Image: Tom Overall

SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING AUSTRALIA

REGIONAL ANNUAL RESULTS

LANGHORNE CREEK 2023/2024

langhornecreek.com

SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING AUSTRALIA

LANGHORNE CREEK REGION WINE

SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING AUSTRALIA

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Sustainable Winegrowing Australia is Australia's national program for grapegrowers and winemakers to demonstrate and continuously improve their sustainability in the vineyard and winery through the environmental, social and economic aspects of their businesses.

The program takes a holistic approach to managing, supporting and promoting sustainability. It fosters stronger relationships between growers, wineries and their regions. It also provides authority and confidence to customers, who receive reliable certified produce to address growing global consumer demand. No matter where a grapegrower or winemaker is on the journey, the program is relevant and user-friendly.

Sustainable Winegrowing Australia is a voluntary program designed with flexibility to suit the changing goals and needs of all Australian grape and wine producers. It informs and contributes to the identification of priorities for wine industry research, development and extension activities and can be used by members for benchmarking.

The program is administered by the Australian Wine Research Institute with governance, endorsement and active support from Australian Grape & Wine and Wine Australia. The program is modelled on global best practices and aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, with progress towards these monitored annually.

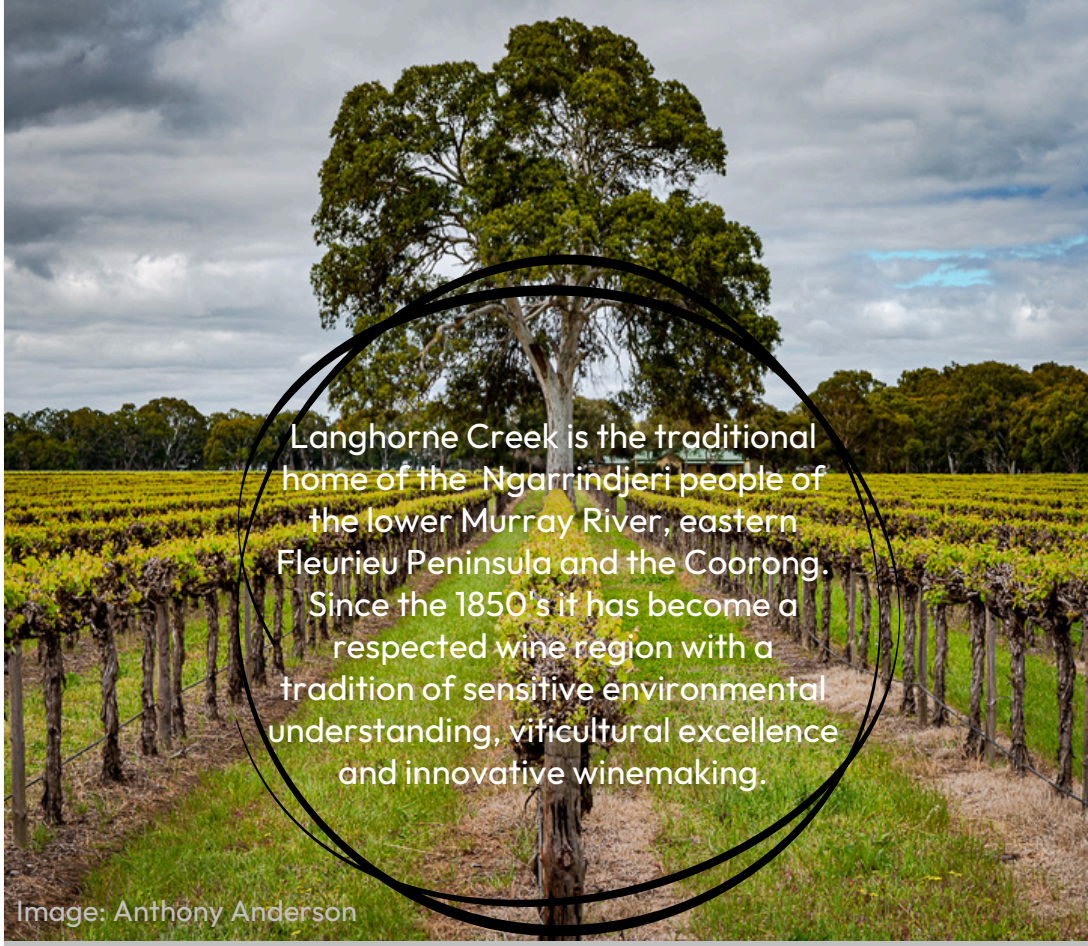


Image: Anthony Anderson

Sustainable Winegrowing Australia is a community of like-minded growers and winemakers who want to produce exceptional wines that make a positive difference for people and the planet.

SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING AUSTRALIA

BECOMING A CERTIFIED MEMBER

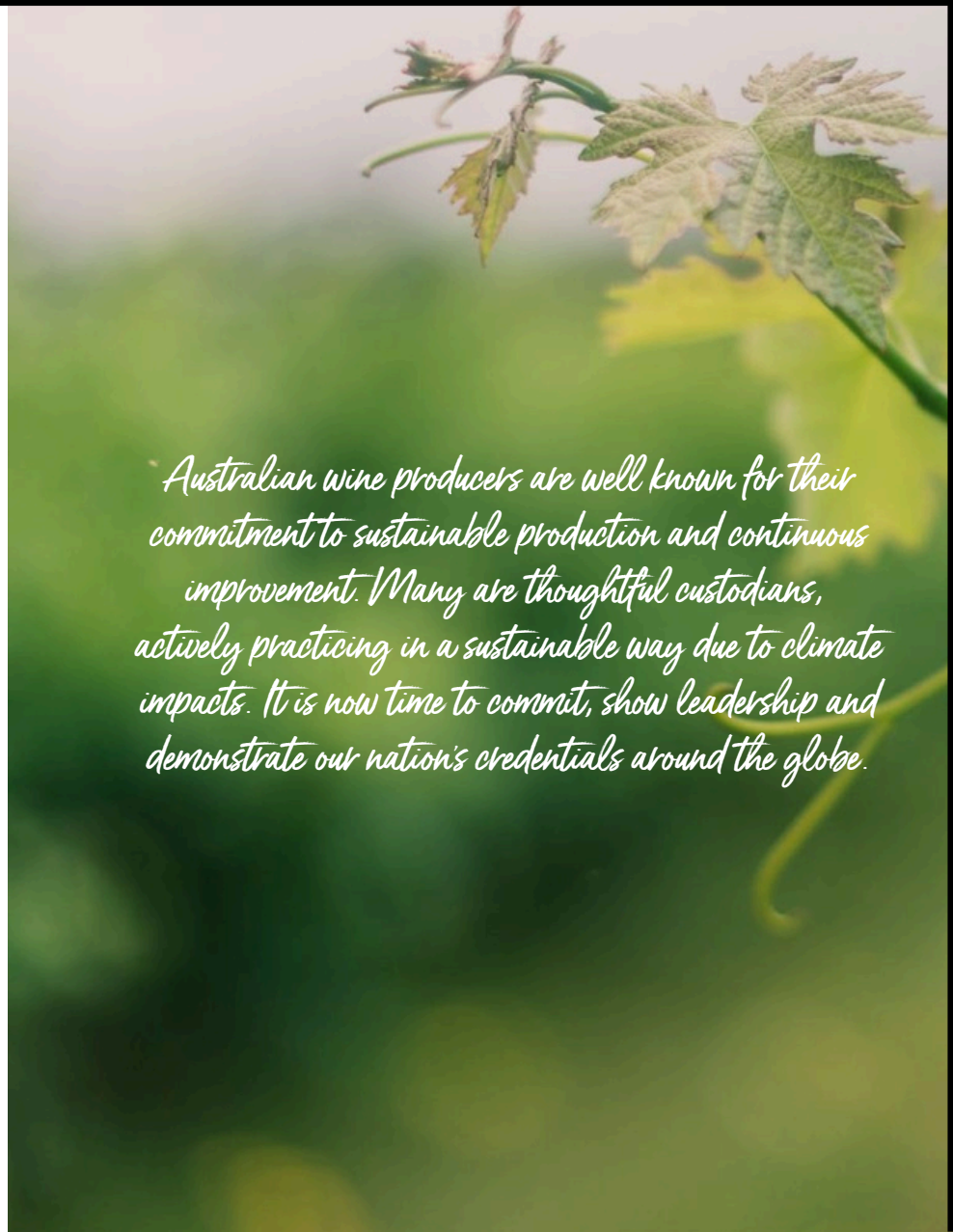
Sustainable Winegrowing Australia members wishing to become certified must complete an independent audit against the Australian Wine Industry Standards of Sustainable Practice (AWISSP) for Viticulture and Wineries.

