

RIVERLAND VINTAGE OVERVIEW

Vintage Report

2003 vintage was back to some normality compared to 2002 in the Riverland. Apart from some difficulties encountered in late February due to rain followed by a week of very hot and humid weather, the vintage ran reasonably smoothly. The rain and humidity did cause some rot problems and baumés jumped dramatically which in turn caused some intake programming difficulties for wineries.

Extensive close monitoring for disease (powdery/botrytis/others) by growers and winery viticultural technical officers at the vineyard level was effective in minimizing problems this vintage.

2003 saw another year of very good quality (in the main) with higher than anticipated colour in the premium reds. Yields in the 2003 vintage, particularly in the premium reds, were significantly below growers' original estimations.

Bill Wilden, The Hardy Wine Company

Overview of vintage statistics

The Riverland produced 369,173 tonnes this year – only 15% down on the exceptionally high crop of 2002. Red varieties were down around 50,000 tonnes, and supply and demand were almost in balance, although there was a substantial oversupply of Cabernet Sauvignon and particularly Ruby Cabernet. There was a 15% shortfall in white varieties.

Movement in average purchase value per tonne for red varieties was generally downward, with Cabernet Sauvignon, Shiraz, Malbec, Mataro and Ruby Cabernet all showing substantial falls. On the other hand, the Chardonnay average purchase value was up again, by over \$100 per tonne. The average value of Semillon fell despite the shortfall in this variety.

The forecast for the Riverland is for a stabilisation in production of red varieties at around 260,000 tonnes and a balance in supply and demand of the major varieties, Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon. In the minor varieties, there is expected to be a substantial oversupply of Ruby Cabernet and Sangiovese, and a slight shortage of Merlot and Grenache. There

has been a downward revision in the forecasts of 30,000 tonnes since the 2002 survey to levels more in line with the forecasts from the 2001 survey.

Conversely, the forecasts for white varieties have been revised further upwards, and there is still an anticipated shortfall of 15,000 tonnes in 2008 - half of which is in Semillon. NB It is likely that these forecasts do not take into account the effects of water restrictions, which would not have been quantified at the time of the data collection.

Once again planting of white varieties in 2002 exceeded that of red varieties in the Riverland - and included 475ha of Chardonnay. However, there was virtually no new planting of Semillon to meet the anticipated shortfall in 2008.

RIVERLAND CURRENT PLANTINGS BY VARIETY AND YEAR PLANTED

Table 13.1

Area in hectares by year planted

Variety	Pre-99	1999	2000	2001	2002	Total	% planted 2002
RED WINEGRAPES							
CABERNET SAUVIGNON	2911	335	127	54	20	3447	1%
GRENACHE	473	45	9	8	3	538	1%
MALBEC	61	0	1	0	0	63	0%
MATARO	359	23	9	8	2	401	1%
MERLOT	831	94	46	88	28	1087	3%
PETIT VERDOT	205	209	81	76	5	576	1%
PINOT NOIR	51	35	60	20	9	175	5%
RUBY CABERNET	551	204	31	13	3	801	0%
SANGIOVESE	24	3	6	1	0	33	0%
SHIRAZ	4022	309	99	92	66	4589	1%
TEMPRANILLO	3	1	0	10	16	30	54%
OTHER RED	98	5	14	2	0	119	0%
TOTAL RED WINEGRAPES	9589	1263	483	371	154	11860	1%
WHITE WINEGRAPES							
CHARDONNAY	2156	40	89	421	474	3180	15%
CHENIN BLANC	183	1	0	0	1	185	1%
COLOMBARD	475	121	101	77	36	809	4%
MUSCAT BLANC	61	0	1	3	9	74	12%
MUSCAT GORDO BLANCO	1100	3	4	12	23	1143	2%
RIESLING	235	0	3	0	2	240	1%
SAUVIGNON BLANC	126	0	0	8	14	148	9%
SEMILLON	325	12	12	0	2	351	1%
SULTANA	548	7	5	10	1	571	0%
TRAMINER	54	0	0	35	17	107	16%
TREBBIANO	41	0	0	0	0	41	0%
VERDELHO	100	5	4	7	0	117	0%
VIIGNIER	8	8	20	15	11	61	17%
OTHER WHITE	389	2	0	6	3	401	1%
TOTAL WHITE WINEGRAPES	5802	198	238	594	594	7427	8%
MULTIPURPOSE / TABLE GRAPES	221	4	2	1	4	231	2%
ROOTSTOCK BLOCK	30	3	0	0	0	34	0%
TOTAL ALL VARIETIES	15642	1468	723	967	751	19551	4%

