



SUSTAINABLE
WINEGROWING
AUSTRALIA



*A better kind
of wine*

**IMPACT
REPORT**

2022



We are always looking to the future and what we can do to improve, so that our children can do the same.

JUSTIN JARRETT, SEE SAW WINES
VINEYARD & WINERY MEMBER, ORANGE REGION

IT'S TIME FOR BETTER WINE

Welcome to the Sustainable Winegrowing Australia FY22 Impact Report. This is our second report for the program, which summarises the national dataset from the growers and wineries practising sustainably across the nation.

Australian grapegrowers and winemakers want to do better for the environment and communities, but don't always know how. Our program helps them formalise their approach, and put continuous improvement at the heart of their sustainability journey.

Our goal is for Australian wine's sustainability credentials to be recognised as world class, and to support our environmental, social and governance (ESG) credentials on the world stage.

We are encouraged by the momentum and increasing ambition of our growing membership. By working together across the industry and with the global supply-chain, we're confident we will achieve world-leading recognition.

By purchasing wines from a certified producer, consumers can feel confident that they're supporting sustainable-minded growers and winemakers, who are on a journey to shape the Australian wine community for good.

This report wouldn't be possible without the commitment of our members and the collaborators across our industry – all of whom share a passion in making a difference for the Australian wine community.


JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE



LEE MCLEAN
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Grape & Wine



MARTIN COLE
Chief Executive Officer
Wine Australia



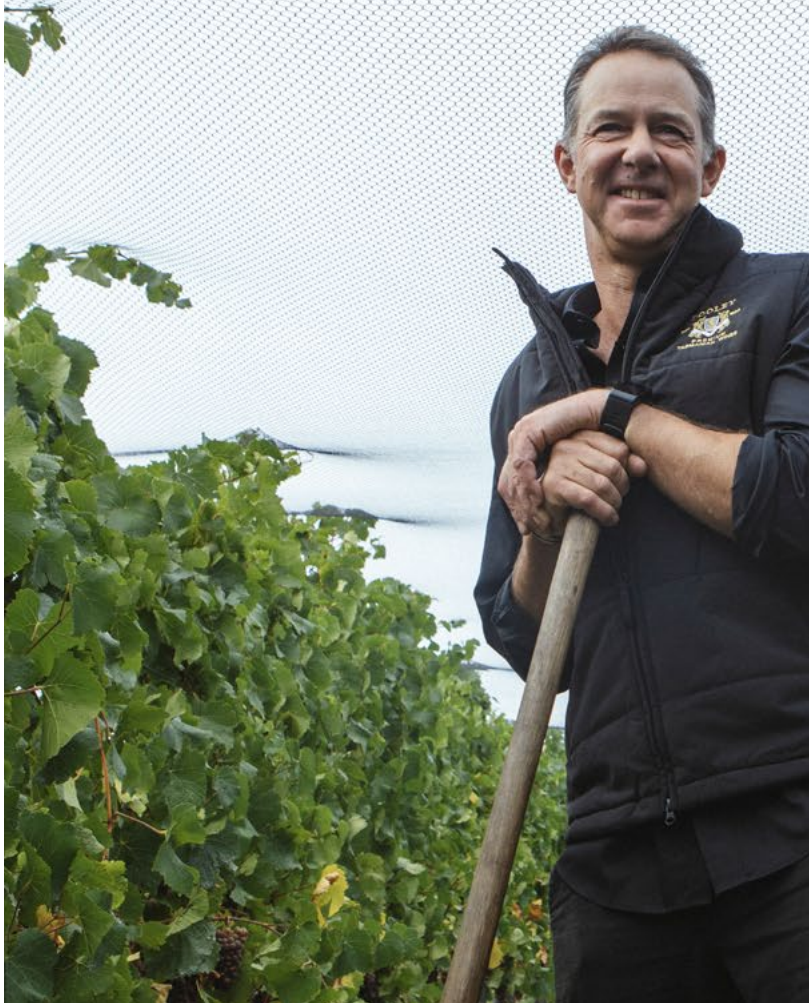
MARK KRSTIC
Managing Director
The Australian Wine
Research Institute

CONTENTS

Welcome	03
Why choose sustainably made wine?	04
Our growing impact	07
Our 2022 outcomes	12
Water	13
Biodiversity	14
Land & soil	15
Waste	16
People & business	17
Members Snapshot	27
What's next?	28
Best practice	30

This report uses annual data from 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022. Grapegrowers, wineries and wine businesses completed reporting by 31 August 2022.