To maintain certification, a successful audit must be undertaken every three years by an approved certification body.

Benefits of certification:

- peace of mind that your sustainability claims have been independently verified.
- use of a certified trust mark - an assurance to customers and consumers of how the product is produced
- enhanced international marketing through Wine Australia's marketing program
- integration of sustainability stories into Wine Australia's education and content for customers and consumers

Source: Sustainable Winegrowing Australia



MEMBERSHIP

Image: Jon Burke

34

CERTIFIED MEMBERS

Members who have participated in and passed an audit with an independent authority. Standards are maintained by Freshcare.

Image: Michelle Berkin

46

TOTAL MEMBERS

44 vineyard sites and 2 winery sites.

↑ 6 members from previous year

Image: Bronwyn Kirkman

82%

% OF TOTAL PLANTED AREA UNDER SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING AUSTRALIA

Source: ISA Winegrape Crush Survey, 2024. Wine Australia, July 2014.

VINEYARD SITES

4764

TOTAL VINEYARD HECTARES

Langhorne Creek vineyards with Sustainable Winegrowing Australia membership.

↑ 1448 hectares from previous year

Image: Jerida Burgess

5.2

TONNES / HECTARE

Average yield of Langhorne Creek Sustainable Winegrowing Australia vineyard members.

23,102

TONNES CRUSHED

Total crush of Langhorne Creek, red and white varieties.

Source: ISA Winegrape Crush Survey, 2024. Wine Australia, July 2014.

BIODIVERSITY

Image: Anna Cleggett

86%

BIODIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN

The % of members that have established a Sustainability Action Plan that addresses sustainability actions and protects assets. (vineyard).

651 Ha

BIODIVERSITY AREA

(Vineyards)

↑ 6% from previous year.

