



**FIRST FOUND
IN 2006**



**EIGHT BOUNDARY
EXTENSIONS
SINCE 2006**

WHAT HAPPENED

- ▶ Phylloxera was first found in the Yarra Valley in 2006.
- ▶ At the time, there was no register of growers or vineyards, no knowledge of rootstock plantings, unrestricted movement of machinery, staff and contractors, and no tracking of visitors.
- ▶ A Phylloxera Infested Zone (PIZ) was established by Agriculture Victoria around the initial outbreak. The boundary was extended beyond 5km to account for bordering vineyards.
- ▶ The infected vineyard was poisoned, and the vines were grubbed to prevent further spread.
- ▶ The owner also implemented biosecurity measures in accordance with Agriculture Victoria legislation requirements for movement outside of a PIZ, including constructing a heat room to sterilise vineyard equipment, and duplicated labour and machinery to prevent spread to other vineyards.
- ▶ The grubbed vineyard may not have been the initial source of the Yarra Valley infestation. As phylloxera takes years to show visual symptoms, the first vineyard that it was found in did not necessarily introduce phylloxera.
- ▶ The Maroondah Phylloxera Infested Zone (PIZ) was officially gazetted on 1 March 2007; however, biosecurity measures were already in place post-detection.
- ▶ Since phylloxera was first found in the Yarra Valley in 2006 there have been further detections within Yarra Valley vineyards.
- ▶ There have been eight boundary extensions due to phylloxera spread since the initial 2006 declaration, with the latest in 2023.
- ▶ Natural dispersion of phylloxera is slow, and further spread was likely to be due to poor farm-gate biosecurity and human-assisted movement before being discovered.
- ▶ Most detections happen during the growing season as symptoms are more easily identified. Optimal times for surveying for phylloxera are between December and March, but this can vary.
- ▶ Symptoms appear within three years of phylloxera infestation, and

vine death occurs within six years, depending on the phylloxera genotype and the vine cultivar.

- ▶ Various methods of phylloxera monitoring were adopted after the initial detection.
- ▶ Additional detections often occur because people are aware and actively looking for infestations.

PHYLLOXERA IN THE YARRA VALLEY

2006	Initial phylloxera detection
2007	Maroondah PIZ boundary extension requested by growers to facilitate movement between vineyards and wineries
2009	Phylloxera detections cause Maroondah PIZ boundary extension
2009	Phylloxera detections cause Maroondah PIZ boundary extension
2014	Phylloxera detections cause Maroondah PIZ boundary extension
2016	Phylloxera detections cause Maroondah PIZ boundary extension
2017	Phylloxera detections cause Maroondah PIZ boundary extension
2017	Phylloxera detections cause Maroondah PIZ boundary extension
2019	Phylloxera detections cause Maroondah PIZ boundary extension
2023	Phylloxera detections cause Maroondah PIZ boundary extension

This fact sheet contains information from industry and government sources as well as opinions of individual growers from the Yarra Valley. It was developed for the South Australian grape and wine industry. Different states will have different rules around phylloxera detection. Your state biosecurity agency will advise on what to do if/when detection occurs.