	0%
Shiraz	642	5778	4,720	1,058	18%	683	6147	5,375	772	13%
Tempranillo	9	81	75	6	7%	9	81	75	6	7%
Red Total	2,134	19206	15,475	3,731	19%	2,188	19692	17,174	2,518	13%
Chardonnay	142	1420	1,066	354	25%	189	1890	1,087	803	42%
Marsanne	2	20	10	10	50%	2	20	10	10	50%
Riesling	0	0	15	-15	-	7	70	20	50	71%
Sauvignon Blanc	24	240	410	-170	-71%	29	290	410	-120	-41%
Semillon	6	60	42	18	30%	6	60	42	18	30%
Viognier	9	90	91	-1	-1%	9	90	91	-1	-1%
White Total	183	1830	1,634	196	11%	242	2420	1,660	760	31%
Grand Total	2,317	21036	17,109	3,927	19%	2,430	22112	18,834	3,278	15%

This table compares estimated future production (supply) - based on planting data - with estimated future demand (preferred intake). This gives a better indication of possible shortfalls and surpluses than comparing estimated with preferred intake, as estimated intake does not necessarily account for all production of a given variety.

(1) Planting data derived from PGIB vineyard register. Bearing area includes plantings more than three years old.

(2) Bearing area multiplied by yield estimate of 9t/ha for reds and 10t/ha for whites.

(3) Taken from the Utilisation and Pricing survey (see previous page).



WRATTONBULLY PAST PRODUCTION AND PROJECTIONS FOR MAJOR VARIETIES 2001 - 2010

Figure 14.1

Past production and projections (major varieties)