Image: Sally Duckworth

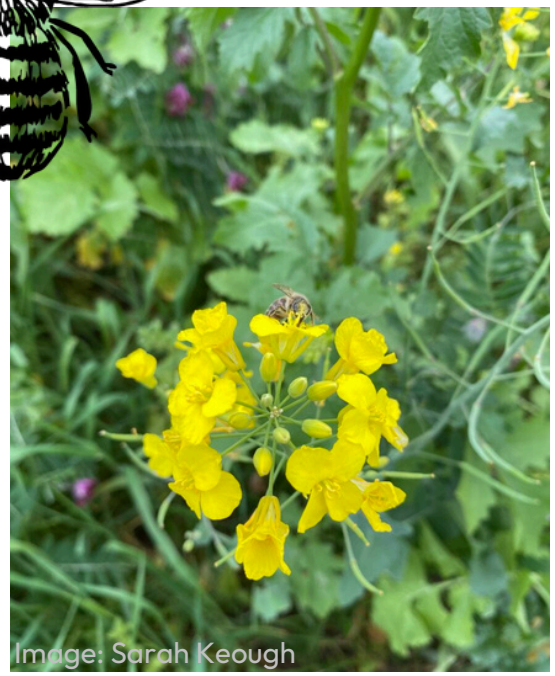


Image: Sarah Keough

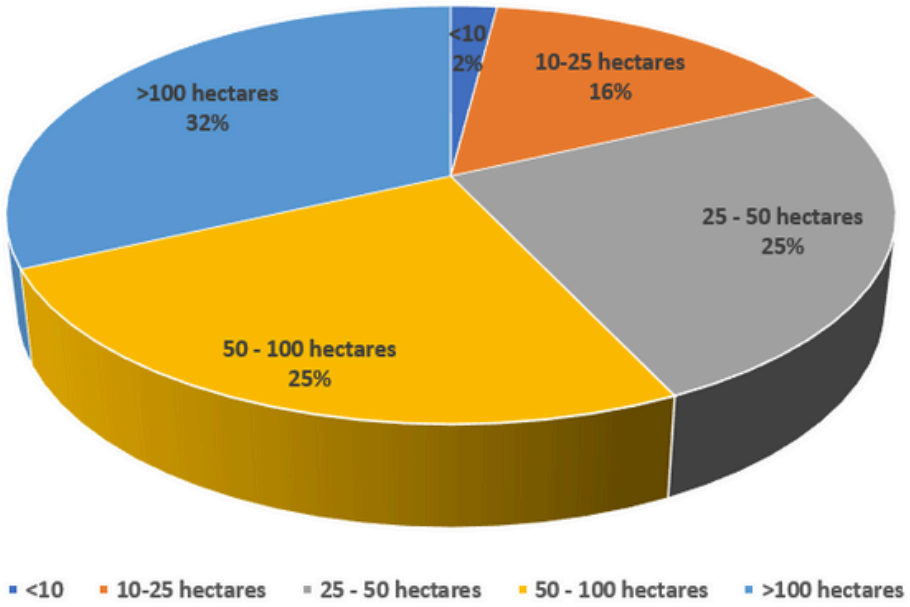
88%

BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS

88 % of members participating in on- or off-site biodiversity projects.

MEMBERS BY VINEYARD SIZE

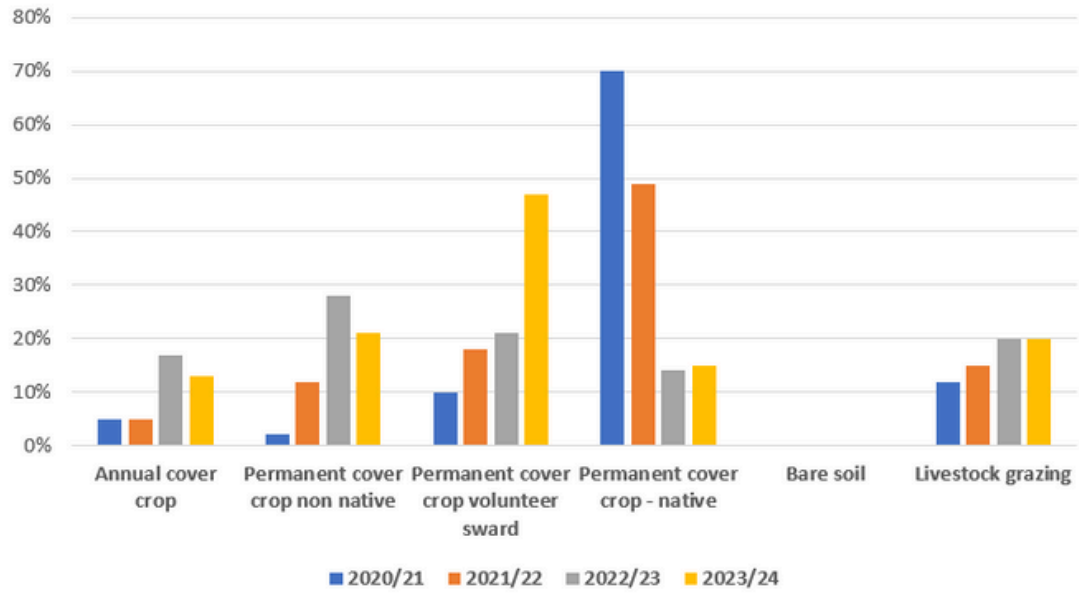
Percentage of Langhorne Creek members per vineyard size category



- Vineyards > 50 hectares comprise of 57% of the total vineyard member area. This indicates the larger enterprises are challenged to achieve improved efficiency in overall vineyard operation management.

LAND AND SOIL

Midrow soil management practices.



