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VINEYARDS ESTIMATES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 7 DEC 2007

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INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Nigel Gibson on Hobart (03) 6222 5940.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents final estimates from the ABS Vineyards collection, 2007. Not all data from this collection are published here. Some further data including data for states and territories, and Australian Geographical Indications are available for a charge, on application to the ABS. More detailed varietal information will be published in January 2008 in *Australian Wine and Grape Industry* (cat. no. 1329.0).

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

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ABBREVIATIONS

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

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Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

Estimates from the Vineyards 2007 collection confirm that the season 2007 was characterised by difficult growing conditions, in particular a combination of drought and frost. This led to a significant reversal from recent years' record production levels.

AREA OF VINES

Grape growers cultivated 174,000 hectares of vines, a 3% increase from the 2006 season. The total bearing area for grapes rose to 164,000 hectares, while the area not yet bearing fell again, to 9,800 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 2007 fell significantly from 2006 levels to stand at 1.5 million tonnes. The largest producing state, South Australia, recorded a decrease in production of 34% to 586,000 tonnes. New South Wales retained its spot over Victoria as the next largest growing state, with a decrease in production to 429,000 tonnes while Victoria's production decreased to 419,000 tonnes.

White grape production (817,000 tonnes) was higher than red grape production (714,000 tonnes). Reflecting the poor season, grape production for winemaking fell significantly (by 23%), to 1.4 million tonnes. The production of grapes for drying fell by 31% to 81,000 tonnes, while the harvest of table and other grapes fell by 4%, to 78,700 tonnes.

South Australia remained the highest red grape-producing state with 47% (333,000 tonnes) of total red grape production. Victoria replaced South Australia as the highest producer of white grapes with 32% (263,000 tonnes) of total white grape production.

Three varieties of grapes accounted for 54% of all production: chardonnay (367,000 tonnes), shiraz (284,000 tonnes) and cabernet sauvignon (183,000 tonnes).

IRRIGATION

The principal source of water for irrigating vines in 2007 was surface water from state or private irrigation schemes, with a total of 93,800 hectares of vines irrigated from this source. The principal methods of watering vines in 2007 were by drip or micro spray, with a total of 123,000 hectares of vines irrigated by these methods.

GRAPES, Australia, Area of vines at harvest (ha)—Year ended 30 June

	2005	2006	2007
RED GRAPES			
Bearing	92 849	93 967	96 663
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted prior to collection year	2 809	2 744	2 529
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted during collection year	2 375	1 400	1 430
Total area of vines	98 033	98 111	100 623
WHITE GRAPES			
Bearing	60 355	64 199	67 288
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted prior to collection year	4 560	4 024	3 612
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted during collection year	3 718	2 457	2 254
Total area of vines	68 632	70 680	73 153
TOTAL GRAPES			
Bearing	153 204	158 167	163 951
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted prior to collection year	7 369	6 768	6 141
Not yet bearing - planted or grafted during collection year	6 093	3 856	3 684
Total area of vines	166 665	168 791	173 776

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

	2005	2006	2007
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RED GRAPES			
Winemaking	1 009 983	980 209	669 041
Drying	10 487	10 447	7 521
Table and other	26 428	35 645	37 041
Total production	1 046 897	1 026 301	713 603
Yield (t/ha)(a)	11.3	10.9	7.4
.....			
WHITE GRAPES			
Winemaking	808 443	801 460	701 649
Drying	124 926	107 372	73 501
Table and other	46 234	46 065	41 686
Total production	979 603	954 896	816 836
Yield (t/ha)(a)	16.2	14.9	12.1
.....			
TOTAL GRAPES			
Winemaking	1 818 426	1 781 668	1 370 690
Drying	135 412	117 819	81 022
Table and other	72 662	81 710	78 727
Total production	2 026 500	1 981 198	1 530 439
Yield (t/ha)(a)	13.2	12.5	9.3

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

GRAPES(a), Australia, Production by selected variety (t)—Year ended 30 June 2007

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SELECTED RED GRAPES

Shiraz	283 747
Cabernet Sauvignon	183 057
Merlot	90 462
Pinot Noir	26 253
Ruby Cabernet	17 131

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SELECTED WHITE
GRAPES

Chardonnay	366 976
Sultana	93 098
Semillon	75 198
Colombard	56 301
Muscat Gordo Blanco	43 427

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(a) More detailed varietal information
will be available in *Australian
Wine and Grape Industry* (cat. no.
1329.0) due for release in
January 2008.

GRAPEVINES WATERED IN SEASON 2007, Australia (ha)

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SOURCE OF WATER

Surface water from state/private irrigation schemes	93 739
Other surface water	25 528
Underground water supply	37 496
Town or country reticulated water supply	4 333
Recycled water	3 201
Other	223
Not reported	10 287

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WATERING METHOD

Drip or micro spray	123 497
Furrow or flood	12 492
Spray or sprinkler	24 639
Other	71
Not reported	9 575

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents final estimates from the ABS collection Vineyards, 2007. Not all data from this collection are published here. Some further data including data for states and territories, and Australian Geographical Indications are available for a charge, 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 measure the industry's activity throughout Australia. The main user of this information is the Australian wine industry's Statistics Working Group (SWG), which is an industry body made up of representatives of all industry peak bodies and represents the views of the industry on statistical matters.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

3 Viticultural statistics relate to the year in which the harvest occurred and are derived from information obtained in a collection of all known growers.

4 The scope of the 2007 collection is based on establishments undertaking vineyards activity.

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

GENERAL

6 The estimates for earlier years shown in this publication have been revised where necessary.

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

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

8 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 either the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Nigel Gibson on (03) 6222 5940.

GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

9 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

10 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

Principal Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary, cat. no. 7111.0

Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced Australia, cat. no. 7503.0

Vineyards Estimates, Australia, Preliminary, cat. no. 1329.0.55.001

11 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

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