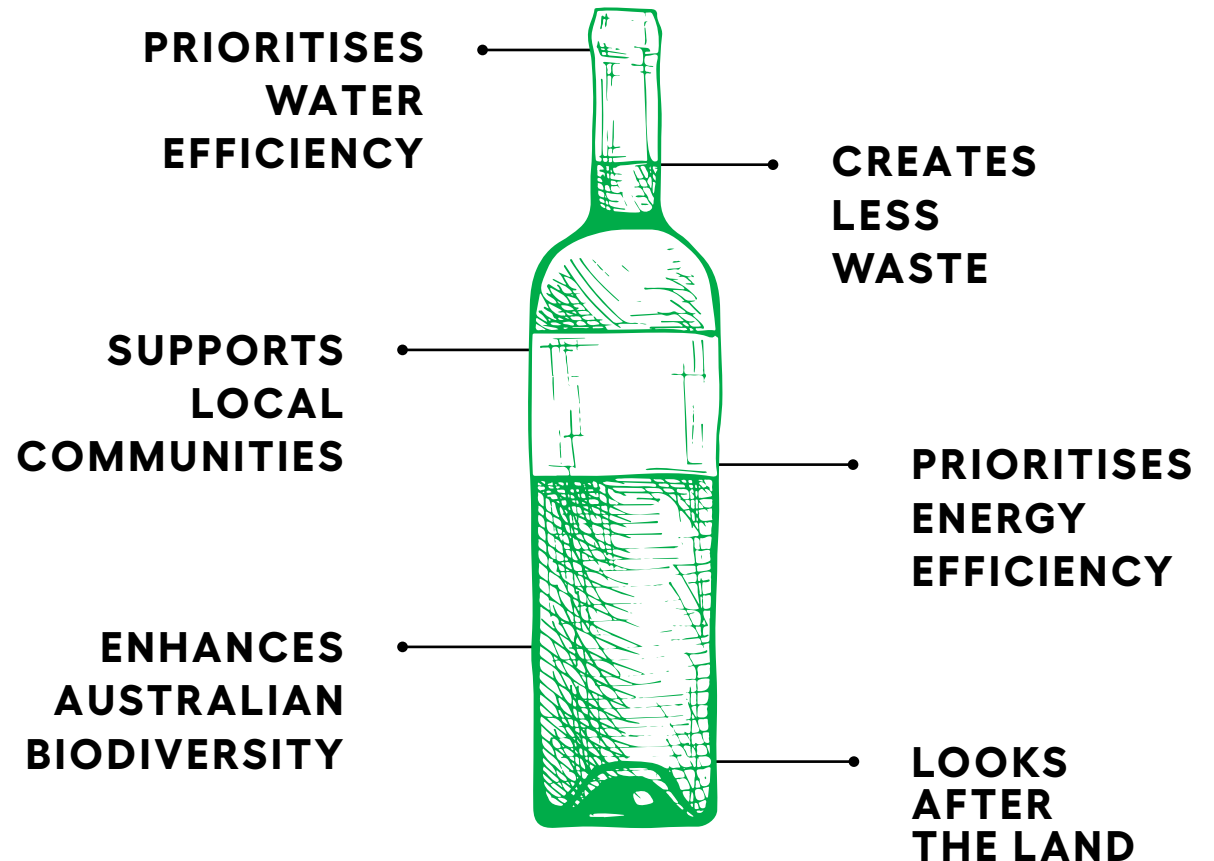
WHY CHOOSE SUSTAINABLY MADE WINE?



MATT POOLEY, POOLEY WINES, RICHMOND, VINEYARD MEMBER

Wine is a product of nature, so it's important we take care of it. Like all agricultural industries, Australian grapegrowers and winemakers are rethinking their methods to do less harm and more good - for the land, their business and for future generations.

After all, when we protect the planet, we protect our favourite drops.



