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VINEYARDS ESTIMATES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 30 OCT 2008

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INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents estimates from the ABS Vineyards collection, 2008. Not all data from this collection are published here. Further data, including data for Australian Geographical Indications, are available on application to the ABS. Additional wine and grape industry data will be published in Australian Wine and Grape Industry (cat. no. 1329.0).

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are two new tables of data in this issue:

- Area of vines by grape variety, at harvest.
- Production and yield of grape varieties, at harvest.

These tables replace the previously published table:

- Grapes, production by selected variety.

Grapevines watered in season is contained in a datacube attached to this publication.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
cat. no. Catalogue number
ha hectare
t tonne

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

Estimates from the Vineyards 2008 survey confirm that the 2008 harvest was significantly larger than 2007 as the industry recovered from adverse weather conditions experienced in the previous season. More favourable growing conditions resulted in a 28% increase in total grape production over the 2007 harvest, showing a return to previous levels.

AREA OF VINES

Grape growers cultivated 173 thousand hectares of vines, a 1% decrease from the 2007 season. The total bearing area for grapes rose slightly to 166 thousand hectares, while the area not yet bearing fell again, to 6.5 thousand hectares. Red grape varieties comprised 58% of the total area of vines and 59% of the total bearing area.

GRAPE PRODUCTION

The estimate for total grape production in 2008 increased significantly from 2007 levels to 2.0 million tonnes. This was largely driven by a 38% increase in production in South Australia (the largest producing state) to 812 thousand tonnes. New South Wales was the next largest producing state with 554 thousand tonnes, while Victoria's production increased to 477 thousand tonnes.

Red grape production (1.0 million tonnes) was higher than white grape production (933 thousand tonnes). Reflecting the improved growing conditions of 2008, grape production for winemaking increased significantly (by 34%), to 1.8 million tonnes. Both drying and table grape production continued a downward trend in 2008. The production of grapes for drying fell by 31% to 56 thousand tonnes, while the harvest of table and other grapes fell by 19%, to 64 thousand tonnes.

South Australia remained the highest red grape-producing state with 50% (511 thousand tonnes) of total red grape production. New South Wales was the highest producer of white grapes with 33% (308 thousand tonnes) of total white grape production.

Three varieties of grapes accounted for 58% of all production: shiraz (442 thousand tonnes), chardonnay (428 thousand tonnes) and cabernet sauvignon (258 thousand tonnes).

GRAPES, Area of vines at harvest—Year ended 30 June

	AUST.(a)			2008					
	2006	2007	2008	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.
RED GRAPES (ha)									
Bearing	93 967	96 663	98 045	21 156	18 550	1 679	49 273	6 660	637
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted prior to collection year	2 744	2 529	1 476	334	276	15	675	89	81
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted during collection year	1 399	1 430	961	139	248	21	475	48	31
Total area of vines	98 111	100 623	100 482	21 629	19 075	1 716	50 422	6 797	749
WHITE GRAPES (ha)									
Bearing	64 199	67 288	68 152	20 802	17 544	1 411	21 484	6 086	587
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted prior to collection year	4 024	3 612	2 813	851	555	20	835	413	111
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted during collection year	2 457	2 254	1 229	293	299	29	413	135	60
Total area of vines	70 680	73 153	72 193	21 946	18 398	1 461	22 732	6 634	758
TOTAL GRAPES (ha)									
Bearing	158 167	163 951	166 197	41 958	36 094	3 090	70 757	12 746	1 224
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted prior to collection year	6 768	6 141	4 289	1 185	831	36	1 510	503	192
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted during collection year	3 856	3 684	2 190	432	547	51	887	183	91
Total area of vines	168 790	173 776	172 676	43 574	37 472	3 176	73 155	13 431	1 507