RIVERLAND TONNES CRUSHED BY VARIETY (RED) - VINTAGE 2003

Table 13.2

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)		
							Own	Other	Preferred
Barbera	0	39	39	27	100%	144%	0	3	2
Cabernet Franc	0	175	175	150	100%	116%	0	3	2
Cabernet Sauvignon	7445	55197	62641	52615	88%	119%	12	22	26
Carignan	303	25	328	275	8%	119%	1	1	2
Carina	0	65	65	50	100%	130%	0	2	1
Chambourcin	0	49	49	49	100%	100%	0	1	1
Durif	0	44	44	37	100%	118%	0	2	2
Grenache	788	8410	9198	11607	91%	79%	7	12	14
Malbec	558	460	1017	888	45%	115%	5	4	4
Mataro (Mouvedre)	20	7620	7640	8578	100%	89%	2	13	12
Merlot	1675	19019	20694	23577	92%	88%	8	19	20
Muscat Brown (Red Front)	0	15	15	15	100%	98%	0	1	1
Muscat Rose	0	43	43	43	100%	101%	0	1	1
Nebbiolo	0	11	11	16	100%	69%	0	2	2
Other red	56	138	194	166	71%	117%	3	2	3
Petit Verdot	610	9430	10040	10596	94%	95%	6	18	18
Pinot Noir	382	2951	3333	3321	89%	100%	1	8	7
Rubired	150	98	248	315	39%	79%	3	3	4
Ruby Cabernet	1403	15377	16781	7493	92%	224%	7	15	12
Saint Macaire	0	50	50	50	100%	100%	0	1	1
Sangiovese	279	645	924	48	70%	1925%	3	5	2
Shiraz	10135	80437	90572	97105	89%	93%	12	25	29
Tarrango	0	606	606	1040	100%	58%	0	3	3
Tempranillo	24	61	85	96	72%	89%	1	4	5
Tinta Cao	37	0	37	37	0%	99%	1	0	1
Tinta Molle	54	0	54	54	0%	100%	1	0	1
Touriga	246	77	323	341	24%	95%	3	2	3
Total RED	24165	201040	225205	218588	89%	103%			

RIVERLAND TONNES CRUSHED BY VARIETY (WHITE) - VINTAGE 2003

Table 13.3

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)		
							Own	Other	Preferred
Biancone	548	193	741	536	26%	138%	1	4	2
Canada Muscat	0	96	96	130	100%	74%	0	2	1
Chardonnay	9637	50205	59842	71942	84%	83%	10	25	28
Chenin Blanc	716	4076	4792	4458	85%	108%	3	10	8
Colombard	1209	22733	23942	26168	95%	91%	7	16	16
Crouchen	38	80	117	117	68%	100%	1	2	2
Doradillo	690	1498	2188	2658	68%	82%	2	7	4
Emerald Riesling	0	65	65	65	100%	99%	0	1	1
Marsanne	0	4	4	5	100%	80%	0	2	1
Muscadelle (Tokay)	0	288	288	240	100%	120%	0	5	4
Muscat Blanc (Frontignac)	85	364	449	1065	81%	42%	1	3	4
Muscat Gordo Blanco	2980	22319	25298	28101	88%	90%	4	11	11
Orange Muscat	54	0	54	60	0%	90%	1	0	1
Other white	407	228	635	692	34%	89%	3	4	4
Palomino	348	292	640	600	46%	107%	1	5	4
Pedro Ximenes	0	170	170	92	100%	185%	0	5	2
Riesling	2322	2555	4877	5439	52%	90%	6	8	11
Sauvignon Blanc	968	1390	2358	2746	59%	86%	5	5	9
Semillon	4438	4308	8746	10602	49%	82%	7	10	12
Sultana	1	2472	2473	5382	100%	46%	1	10	8
Sylvaner	550	334	884	770	38%	115%	1	2	3
Taminga	32	242	274	219	88%	125%	1	5	4
Traminer	855	580	1436	1509	40%	95%	3	5	7
Trebbiano	32	238	270	180	88%	150%	1	4	3
Unsound / distillation white	0	98	98	0	100%		0	1	0
Verdelho	65	2778	2843	2908	98%	98%	1	8	6
Viognier	242	145	387	476	37%	81%	1	4	5
Total WHITE	26216	117751	143967	167159	82%	86%			
Total for region	50382	318791	369173	385747					