- Langhorne Creek winegrape growers apply several mid row management strategies to improve their soil health which prevents soil erosion, increases organic matter and enhances soil biodiversity.

VINEYARD

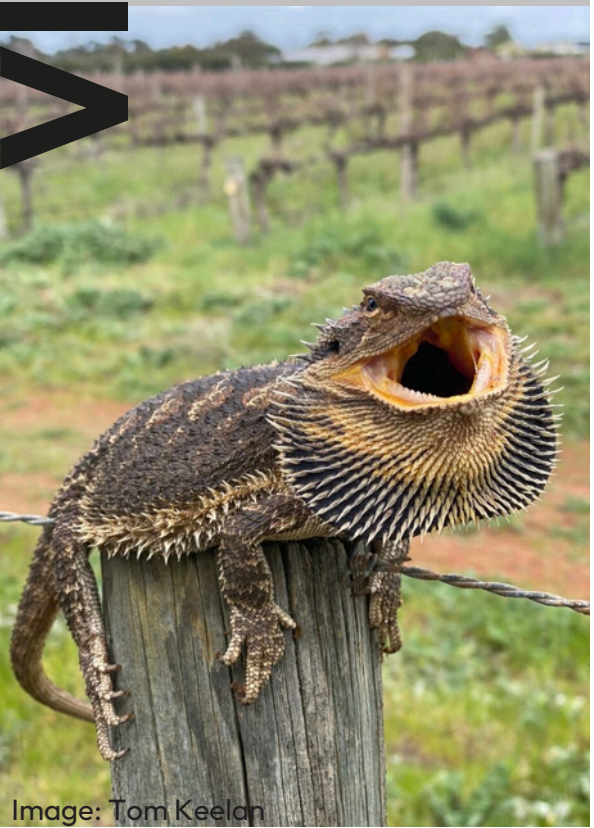


Image: Tom Keelan

BIOSECURITY

88%

Of businesses have a strong understanding of key biosecurity risk pathways and take action to manage them. The businesses are aware of key endemic and exotic pest biosecurity threats and impacts on vine health. 42 % of members are at best practice or above.

88%

Know the endemic and exotic pests of high priority to the wine industry. Vineyard monitoring is undertaken regularly. If unusual plant pests, diseases or weeds found, help is sought to identify the issue. 88% of members are at best practice or above.

53%

Source planting material from approved suppliers (e.g. accredited nurseries or vine improvement associations). A record of health status is/has been obtained prior to purchase. 63% of members are at best practice or above.

LAND, SOIL AND FERTILISER MANAGEMENT

70%

↑6% from previous year

Have identified major soil types and areas at risk or affected by degradation on a vineyard map(s) and staff are familiar with visible symptoms in grapevines affected by salinity, soil compaction, acidity or alkalinity.

70%

Fertiliser and soil additive application equipment is serviced and calibrated at least annually or as per manufacturer's instructions OR evidence of this is provided by the contractor. 47% of members are at best practice or above.

63%

Fertiliser storage and handling areas are located, constructed and maintained to minimise harm to off-target and sensitive areas from nutrient run-off or leaching.

PEST AND DISEASE

95%

Consider alerts from industry or qualified personnel. The vineyard is monitored and identified for pest, weed and disease and the weather observed. The main pests, weeds and disease are targeted at critical times of the year. 70% of members are at best practice or above.

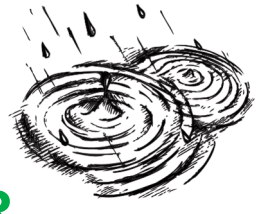
77%

Ensure spray equipment is maintained and checked for effective operation before and after each use. Before each spray round, spray unit filters and nozzles are checked. 70% members are at best practice or above.

84%

Check weather conditions regularly, and spraying is stopped if off-target spray drift is likely. 79% of members are at best practice or above.

VINEYARD



WATER

100% ↑ 6% from previous year

Understand rootzone and water holding capacity and consider when planning irrigation. Irrigation is based on soil moisture or leaf water data. Soil moisture is measured and monitored. 79% members are best practice or above.

77%

Have a plan for managing water. Irrigation is based on results of soil, crop or weather or a combination of. 65% members are at best practice or above.