(a) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

GRAPES, Production (fresh weight)—Year ended 30 June

	AUST. (a)			2008					
	2006	2007	2008	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.
RED GRAPES									
Winemaking (t)	980 209	669 042	984 121	240 943	186 798	2 042	510 049	38 520	5 300
Drying (t)	10 447	7 521	4 777	1 158	2 733	—	714	172	—
Table and other (t)	35 645	37 041	34 419	4 732	22 182	4 233	477	2 482	—
Total production (t)	1 026 301	713 603	1 023 317	246 833	211 713	6 275	511 239	41 175	5 300
Yield (t/ha)(b)	10.9	7.4	10.4	11.7	11.4	3.7	10.4	6.2	8.3
WHITE GRAPES									
Wine making (t)	801 460	701 649	852 913	295 046	207 753	1 265	299 064	43 676	5 449
Drying (t)	107 372	73 501	51 362	7 584	42 944	69	759	7	—
Table and other (t)	46 065	41 686	29 202	4 948	14 432	7 004	453	1 563	—
Total production (t)	954 896	816 836	933 477	307 577	265 129	8 338	300 276	45 246	5 449
Yield (t/ha)(b)	14.9	12.1	13.7	14.8	15.1	5.9	14.0	7.4	9.3
TOTAL GRAPES									
Wine making (t)	1 781 668	1 370 690	1 837 034	535 989	394 551	3 307	809 113	82 197	10 749
Drying (t)	117 819	81 022	56 139	8 742	45 677	69	1 472	179	—
Table and other (t)	81 710	78 727	63 621	9 679	36 614	11 237	930	4 045	—
Total production (t)	1 981 198	1 530 439	1 956 794	554 410	476 842	14 612	811 515	86 421	10 749
Yield (t/ha)(b)	12.5	9.3	11.8	13.2	13.2	4.7	11.5	6.8	8.8

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Yield represents the quantity of grapes produced per hectare of bearing vines.

AREA OF VINES BY GRAPE VARIETY, At harvest—Australia—2008

	NOT YET BEARING (PLANTED OR GRAFTED)			
	<i>Bearing</i>	<i>Prior to</i>	<i>During</i>	<i>Total</i>
		<i>collection</i>	<i>collection</i>	
	ha	year	year	ha
.....				
Red grapes				
Barbera	153	—	4	157
Cabernet Franc	654	27	12	693
Cabernet Sauvignon	27 309	167	78	27 553
Durif	417	6	11	433
Grenache	1 977	26	9	2 011
Malbec	348	9	6	362
Mataro (Mourvedre)	764	10	11	785
Merlot	10 537	173	53	10 764
Meunier	104	2	—	106
Muscat a Petit Grains				
Rouge/Rose	229	3	5	237
Nebbiolo	94	5	6	105
Petit Verdot	1 330	15	9	1 354
Pinot Noir	4 208	140	143	4 490
Ruby Cabernet	1 140	—	2	1 142
Sangiovese	495	14	9	517
Shiraz	42 806	724	447	43 977
Tarrango	102	—	—	102
Tempranillo	345	15	26	386
Touriga	45	2	1	48
Zinfandel	128	7	5	140
Other red grape varieties	4 758	122	121	5 001
Red grapes n.e.c. (a)	104	11	5	121
<i>Total red grapes</i>	<i>98 045</i>	<i>1 476</i>	<i>961</i>	<i>100 482</i>
White grapes				
Chardonnay	30 820	546	198	31 564
Chenin Blanc	614	10	19	642
Colombard	2 619	34	16	2 669
Crouchen	117	—	—	117
Doradillo	71	—	2	73
Marsanne	207	3	2	213
Muscadelle (Tokay)	153	2	—	155
Muscat a Petit Grains Blanc	234	25	3	263
Muscat Gordo Blanco	2 172	126	67	2 364
Palomino	49	2	—	50
Pinot Gris	2 078	566	192	2 835
Riesling	4 270	87	44	4 400
Roussane	58	6	5	69
Sauvignon Blanc	5 327	681	396	6 404
Semillon	6 453	206	57	6 716
Sultana	4 907	48	24	4 979
Traminer	809	27	4	841
Trebbiano	219	—	—	219
Verdelho	1 712	35	14	1 761
Viognier	1 217	151	33	1 401
Other white grape varieties	3 993	247	151	4 391
White grapes n.e.c. (a)	53	13	1	67
<i>Total white grapes</i>	<i>68 152</i>	<i>2 813</i>	<i>1 229</i>	<i>72 193</i>
Total grapes	166 197	4 289	2 190	172 676

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Varieties not specified.

