



Outbreak plans, survey results and more

What would an outbreak of phylloxera mean for Coonawarra, McLaren Vale or any of our other wonderful wine regions in SA? That's a question we constantly ask ourselves at Vinehealth Australia. We've been involved in outbreak simulations to explore this topic, and now we're putting what we know into practical use, by writing a new Outbreak Response Plan for South Australia. As part of that process, we are reviewing the current Outbreak Plan with a view to making it more robust, responsive and effective in managing an incursion of phylloxera, while minimising economic and social impacts.

Of course, the last thing we want is a phylloxera – or any exotic pest – outbreak in this state, but we wouldn't be doing our jobs if we didn't plan for this undesirable scenario.

We're working on South Australia's Outbreak Response Plan now, and we'll have a draft plan for review later this year.

We've also been busy speaking at various wine industry events, such as the recent ASVO Workshop in Mildura, communicating with growers and winemakers about the new DNA

Method of phylloxera detection, which was developed in a recent nationally-funded project (see below). This project, led by Vinehealth Australia, delivered significant advancement in the ability of industry and regulators to detect phylloxera, and therefore manage the impact of this devastating insect on vines.

Also below, we share some of the results of our South Australian Vineyard Owners survey, conducted in May/June. It was pleasing to see a healthy response to the survey – the response rate was 11% higher than our last survey in 2015. Thank you for supporting this important piece of work.

We do need to remind SA vineyard owners who haven't paid their Vinehealth levy that payments are due by 24 August. After this date, penalties will apply. Statements have been recently posted out to vineyard owners with outstanding levies owing. Please do not hesitate to contact Jo Bainbridge, our Office Manager, on (08) 8273 0550 if you have any concerns about payment.

Inca Pearce

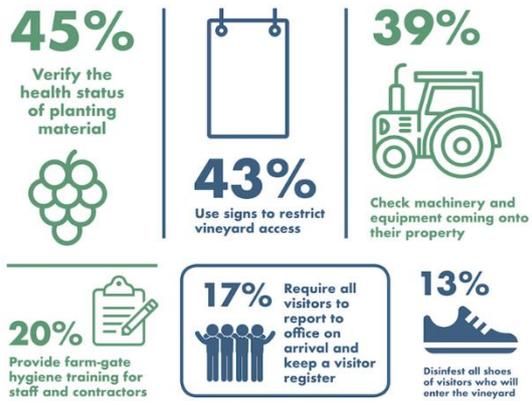
CEO Vinehealth Australia

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Source: Vinehealth Australia 2018 South Australian Vineyard Owner Survey



Survey reveals work required

The 2018 South Australian Vineyard Owner Survey, conducted by Vinehealth Australia, revealed that while most growers regularly inspect their vines for signs of anything unusual, only 20% provide farm-gate hygiene training for staff and contractors.

And only 17% require visitors to report to an office and sign in on arrival.

[Read more](#)

Peter Bird: apathy is rife

Recently when asked what the big issue in biosecurity is, Casella's South Australian Vineyard Manager Peter Bird paused, then reluctantly responded: "grower apathy". "And I include myself in that!" says Peter, who oversees 3,800 hectares of Casella vines across every SA wine region as well as 90 hectares of his own vines in Wrattenbully.

[Read more](#)





Big boost for wine tourism biosecurity

The Responsible Visitation Campaign (RVC), which educates tourism operators and visitors about their role in keeping SA vines healthy, has been funded for another series of activities. In RVC 2, the focus will be on educating bus companies and tour operators in the Adelaide CBD and SA wine regions. Our aim is for visitors to know biosecurity expectations before they get to the cellar door.

[Read more](#)

New phylloxera detection method

Vinehealth Australia was the lead agency in a recently-completed collaborative research project, to develop a new phylloxera detection system using DNA extracted from soil samples. This research project has successfully developed a field soil sampling protocol and validated a diagnostic protocol using qPCR (quantitative polymerase chain reaction) for the detection and quantification of phylloxera ('DNA method').

[Read more](#)





NOT IN SA
KEEP IT THAT WAY

Show us your stickers

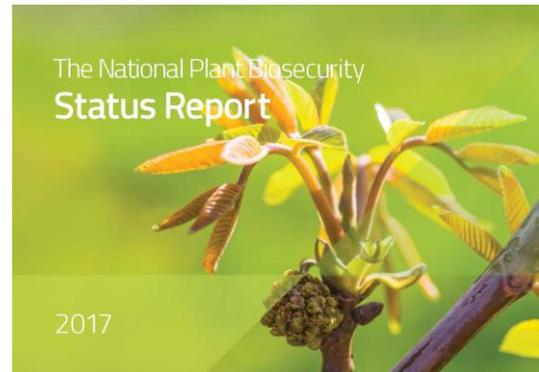
In June, we posted two eye catching bumper stickers to every registered vineyard owner in South Australia. We hope to see these stickers displayed with pride on the back of every wine industry vehicle in the state as a way to spread the message about keeping SA phylloxera free. We're continuing the push and recently posted out more than 1,700 stickers to regional wine industry associations and to the largest growers in SA, for distribution to staff and visitors.

