

## Guy Barnett MP

Minister for Trade  
Minister for Primary Industries and Water  
Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction  
Minister for Resources  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs  
Liberal Member for Lyons



Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water

### Supporting strong growth in Tasmania's wine sector

Tasmania's wine sector is flourishing with the state's wine grape vintage up 18 per cent by volume for 2021.

The state's wine sector contributes about \$200 million to Tasmania's economy and the quality of Tasmanian wine grapes is reflected in the record value of \$3,146 per tonne, compared with the national average of \$701 per tonne.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government continues to support the Tasmanian wine sector through its market development activities and the Strategic Industry Partnerships Program.

Additionally, we are investing \$100,000 to assist with improving resilience in the wine sector and fund emergency smoke testing, which is part of the \$10.2 million new Ag-Protection Package to future-proof Tasmanian agriculture and manage risks to primary industries.

The Tasmanian Government is also providing \$4.2 million for practical strategies to improve productivity and profitability through the supply chain to support agricultural sectors, which is expected to support the wine sector.

We place great value on the ongoing working relationship we have with Wine Tasmania and this ongoing support and plans for industry growth were both discussed today with the Board.

Biosecurity Tasmania continues to support the Tasmanian wine sector through its collaborative work, having recently participated in a planning workshop as part of a \$50,000 State Government funded biosecurity emergency preparedness and response program.

The workshop was a great opportunity for participants to gain practical information on grape Phylloxera and an insight into how a biosecurity response would be implemented if this significant pest was ever detected in Tasmania.

While Tasmania has a strong biosecurity system in place, it is essential to ensure that Tasmanian vineyards and wine producers have planned for, and are prepared to meet, the challenges posed by sector-specific potential biosecurity risks.