PRODUCTION AND YIELD OF GRAPE VARIETIES, At harvest—Australia—2008

GRAPE PRODUCTION(a)

	Winemaking	Drying	Table and other	Total production	Yield(b)
	t	t	t	t	t/ha
Red grapes					
Barbera	1 348	—	—	1 348	8.8
Cabernet Franc	4 001	—	—	4 001	6.1
Cabernet Sauvignon	258 066	—	—	258 066	9.5
Durif	5 352	—	—	5 352	12.8
Grenache	19 755	—	—	19 755	10.0
Malbec	2 713	—	—	2 713	7.8
Mataro (Mourvedre)	8 401	—	—	8 401	11.0
Merlot	125 285	—	—	125 285	11.9
Meunier	1 277	—	—	1 277	12.2
Muscat a Petit Grains					
Rouge/Rose	1 320	—	72	1 393	6.1
Nebbiolo	420	—	—	420	4.4
Petit Verdot	23 989	—	—	23 989	18.0
Pinot Noir	43 923	—	—	43 923	10.4
Ruby Cabernet	18 748	—	—	18 748	16.4
Sangiovese	5 630	—	—	5 630	11.4
Shiraz	441 950	—	—	441 950	10.3
Tarrango	2 056	—	—	2 056	20.2
Tempranillo	3 680	—	—	3 680	10.7
Touriga	315	—	—	315	6.9
Zinfandel	833	—	—	833	6.5
Other red grape varieties	15 044	4 747	34 347	54 138	11.4
Red grapes n.e.c.(c)	16	30	—	46	0.4
Total red grapes	984 121	4 777	34 419	1 023 317	10.4
White grapes					
Chardonnay	428 082	—	—	428 082	13.9
Chenin Blanc	8 537	—	—	8 537	13.9
Colombard	59 202	—	—	59 202	22.6
Crouchen	2 909	—	—	2 909	24.8
Doradillo	1 051	—	—	1 051	14.8
Marsanne	1 870	—	—	1 870	9.0
Muscadelle (Tokay)	800	—	—	800	5.2
Muscat a Petit Grains Blanc	3 017	—	—	3 017	12.9
Muscat Gordo Blanco	39 311	1 536	8	40 856	18.8
Palomino	356	—	—	356	7.3
Pinot Gris	26 156	—	—	26 156	12.6
Riesling	39 305	—	—	39 305	9.2
Roussane	368	—	—	368	6.3
Sauvignon Blanc	62 420	—	—	62 420	11.7
Semillon	100 031	—	—	100 031	15.5
Sultana	17 335	42 549	6 024	65 907	13.4
Traminer	11 563	—	—	11 563	14.3
Trebbiano	3 012	—	—	3 012	13.8
Verdelho	20 464	—	—	20 464	12.0
Viognier	12 359	—	—	12 359	10.2
Other white grape varieties	14 750	6 812	23 148	44 710	11.2
White grapes n.e.c.(c)	17	465	22	504	9.6
Total white grapes	852 913	51 362	29 202	933 477	13.7
Total grapes	1 837 034	56 139	63 621	1 956 794	11.8

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Fresh weight.

(b) Yield represents the quantity of grapes produced per hectare of bearing vines.

(c) Varieties not specified.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents estimates from the ABS Vineyards collection, 2008. Not all data from this collection are published here. Further data, including data for Australian Geographical Indications, are available on application to the ABS.

2 The Vineyards collection is run on behalf of the Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation (GWRDC). The survey is designed to collect varietal information on the main grape varieties grown and provide information about grape growing and production, including areas watered, and volume and sources of water used. The main user of this information is the Australian wine industry's Statistics Working Group (SWG), which is made up of representatives of industry peak bodies and represents the views of the industry on statistical matters.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

3 Viticulture statistics relate to the year in which the harvest occurred and are derived from information obtained in a collection of all known growers. Data quality is being improved through advancements in coverage.

4 Tasmanian data are collected in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries and Water. The scope of the data collected is the same as for other states.

GENERAL

5 The statistics in this publication are the final Vineyards estimates for 2007-08. No preliminary data were released for the 2007-08 Vineyards collection.

6 Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

7 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

8 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated. Without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

9 A range of publications relevant to the Agriculture sector are produced by the ABS, including:

Agricultural Commodities, Australia, cat. no. 7121.0

Agricultural Survey, Apples and Pears, Australia, cat. no. 7121.0.55.002

Australian Wine and Grape Industry, cat. no. 1329.0

Livestock and Meat, Australia, cat. no. 7218.0.55.001

Livestock Products, Australia, cat. no. 7215.0

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