RIVERLAND CROP VALUE DATA (RED) - VINTAGE 2003

Table 13.4

Variety (1)	Grower grown	Total crushed	estimated total value		lowest price (2)	highest price (2)	calc average purchase value per tonne (3)	
			purchased grapes	total grapes				
Barbera	39	39	\$15,150	\$15,150	\$250	\$500	\$388	100%
Cabernet Franc	175	175	\$78,864	\$78,864	\$250	\$500	\$452	100%
Cabernet Sauvignon	55197	62641	\$30,277,824	\$34,361,472	\$180	\$1,020	\$549	100%
Carina	65	65	\$16,482	\$16,482			\$254	100%
Chambourcin	49	49	\$17,797	\$17,797			\$365	100%
Durif	44	44	\$21,660	\$21,660			\$497	100%
Grenache	8410	9198	\$3,582,598	\$3,918,411	\$200	\$967	\$426	100%
Malbec	460	1017	\$175,395	\$388,294	\$265	\$455	\$382	100%
Mataro (Mouvedre)	7620	7640	\$3,033,746	\$3,041,764	\$180	\$1,002	\$398	100%
Merlot	19019	20694	\$11,091,719	\$12,068,375	\$250	\$902	\$583	100%
Muscat Rose	43	43	\$21,877	\$21,877			\$505	100%
Nebbiolo	11	11	\$2,800	\$2,800			\$255	100%
Other red	136	192	\$87,323	\$123,408			\$642	100%
Petit Verdot	9430	10040	\$4,455,962	\$4,744,256	\$200	\$895	\$473	100%
Pinot Noir	2951	3333	\$1,678,481	\$1,895,791	\$200	\$650	\$569	100%
Rubired	98	248	\$27,911	\$70,801	\$250	\$365	\$285	100%
Ruby Cabernet	15377	16781	\$6,470,462	\$7,060,956	\$200	\$985	\$421	100%
Saint Macaire	50	50	\$13,256	\$13,256			\$267	100%
Sangiovese	645	924	\$260,693	\$373,465	\$250	\$650	\$404	100%
Shiraz	80437	90572	\$52,335,989	\$58,930,375	\$300	\$1,200	\$651	100%
Tarrango	606	606	\$277,071	\$277,071	\$250	\$600	\$457	100%
Tempranillo	61	85	\$23,026	\$32,166	\$265	\$450	\$377	100%
Touriga	77	323	\$40,165	\$168,384			\$522	100%
Zinfandel	2	2	\$737	\$737			\$365	100%
Total RED	201001	224772	\$114,006,988	\$127,643,612				

(1) Only includes varieties where some fruit was purchased. Varieties where all fruit is winery grown are not shown in this table.

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

(3) This does not include end use bonuses or other adjustments determined post-receival.