[Read more](#)

Australia's biosecurity performance examined

The latest go-to guide on how Australia is being protected against plant pests and diseases – the 10th *National Plant Biosecurity Status Report* – reveals the tremendous effort being made across the country to sustain our plant industries.

[Read more](#)





Deer fences and phylloxera

Are Australian growers investing enough in biosecurity 'must haves' such as rootstocks and fences around vineyards?

Speaking at the recent ASVO Innovation Seminar in Mildura about living with phylloxera, Andy Clarke, Chief Viticulturist at Yering Station in the Yarra Valley, questioned the Australian wine industry's investment in vineyard protection tools, comparing it to the Hills Wine District of Texas where deer fences to protect crops are a given.

[Read more](#)

Creative signs getting attention

We're passionate about biosecurity signs at Vinehealth Australia – we have farm-gate signs and tourist signs on offer via our website. And we're pleased to see some interesting and creative biosecurity signs popping up around Australia. The 'Humanoid Exclusion Zone' sign at MONA in Hobart is a cheeky way to keep visitors out of the vineyard.

[Read more](#)





Phil at The Show!

Planning a visit to The Royal Adelaide Show? Come and see us on Wednesday 5 September in the Farm Expo Pavilion! We're co-hosting the PIRSA stand that day, talking all things biosecurity and vine health.

Our trusty mascot, Phil the Phylloxera Guy, will be making an appearance at 11am, 1pm and 3pm, communicating with visitors about the need to stay out of vineyards. This is part of the Responsible Visitation Campaign that aims to educate tourists about their role in vine health.

[Read more](#)

Collaboration pays

While many consider international meetings of wine groups to be 'junkets', an article in the *Napa Valley Register* has painted these gatherings in a new light.

'*The junket that saved Napa Valley's wine industry*', an article by Henry Lutz, explores the money spent on membership of the Great Wine Capitals group, and the benefits of membership, in particular, boosts to knowledge during the European grapevine moth outbreak.

[Read more](#)

Wine Industry

The 'junket' that saved Napa Valley's wine industry

Henry Lutz hlutz@napanews.com Jun 25, 2018 Updated 15 hrs ago



Verona, Italy, site of this week's Great Wine Capitals session.

BUY NC



Seasonal workers: when sharing isn't caring

Delicious fruit and vegetables are picked all year round in South Australia, from grapes to apples to citrus to strawberries and capsicums. There are plenty of opportunities for seasonal workers to travel between farms and regions, picking produce and earning money.

But did you know that people can unknowingly spread pests, diseases and weed seeds on their shoes, clothing, equipment and vehicles as they move from farm to farm, and region to region?

[Read more](#)

I'm a survivor

Vineyard owners should ask visitors where they have been in the past three weeks, rather than eight days. As advised in our January e-news, this change has been prompted by improved knowledge of phylloxera survival rates.

We subsequently changed our [Top 10 Biosecurity Risks Poster](#), which you can [download here](#).

[Read more](#)





2018 Crush Survey Report released

The total reported crush of South Australian winegrapes in 2018 was 747,361 tonnes, a 13 percent drop on the above-average 2017 crush of 863,279 tonnes.

This is just one statistic from the 2018 South Australian Winegrape Crush Survey Report, which has just been released by Wine Australia. Vinehealth Australia contributed vineyard planting data from the SA register.

[Read more](#)

Biosecurity tips



- Hosting Visitors Tip#2: Invest in biosecurity training and education for your staff. This includes keeping visitors out of vine rows and managing visitor movement on your property. #Vinehealth
- Hosting Visitors Tip#3: Review your marketing material. Are you showing images encouraging visitors to walk down your vine rows? #Vinehealth
- Hosting Visitors Tip#4: Use a [visitor sign-in register](#) to keep a record of who is visiting and their travels to other wine regions in the previous three weeks.

For large accompanied groups, obtain this information from the tour organiser. #Vinehealth

- Hosting Visitors Tip#5: Ensure staff have good knowledge of the latest [Phylloxera Management Zones map](#) and identification of risky locations. #Vinehealth
- Hosting Visitors Tip#6: Instruct visitors to your site to park their vehicles in a designated (preferably hard-stand) car park away from vines and check they have done so during the visit. #Vinehealth

What is biosecurity?

Biosecurity is a system to reduce the risk of entry, establishment and spread of pests, diseases and weeds that threaten the economy and environment. It's also a system for managing and recovering from an incursion of a pest and disease by minimising its impact through eradication, containment and ongoing asset protection.

Biosecurity is a shared responsibility – we need to work collaboratively.

Phylloxera. It only takes one bug.



The Phylloxera and Grape Industry Act 1995.

www.vinehealth.com.au

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