65%

of Australian wine drinkers prefer sustainably made wine.¹

1 IWSR, Wine Intelligence, SOLA, 2023

Many of Australia's favourite wine brands are now grown and made by sustainably certified vineyards and wineries.

SIMON ROBERTSON, DEVIL'S LAIR, MARGARET RIVER, **VINEYARD & WINERY CERTIFIED MEMBER**



“

TESTIMONIAL

I care about what I consume and how that impacts the planet, so it only made sense to start choosing wine that is sustainably made.

MILLENNIAL, 35

”



BIG TRENDS WE'RE SEEING



AUSTRALIANS WANT ACTION

78%

consider a brand's social and environmental actions when making a purchase.²

SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION MATTERS

54%

of global wine drinkers only trust sustainable wine that is officially certified.³

“

So many things are labeled as 'sustainable'. It's good to know there's an independent standard backing it up.

MILLENIAL, 27

”

² The Power and The Passion consumer report, Republic of Everyone, 2021

³ IWSR, Wine Intelligence, SOLA, 2023

OUR GROWING IMPACT

807

**MEMBER
VINEYARDS**

42% increase on FY21

75%

of Australia's wine and grape
growing regions are represented
in our member base.

41%

**OF TOTAL
PRODUCTION**

90% increase on FY21

113

**MEMBER
WINERIES**

80% increase on FY21

37%

**OF AUSTRALIA'S TOTAL
VINEYARD AREA**

38% increase on FY21

48%

Overall increase in
membership in FY22





**NATIVE
VEGETATION**

to support a
healthy ecosystem

**MIDROW
PLANTING**

to enhance
soil carbon

**HOMEMADE
COMPOSTING**

to keep nutrients circulating

**WINTER SHEEP
GRAZING**

to reduce
chemical inputs

**PRECISE
IRRIGATION**

to avoid wasting
a single drop

The sustainable
VINEYARD

Best practice
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY
MEASURES**

Working with suppliers
**TO MINIMISE
PACKAGING
AND WASTE**

Introducing
ELECTRIC VEHICLES

On-site
RENEWABLE ENERGY

Best practice
**WATER USE
EFFICIENCY**

Land dedicated to
**ENHANCING
BIODIVERSITY**

The sustainable **WINERY**

A MARK THAT CONSUMERS TRUST



242⁴

wine labels now have the Sustainable Winegrowing Australia certification mark.

Our industry-first trust mark is backed by a rigorous third-party certification process maintained by Freshcare. Because to raise a glass to world-class sustainability leaders, consumers need to be able to spot them on the shelf.

4 As at 20 February 2023





**IN JUST
THREE YEARS
WE'VE SUPPORTED
AUSTRALIAN GRAPE AND WINE
BUSINESSES TO BECOME
MORE SUSTAINABLE,
REPRESENTING 41% OF TOTAL TONNES
CRUSHED & 37% OF TOTAL VINEYARD AREA.**

**HERE'S THE
STORY SO FAR**

2022

A very good year

WATER

84%



of wineries have taken some action to actively manage water efficiently.

ENERGY

100%



of members are measuring and reporting scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions.

BIODIVERSITY

74%



of vineyard members dedicate land to biodiversity enhancement.

LAND & SOIL

50%



of vineyards use best practice soil nutrient management.

WASTE

100%



of members are measuring, monitoring and reporting waste generation, recycling and re-use.

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

84%

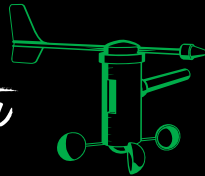


of wineries contribute to their communities in a positive way.

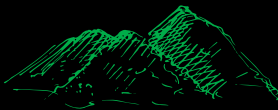


WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING

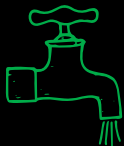
Using weather data



Monitoring soil moisture



Measuring vine water demand



Irrigation accounts for **70%** of water use worldwide.⁵

But where there are big challenges, there are big opportunities to make a difference.

Our members strive to maximise their water use efficiency in their vineyards and wineries.

Together, we can future-proof against drought and scarcity.

5 Measuring progress in agricultural water management, OECD Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Papers. 2021.

Vineyards

91%

plan, monitor and actively manage water efficiently.

44%

have best practice measures in place.

