



Limestone Coast zone - other

Regional summary report

2008

Limestone Coast zone (other)

Vintage overview

Limestone Coast zone (other) includes the vineyards around Bordertown, Mt Benson, Robe, Lucindale, Beachport, Mount Gambier and near but outside the declared GI regions of Padthaway, Coonawarra and Wrattobully (also referred to as "Limestone Coast zone (other)" in these tables. The total area of vines included in this definition is around 3,300 hectares.

Vintage report

Despite the dry winter, early spring rains gave grapevines a good start to budburst. Follow-up dry sunny weather prevailed through the rest of the season resulting in good flowering and fruit set, and then excellent ripening conditions with low disease pressure. Irrigation requirement was for a little more than 'supplementary', and was important during the extremely hot March. It was a particularly early vintage, and most of the whites were harvested before the heat in March, while the reds required special attention to avoid overstress during the final stages of ripening but were mostly off before mid-April, approximately three weeks ahead of normal.

Yields were mainly around average to slightly below average, although the odd vineyard that was overcropped hung on to be harvested in relatively good condition.

Max Arney
Vintage Traders Ltd.

Overview of vintage statistics

The harvest from Limestone Coast (other) was 24,911 tonnes in 2008, considerably higher than the frost-affected harvest of 2007, but still well below the record 2006 harvest of over 30,000 tonnes. The total value of grapes from the region nearly doubled, from less than \$14 million to nearly \$28 million – with average purchase values for Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon increasing significantly (Shiraz by \$200 per tonne) despite the increased tonnages. The average price of Chardonnay fell from \$872 to \$790 per tonne, however.

There were almost no new plantings across the Limestone Coast zone (other) in spring 2006 (even including top-working and replacements). Of the total of 12 hectares, 9 hectares were of Pinot Gris in Mount Benson.

The ABARE estimated production from the Limestone Coast (other) vineyards for 2009 is nearly 44,000 tonnes. The wineries' committed intake is around 25,000 tonnes, leaving an estimated surplus of around 17,000 tonnes. The estimated supply remains constant across the forecast period, while the wineries' committed intake reduces, leaving an estimated 25,000 tonnes uncommitted at this stage for 2013. However, it seems unlikely that production will reach such a high tonnage, given the bearing area of only around 3,300 hectares.

Limestone Coast zone (other) Winegrape intake summary - vintage 2008

Incorporates Mount Benson (3,423 tonnes), Robe (3,380 tonnes) and Limestone Coast zone - other (18,107 tonnes).

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	60			\$65,802	\$1,100	216	276	\$303,710
Cabernet Sauvignon	4,004	\$100	\$3,000	\$4,471,833	\$1,117	2,946	6,950	\$7,762,400
Malbec	129			\$152,734	\$1,180	127	256	\$302,517
Mataro	281			\$331,501	\$1,180	219	500	\$590,223
Merlot	1,495	\$100	\$1,200	\$1,452,768	\$972	1,797	3,292	\$3,198,233
Other Red	19			\$27,700	\$1,458	0	19	\$27,700
Petit Verdot	252	\$500	\$1,200	\$160,980	\$638	334	586	\$374,138
Pinot Noir	845	\$800	\$1,900	\$1,275,895	\$1,509	426	1,272	\$1,919,404
Shiraz	4,443	\$100	\$3,000	\$5,468,739	\$1,231	2,795	7,238	\$8,909,508
Tempranillo	0					10	10	\$11,542
Total red winegrapes	11,529			\$13,407,953		8,871	20,399	\$23,399,375
White winegrapes								
Chardonnay	1,618	\$250	\$2,000	\$1,278,872	\$790	1,013	2,631	\$2,079,347
Marsanne	19			\$14,960	\$800	0	19	\$14,960
Pinot Gris	113	\$1,000	\$1,700	\$179,376	\$1,594	104	216	\$344,931
Riesling	21			\$18,639	\$900	10	31	\$27,819
Sauvignon Blanc	719	\$872	\$2,500	\$998,463	\$1,389	309	1,028	\$1,427,668
Semillon	212	\$600	\$800	\$138,534	\$655	181	393	\$257,275
Verdelho	119	\$750	\$1,200	\$115,764	\$971	0	119	\$115,764
Viognier	65	\$1,150	\$1,750	\$89,753	\$1,371	9	74	\$101,407
Total white winegrapes	2,885			\$2,834,361		1,626	4,511	\$4,369,170
Total all winegrapes²	14,414			\$16,242,314		10,496	24,911	\$27,768,545

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 Limestone Coast zone (other) is 2%.