RIVERLAND CROP VALUE DATA (WHITE) - VINTAGE 2003

Table 13.5

Variety (1)	Grower grown	Total crushed	estimated total value		lowest price (20)	highest price (2)	calc average purchase	
			purchased grapes	total grapes			value per tonne (3)	
Biancone	193	741	\$48,685	\$187,263	\$220	\$265	\$253	100%
Canada Muscat	96	96	\$40,964	\$40,964			\$425	100%
Chardonnay	50205	59842	\$44,745,060	\$53,333,639	\$263	\$1,200	\$891	100%
Chenin Blanc	4076	4792	\$1,404,405	\$1,651,265	\$250	\$450	\$345	100%
Colombard	22733	23942	\$8,587,744	\$9,044,641	\$288	\$459	\$378	100%
Crouchen	80	117	\$23,148	\$34,085			\$291	100%
Doradillo	1498	2188	\$379,851	\$554,744	\$150	\$300	\$254	100%
Emerald Riesling	65	65	\$24,410	\$24,410			\$378	100%
Italia	12	12	\$4,378	\$4,378			\$365	100%
Marsanne	4	4	\$1,680	\$1,680			\$420	100%
Muscadelle (Tokay)	288	288	\$116,289	\$116,289	\$250	\$495	\$404	100%
Muscat Blanc (Frontignac)	364	449	\$127,943	\$157,750	\$258	\$426	\$352	100%
Muscat Gordo Blanco	22319	25298	\$7,836,196	\$8,882,386	\$228	\$490	\$351	100%
Other white	210	617	\$78,533	\$230,323			\$373	100%
Palomino	292	640	\$75,267	\$164,919	\$230	\$300	\$258	100%
Pedro Ximenes	170	170	\$45,362	\$45,362	\$230	\$320	\$267	100%
Riesling	2555	4877	\$1,342,915	\$2,563,211	\$375	\$562	\$526	100%
Sauvignon Blanc	1390	2358	\$743,348	\$1,260,652	\$400	\$600	\$535	100%
Semillon	4308	8746	\$1,922,914	\$3,904,245	\$300	\$565	\$446	100%
Sultana	2472	2473	\$796,139	\$796,461	\$200	\$486	\$322	100%
Sylvaner	334	884	\$107,839	\$285,194			\$322	100%
Taminga	242	274	\$70,611	\$79,936	\$200	\$436	\$291	100%
Traminer	580	1436	\$341,774	\$845,316	\$540	\$605	\$589	100%
Trebbiano	238	270	\$63,546	\$72,159	\$250	\$280	\$267	100%
Unsound / distillation white	98	98	\$21,854	\$21,854			\$223	100%
Verdelho	2778	2843	\$1,177,546	\$1,205,095	\$300	\$520	\$424	100%
Viognier	145	387	\$118,965	\$317,274	\$500	\$1,275	\$819	100%
Waltham Cross	6	6	\$1,500	\$1,500			\$250	100%
Total WHITE	117751	143913	\$70,248,866	\$85,826,996				

(1) Only includes varieties where some fruit was purchased. Varieties where all fruit is winery grown are not shown in this table.

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

(3) This does not include end use bonuses or other adjustments determined post-receival.