Wineries

84%

plan, monitor and actively manage water efficiently.

37%

have best practice measures in place.

HARNESSING THE POWER OF THE SUN

WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING

Shifting to
renewables 

Piloting
electric vehicles 

Reducing
grid reliance 

The climate is critical to the wine industry,
so it's in the interest of Aussie growers
and makers to get on the front foot.

Our forward-thinking members harness the sun's energy to do more than ripen grapes. Energy savings are cost savings, and moving to renewable energy makes more sense than ever before.

Reducing emissions is good for business. Switching to renewable energy sources helps to reduce the advancement of climate change and its impacts on the wine industry.

Vineyards

79%

have taken action and are prioritising energy efficient practices in the vineyard.

51%

have best practice measures in place.

Wineries

85%

have prioritised energy efficiency for new plant and equipment.

51%

have best practice measures in place.

BRINGING IN LIFE THAT SUPPORTS LIFE

WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING

*Replacing some
chemicals with alternative
weed and pest controls*



*Restoring native
flora and fauna*



*Contributing to local
biodiversity projects*



Healthy ecosystems support healthy vineyards.

Integrating biodiversity in an intelligent way means that growers can support beneficial insects, and replace some chemicals with natural weed and pest control.

Consumers increasingly want to know that the wine they purchase supports the environment. Our members are helping to restore flora and fauna on their land.

Vineyards

74%

have taken action to protect and enhance biodiversity on their farm.

36%

have best practice measures in place.

Wineries

66%

have taken action to protect and enhance existing biodiversity on the property.

27%

have best practice measures in place.

LOOKING AFTER THE LAND

WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING

*Good nutrient
management*



*Pest management
with less chemicals*



*Restoring biologically
rich land with
homemade compost*



The quality of our future wine is determined by *how we manage soil today.*

Our members are protecting and enhancing their soil, so it can provide vital nutrients for long-term productivity.

Healthy, living soil with a robust microbial network isn't just good for the grapevine. It also stores more carbon and water, and is an important piece of the climate puzzle.

Vineyards

65%

have a documented nutrient management program for land and soil.

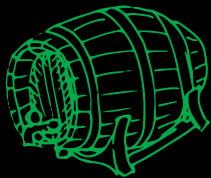
50%

have best practice measures in place.



WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING

Minimising packaging



Using grape marc as compost



Restoring biologically rich land with compost



Together our members have diverted *more than half* of all winery waste.

Our members work hard to avoid, reduce and find innovative uses for their waste. Together they're helping the Australian wine community move towards *its zero waste target by 2050.*

Less waste means less resource inputs and reduced disposal costs. Making savvy changes is good for the planet and the bottom line.

Vineyards

79%

have taken some action to reduce waste to landfill, with recycling and reuse options identified.

37%

have best practice measures in place.

Wineries

87%

have taken some action to reduce waste to landfill, with recycling and reuse options identified.

42%

have best practice measures in place.



WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING

Supporting community groups 

Sponsoring sports clubs 

Helping homeless shelters 

By striving to be better, our members achieve business efficiencies and foster stronger relationships with their supply chain and local communities.

Social needs, climate and the environment remain firmly at the forefront of consumers' mind. That means that doing better for people and the planet is better for brands.

Vineyards

86%

have contributed to their communities in a positive way.

47%

have a best practice approach and the business contributes to at least one community initiative.

Wineries

94%

have contributed to their communities in a positive way.

59%

have a best practice approach and the business contributes to at least one community initiative.

A large, modern wine cellar with rows of wooden barrels and concrete pillars. The ceiling is high and features circular recessed lighting. The barrels are arranged in long, parallel rows, creating a sense of depth and scale. The overall atmosphere is clean and professional.

LET'S TOUR OUR CERTIFIED MEMBERS' WINERIES AND VINEYARDS

THE TRAILBLAZER

FABAL VINEYARDS

FABAL Vineyards has 19 fully certified vineyards across the country, each with different challenges and opportunities.

Their Barossa Sheoak Log site recently completed a 2-year program to apply over 80,000 cubic metres of composted green organic waste under the vines, which reduced water application by 20% for a given yield. The compost also removed the need for inorganic fertilisers in the first year, and reduced it by 75% in the second.