Limestone Coast zone (other)

Current plantings by variety and year planted

Bordertown

Variety	Current area in hectares				Total area	% planted in 2007
	Pre-2005	2005	2006	2007		
Cabernet Franc	29	0	0	0	29	0%
Cabernet Sauvignon	422	0	0	0	422	0%
Malbec	24	0	0	0	24	0%
Mataro (Mourvedre)	42	0	0	0	42	0%
Merlot	238	0	0	0	238	0%
Other red	3	3	4	0	10	0%
Petit Verdot	44	0	0	0	44	0%
Shiraz	330	0	0	0	330	0%
Chardonnay	93	0	0	0	93	0%
Pinot Gris	0	2	7	0	9	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	3	5	0	0	8	0%
Semillon	10	0	0	0	10	0%
Verdelho	10	0	0	0	10	0%
Viognier	2	2	0	0	4	0%
Total all varieties	1251	13	11	0	1274	0%

Mount Benson

Variety	Current area in hectares				Total area	% planted in 2007
	Pre-2005	2005	2006	2007		
Cabernet Sauvignon	119	0	0	2	121	2%
Merlot	53	0	2	0	55	0%
Other red	10	0	0	0	10	0%
Shiraz	177	0	0	0	177	0%
Chardonnay	38	0	0	0	38	0%
Cygne Blanc	22	0	4	0	26	0%
Marsanne	2	0	0	0	2	0%
Pinot Gris	11	0	3	9	24	40%
Riesling	3	0	0	0	3	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	58	3	4	0	66	0%
Semillon	6	0	0	0	6	0%
Verdelho	4	0	0	0	4	0%
Viognier	5	0	0	0	5	0%
Total all varieties	509	3	13	12	537	2%

Limestone Coast zone (other)

Current plantings by variety and year planted

Robe

Variety	Current area in hectares				Total area	% planted in
	Pre-2005	2005	2006	2007		2007
Cabernet Sauvignon	212	0	0	0	212	0%
Malbec	2	0	0	0	2	0%
Merlot	58	0	0	0	58	0%
Petit Verdot	8	0	0	0	8	0%
Pinot Noir	64	0	0	0	64	0%
Shiraz	171	0	0	0	171	0%
Chardonnay	136	1	20	0	157	0%
Pinot Gris	3	9	3	0	15	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	16	10	12	0	38	0%
Semillon	17	0	0	0	17	0%
Total all varieties	686	20	35	0	741	0%

Limestone Coast zone - other

Variety	Current area in hectares				Total area	% planted in
	Pre-2005	2005	2006	2007		2007
Cabernet Franc	2	0	0	0	2	0%
Cabernet Sauvignon	336	0	0	0	336	0%
Merlot	35	0	0	0	35	0%
Petit Verdot	3	0	0	0	3	0%
Pinot Noir	78	0	0	0	78	0%
Shiraz	123	0	0	0	123	0%
Chardonnay	75	0	0	0	75	0%
Pinot Gris	3	0	0	0	3	0%
Riesling	7	0	0	0	7	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	30	41	0	0	71	0%
Semillon	0	0	1	0	1	0%
Viognier	1	0	0	0	1	0%
Total all varieties	693	41	1	0	735	0%
Total Limestone Coast zone - (other)	3138	77	60	12	3287	0.4%

Limestone Coast zone (other)

Estimated supply and committed intake 2009 - 2013

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	292	179	71	42	292	179	51	62	292	179	51	62
Cabernet Sauvignon	12,388	3,878	3,204	5,307	12,304	3,882	488	7,934	12,304	3,910	376	8,017
Malbec	209	46	132	31	209	48	132	29	209	50	132	27
Mataro	773	132	305	336	773	132	305	336	773	132	305	336
Merlot	10,521	2,115	1,366	7,039	10,516	2,120	746	7,649	10,516	2,120	685	7,711
Other Red	7	0	20	0	7	0	31	0	7	0	41	0
Petit Verdot	1,282	337	272	673	1,282	337	268	678	1,282	337	207	739
Pinot Noir	372	424	967	0	375	434	264	0	375	434	36	0
Shiraz	13,807	2,770	3,512	7,525	13,915	2,764	2,157	8,995	13,977	2,774	2,035	9,168
Tempranillo	9	23	0	0	9	23	0	0	9	23	0	0
Total red winegrapes	39,660	9,904	9,850	19,906	39,682	9,920	4,441	25,321	39,744	9,960	3,867	25,916
White winegrapes												
Chardonnay	2,676	2,032	2,161	0	2,682	2,129	698	0	2,682	2,130	216	337
Marsanne	8	0	24	0	8	0	0	8	8	0	0	8
Pinot Gris	180	159	187	0	199	311	118	0	239	439	92	0
Riesling	18	31	50	0	18	31	50	0	18	31	0	0
Sauvignon Blanc	596	300	1,142	0	604	217	758	0	625	223	179	224
Semillon	419	225	224	0	419	202	224	0	419	202	224	0
Verdelho	205	0	170	35	205	0	134	71	205	0	62	143
Viognier	45	16	62	0	45	16	62	0	45	16	62	0
Total white winegrapes	4,147	2,762	4,020	0	4,180	2,906	2,044	0	4,241	3,040	834	366
Total all winegrapes	43,807	12,667	13,870	17,270	43,863	12,826	6,486	24,551	43,985	13,001	4,702	26,282

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

² A raising factor of 1.02 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.