RIVERLAND ESTIMATED AND PREFERRED FUTURE INTAKE OF RED GRAPES 2004 TO 2008

Table 13.6

Variety	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
	estimated	preferred	estimated	preferred	estimated	preferred	estimated	preferred	estimated	preferred
Barbera	55	55	57	57	32	32	32	32	32	32
Cabernet Franc	191	171	193	173	195	175	195	175	195	175
Cabernet Sauvignon	78318	71517	79090	78247	79015	78916	76203	77375	75836	77789
Carina	453	387	394	326	394	326	379	311	154	311
Chambourcin	125	125	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65
Durif	31	41	36	49	58	71	108	121	108	121
Grenache	10641	12862	10461	12908	10475	13305	10313	13406	10106	13423
Malbec	1090	970	894	874	907	875	885	853	886	854
Mataro (Mouvedre)	8378	8401	8364	8322	8048	8169	7744	7915	7440	7625
Merlot	23542	26039	25382	28434	26358	30268	26181	30926	26187	31777
Muscat Brown (Red Front)	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93
Nebbiolo	18	18	20	20	5	5	5	5	5	5
Other red	215	169	225	178	233	186	233	186	218	186
Petit Verdot	9946	11665	10744	12564	10805	12664	11895	11754	9022	11170
Pinot Noir	4967	4967	5765	5765	6080	6080	6021	6021	5927	5927
Rubired	246	246	211	211	211	211	191	191	191	191
Ruby Cabernet	16574	5970	15885	6013	15565	5918	14549	5671	14157	5376
Saint Macaire	80	80	88	88	56	56	56	56	56	56
Sangiovese	872	55	840	40	840	40	820	40	779	40
Shiraz	104093	106237	107360	112229	110419	115098	108322	113693	106087	115934
Tarrango	2396	2246	2166	2016	1666	1516	1616	1516	1616	1516
Tempranillo	237	235	284	281	321	318	217	214	229	226
Tinta Cao	41	40	42	40	42	40	42	40	42	40
Tinta Molle	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
Zinfandel	2	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Total for RED	262643	252630	268702	269037	271926	274471	266208	270703	259474	272976