THE BAROSSA REGION, SA



ZERO

**inorganic
fertilisers needed**
in the first year of applying
composted organics



THE VISIONARY



CHALMERS

With the right vision and the right ingredients, Chalmers have continued to push the boundaries.

For over 20 years, Chalmers has led the industry in water-efficient viticulture. Their Merbein vineyard used only 64% of the regional average irrigation water to grow their 2022 vintage, at just 4.3 megalitres per hectare – the equivalent of 430mm rainfall.

Using sun loving varieties, drought tolerant rootstocks, and high soil carbon in all vineyards, while experimenting with low-density bush vines to test the limits of dry growing, Chalmers continues to grow widely acclaimed wines.

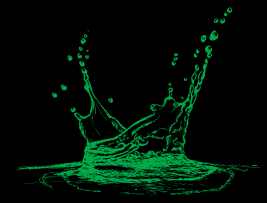


**MURRAY DARLING
& HEATHCOTE
REGION, VICTORIA**

36%

**less irrigation
water**

than average wine
growers in the region



THE BIG PICTURE

STANTON & KILLEEN

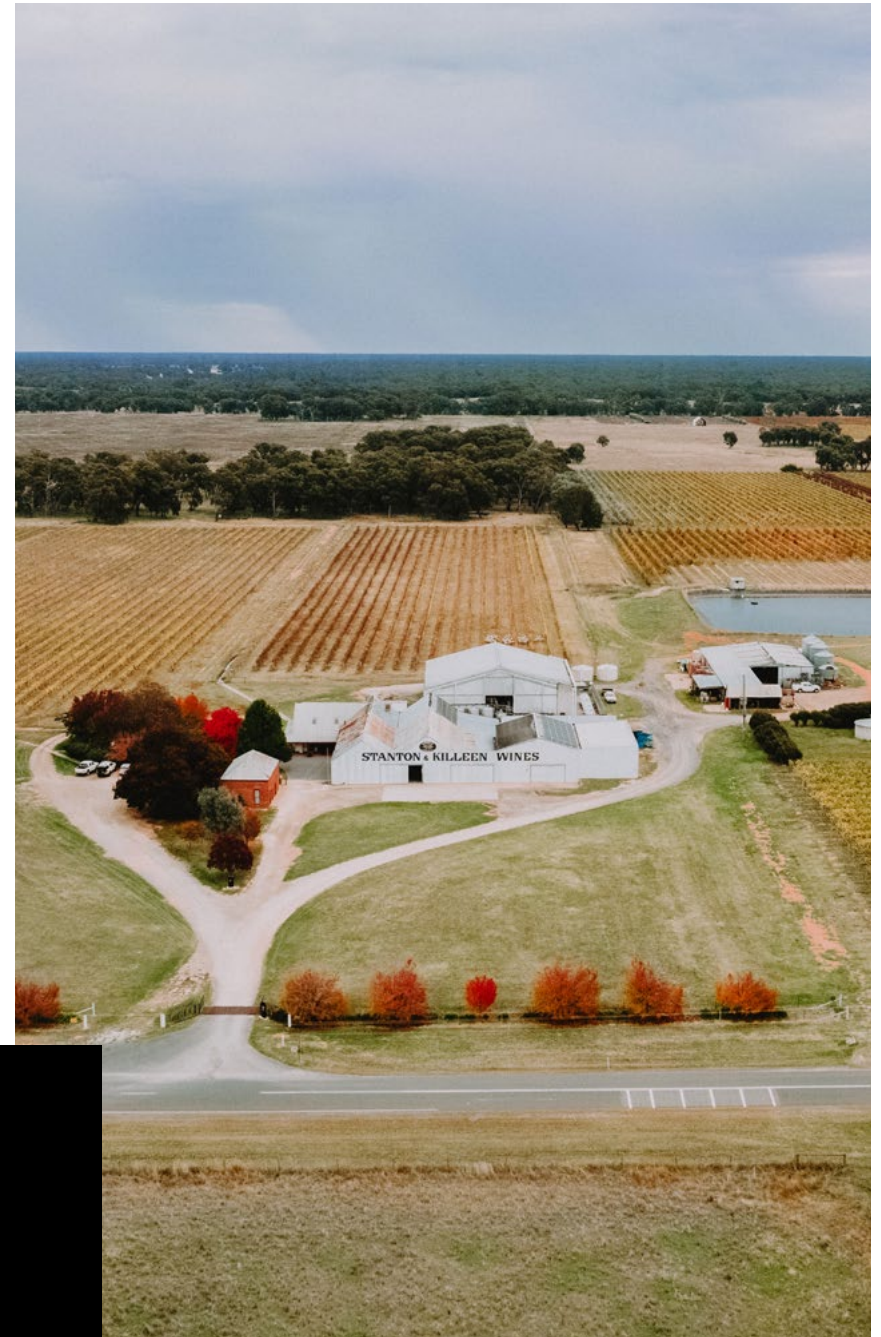
By focusing on the big picture and introducing energy initiatives, Stanton & Killeen achieved a true win-win for profits and the planet.