100% ↑ 1% from previous year

Manage the impacts of adverse weather events using strategic irrigation application (if required) during these conditions. 95% of members are best practice or above.

WASTE, AIR, ENERGY & FUEL

81%

Separate waste into types and store to minimise the risk of contaminating on and off-site areas. The business takes all reasonable and practicable steps to contain or secure transported waste. 44% members are best practise or above.

84%

The business has a documented management program and have taken action to minimise the impacts on air quality. 42% of members are best practise or above.

86%

Ensure energy and fuel efficiency is a priority to the business and incorporated into selection and/or design of new premises, vehicles, machinery and equipment. 44% of members are best practise or above.

COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS

90%

Of businesses have decisions with purchasing winery(ies) or potential buyers and is aware of customer trends, grape/wine supply and demand and current market pricing. These influence sales/purchase negotiations. 68% of members are best practice or above.

77%

Conduct grape sales based on signed written contracts which include block information, agreed price, quality expectations and delivery location. 65% of members are best practice or above.

40%

Engage contractors based on references from other vineyards and/or based on previous engagement by the business. 74% members are best practice or above.

DOCUMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

100% ↑5% from previous year

Ensure vineyard operations which are relevant to the sale of grapes are communicated to purchasing wineries. 84% members are best practice or above.

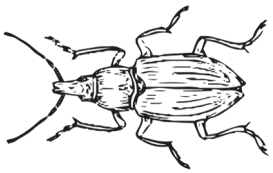
100%

The business has established a Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) to document action(s) planned to address sustainability issues and protect assets. The SAP is reviewed and updated at least annually with evidence to reflect progress. 51% of members are best practice or above.

95%

Of businesses record business activities. 60% members are best practice or above.

Two (2) Winery Sites are now registered as members under Sustainable Winegrowing Australia in the Langhorne Creek region.



BIOSECURITY

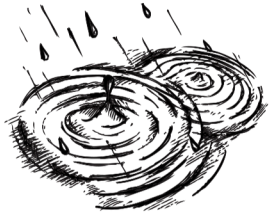
Wineries have a strong understanding of key biosecurity risks pathways and take action to manage them.

CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT

Wineries continue to improve their reference to purchase record inventories and current Safety Data Sheet (SDS) information to manage purchasing, transport, use and storage of hazardous chemicals.

WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT

Wineries exhibit excellence in ensuring winery wastewater and storm water drain into the wastewater capture and management system; and the volume of wastewater generated is measured and reviewed.



WATER

Wineries have a plan to monitor and manage water. Usage is monitored and recorded.

WASTE, AIR, ENERGY & FUEL

Wineries work to ensure waste is separated into types and stored to minimise the risk of contamination risks and take practicable steps to contain or secure transported waste.

COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS

Wineries engage with neighbours and the community when issues arise and contribute to the community in a positive way.

DOCUMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

Wineries are establishing Sustainability Action Plans to address sustainability issues, protect assets and document related actions.

SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING AUSTRALIA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Members of the Langhorne Creek wine region participating in the Sustainable Winegrowing Australia program.

- Australian Wine Research Institute and the related Sustainability Regional Network.

- Data collation and document co-ordination by Amanda Mader of Vine Scout/Gumpara Wines and Lian Jaensch of Langhorne Creek Grape and Wine Inc.

- Document template supplied by Wine Australia unless otherwise indicated. Photo images are supplied by Langhorne Creek Grape Wine Inc.

This is a shared success in leadership of our regional community and grape and wine community.

The Sustainable Wine Australia membership data contained in this report was provided to Langhorne Creek Wine Region by AWRI in an aggregated and de-identified format and was accurate at the time of receipt. For More information about Sustainable Winegrowing Australia , please visit: www.sustainablewinegrowing.com.au Disclaimer: This report summaries results from the supplied data. Every reasonable effort has been made to give reliable data and information. The publisher cannot assume responsibility for the validity of all material or the consequences of their use. Information in this report is published in good faith for general use and indicative purposes only.

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Australian Grape & Wine

Wine Australia

AWRI Australian Wine Research Institute