RIVERLAND ESTIMATED AND PREFERRED FUTURE INTAKE OF WHITE GRAPES 2004 TO 2008

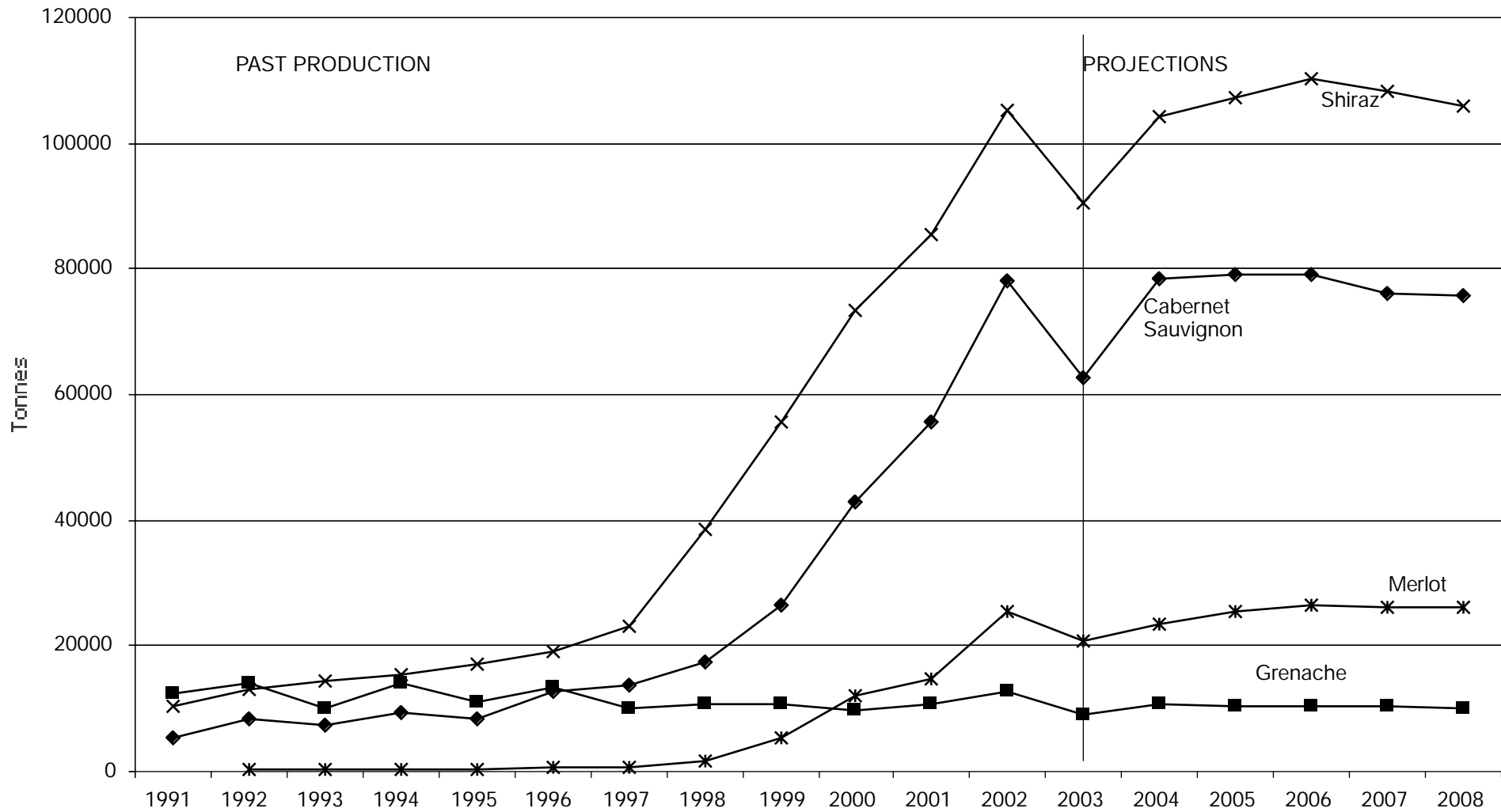
Table 13.7

Variety	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
	estimated	preferred	estimated	preferred	estimated	preferred	estimated	preferred	estimated	preferred
Canada Muscat	172	172	192	192	172	172	160	160	105	105
Chardonnay	88302	94115	106453	109474	116677	119833	119370	122896	117769	122444
Chenin Blanc	5501	5311	6072	5280	5774	5210	5939	5186	5699	5192
Colombard	37050	37018	38306	39040	38248	39145	37446	38505	37481	38498
Crouchen	114	110	114	110	114	110	92	88	92	88
Doradillo	2788	2971	2729	2812	2579	2712	2509	2542	2444	2527
Emerald Riesling	862	543	853	543	853	493	853	493	825	465
Italia	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0
Marsanne	30	30	33	33	36	36	56	56	56	56
Muscadelle (Tokay)	382	222	372	222	372	222	295	145	295	145
Muscat Blanc (Frontignac)	464	701	620	859	769	1012	719	1023	727	1032
Muscat Gordo Blanco	25659	27300	26170	27497	24877	26463	23902	25498	23446	24852
Other white	1022	1022	1390	1390	1451	1451	1421	1421	1401	1401
Palomino	654	641	644	591	604	566	544	506	519	506
Pedro Ximenes	94	69	94	69	89	64	89	64	89	64
Riesling	5285	6824	5335	6976	5532	7118	5608	7180	5580	7188
Roussanne	0	0	3	3	6	6	6	6	6	6
Sauvignon Blanc	3792	4233	4986	5451	5636	6124	5795	6247	5847	6265
Semillon	10869	13661	10876	13653	10839	15465	10717	15981	10745	17015
Sultana	5384	6797	5074	6404	4626	5794	4517	5717	4312	5512
Traminer	2139	2183	2617	2683	3172	3253	3273	3371	3199	3313
Trebbiano	270	320	254	304	276	296	276	296	276	296
Verdelho	3594	3550	3482	3367	3494	3448	3355	3281	3197	3293
Viognier	772	813	1035	1065	1186	1206	1191	1211	1081	1101
Total for WHITE	195212	208604	217717	228016	227396	240198	228147	241872	225205	241363
Total for region	457855	461234	486419	497053	499322	514669	494355	512575	484679	514339

RIVERLAND PAST PRODUCTION AND PROJECTIONS FOR MAJOR RED VARIETIES 1991 - 2008

Figure 13.1

Past production and projections (red varieties)



RIVERLAND PAST PRODUCTION AND PROJECTIONS FOR MAJOR WHITE VARIETIES 1991 - 2008

Figure 13.2

Past production and projections (white varieties)