For seven generations and over 150 years, sustainability has been at the heart of Stanton & Killeen.

An energy audit in 2019 sparked several new initiatives, including a 54 kW solar system, insulating the sun-exposed walls of the temperature-controlled Barrel Hall, installing a misting system on the refrigeration unit, and upgrading the insulation to the winery refrigeration.

As well as improving wine quality, extending the life of equipment, and reducing labour hours, these changes abated 44% of total farm emissions, reduced electricity use by 26%, and cut power costs by 44%.



44%

reduction in
total farm
energy costs



THE COLLABORATORS



YALUMBA

In 2021, Yalumba started a project to support 100% of their growers to achieve certification with Sustainable Winegrowing Australia.

For more than six generations, Yalumba has been growing and crafting quality wine.

Their project to certify all their growers included hosting training sessions at the winery and vineyard. The project was achieved a year ahead of schedule, with 100% certification across Barossa and Eden Valley vineyards ahead of the 2023 vintage.

This success is attributed to the longstanding partnership Yalumba has with its growers, having worked with them on a continuous improvement program since the early 1990s.



THE BAROSSA REGION, SA

100%

of Yalumba's grower network is certified with Sustainable Winegrowing Australia



THE FUTURIST

MCELROY FAMILY VINEYARD

Situated at the gateway of the Limestone Coast, The McElroy Family is making tech-driven sustainable changes.



PADTHAWAY
REGION, SA

With large scale solar and tech-enabled precision irrigation, they're preserving precious resources for future generations.

An 11-hectare solar site generates 10,987,000 kWh of renewable energy each year, enough to power over 2,000 households. They've also partnered with Athena IR-Tech to monitor and irrigate their vines with precision. This system gives immediate readings of canopy temperature, humidity, solar radiation, and rainfall, which is used alongside soil moisture monitors.

10,987,000 kWh
of solar energy
each year,

enough to power over

2000

households





VOYAGER ESTATE

Voyager Estate is helping to restore the biodiverse Boodjidup catchment region.



Voyager has undertaken a 15-year revegetation program. Between 2009 and 2017, extensive planting increased their biodiversity area by 68%. Native planting along the river and dams has increased bird and frog populations, prevented erosion, and improved overall water quality.

The network of protected biodiverse corridors alongside the vineyards also provide habitat for beneficial insects, a critical component of their integrated pest management system.

Voyager's biodiversity area is in the top 10% of all our members.

60,000+

**native trees
planted**
in 15 years



THE PIONEERS

JANSZ TASMANIA

Jansz's two-year old winery was designed and built with sustainability at its core.

This state-of-the-art winery was consciously engineered to craft world-class sparkling wines with an emphasis on sustainability. The winery uses the latest processing and filtration technology and the most energy efficient refrigeration.

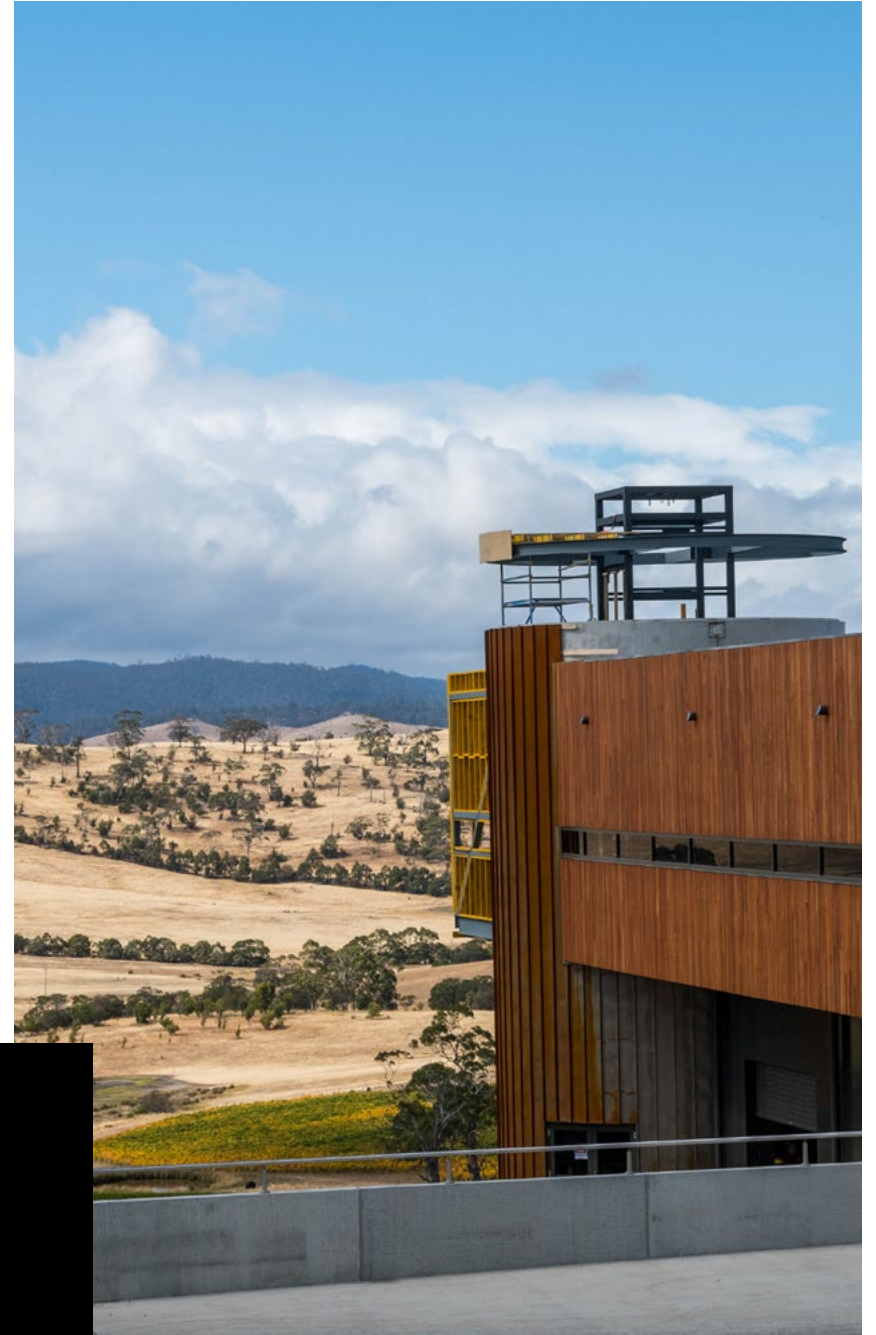
An onsite wastewater plant captures all water for reuse on the vineyards, and waste is repurposed into mulch and compost. These initiatives save both water and energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions per tonne of grapes crushed. The establishment of the winery also drastically reduced transport costs, by enabling grapes to be processed onsite.



COAL RIVER VALLEY, TAS

LESS

**water, energy and
greenhouse gases**
per tonne of grapes crushed



WHO'S WITH US?

A snapshot of our certified producers



ANGOVE
SINCE 1886
FAMILY WINEMAKERS

BASSHAM WINES

BELVIDERE
WINERY

THE POTTS FAMILY
BLEASDALE
EST. 1850

BROKENWOOD
HUNTER VALLEY

BYRNE
VINEYARDS

CAPE MENTELLE
MARGARET RIVER



CHAPEL HILL

Coldstream Mills

ESTD 1928
DeBORTOLI
FAMILY WINEMAKERS



DEVIL'S LAIR
Margaret River

DUXTON
VINEYARDS

Elderston

Gemtree

H
HAYES FAMILY WINES
BAROSSA VALLEY

H
HICKINBOTHAM
CLARENDON VINEYARD

HILL-SMITH
FAMILY ESTATES

HOWARD PARK
MARGARET RIVER & GREAT SOUTHERN

KAY BROTHERS
McLaren Vale

LAKE MOODEMERE
ESTATE
Rutherglen

LEEUWIN ESTATE
THE ART OF FINE WINE



LIEBICH
FAMILY VINEYARDS

ESTD 1843
L
LINDEMAN'S

Margan
SINGLE VINEYARD / SUSTAINABLY FARMED

naturaliste
VINTNERS

OAKRIDGE

Orbi's



Penfold's

Pernod Ricard Winemakers

RYMILL
COONAWARRA

SEPPELT
FOUNDED 1851

SHERWOOD
ESTATES



TAHBILK
EST. 1860

TAYLORS

THORN-CLARKE

WIRRA WIRRA

WYNNS
COONAWARRA ESTATE

XANADU

YANGARRA
ESTATE VINEYARD

WHAT'S NEXT?



*Our mission is to help make
the entire Australian wine
community more sustainable.*

Our members are
continually improving.

Together, we're striving to make the Australian wine community a global leader in social, economic and environmental best practice — protecting the distinctive land, robust vines and quality wines that we're famous for.

MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE IN WINE

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

The program is working hard to help the sector achieve its 2050 Net Zero carbon emissions and waste targets. It's a collective effort for the wine sector, by the wine sector. Members are required to report annually during July/August for the financial year (1 July - 30 June). By taking a holistic approach to sustainability, we're supporting our community through:

Benchmarking

Putting Australian grapegrowers and winemakers on a pathway of continuous improvement.

Certification

Helping growers and winemakers formalise their approach and efforts.

Advocacy

Working to change the industry for good by encouraging our Australian wine community to care about environmental, economic and social best practice.



MITCHELL TAYLOR, TAYLORS WINES, CLARE VALLEY, VINEYARD & WINERY CERTIFIED MEMBER

WHAT DOES BEST PRACTICE LOOK LIKE?

All members must complete an annual workbook of their vineyard and/or winery practices by self-rating their performance every financial year. This report covers the 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 period. The workbook includes chapters on land and soil, water, waste management, biodiversity, energy, chemicals, pest and disease, biosecurity, business and community impact.

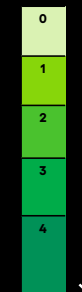
The sections of each chapter contain a set of statements outlining different levels of activity towards achieving best practice.

Members who become certified have had their self-assessment verified by an independent audit. This audit assesses activity against the The Freshcare Australian Wine Industry Standards of Sustainable Practice.

WORKBOOK EXAMPLE

ENERGY EFFICIENCY OPERATING PRACTICES

- Efficient operating practices for the premises, vehicles, machinery, and equipment are **not known**.
- Efficient operating practices for the premises, vehicles, machinery, and equipment **are known**.
- Efficient operating practices for the premises, vehicles, machinery, and equipment **are identified and implemented in the business**.
- Opportunities for improvements in energy efficiency are documented in the Sustainability Action Plan.
- The business has conducted an energy audit in the past two years and understands the efficiency of all plant and equipment; energy efficient operating practices are known and adhered to by all workers. In- (4) efficient plant and equipment have been replaced by more energy efficient choices.



A guide to the scores is:

- 0 Unknown status
- 1 Knowledge
- 2 Actions taken
- 3 Industry best practice
- 4 Continuous improvement in place

*The Sustainable Winegrowing Australia membership data contained in this report was provided to [Region name] by the Australian Wine Research Institute in an aggregated and de-identified format and was accurate at [date]. Under Creative Commons Licensing, for reproduction or usage of this publication, permission must be sought from the Australian Wine Research Institute (AWRI) or [Region name].

Increasing sustainability



SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING AUSTRALIA

sustainablewinegrowing.com.au

A collaborative partnership, for the sector by the sector:



Wine
Australia

AWRI Australian
Wine
Research
Institute