

Grape Production and Acreage by District and County, 2013 and 2014†

County	2013 Tons Produced	2014 Tons Produced	2013 Bearing Acres	2014 Bearing Acres	2013 Non-Bearing Acres	2014 Non-Bearing Acres
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>6,863</b>	<b>8,039</b>	<b>3,089</b>	<b>3,145</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>427</b>
<b>NORTHERN</b>						
Clarke	52	60	30	30	10	11
Fauquier	305	415	224	230	39	42
Loudoun	1,046	1,294	501	535	97	127
Madison	141	173	56	56	12	12
Rappahannock	127	212	74	76	2	14
Rockingham	81.6	113	35	35	4	10
Shenandoah	275	268	100	104	10	6
Other Counties	248	245	93	106	6	8
<b>District Total</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,780</b>	<b>1,113</b>	<b>1,172</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>WESTERN</b>						
Augusta	312	354	74	82	6	3
Botetourt	109	112	39	39	0	2
Other Counties*	168	176	76	81	6	1
<b>District Total</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>CENTRAL</b>						
Albemarle	1,013	1,316	568	576	50	42
Amherst	40	104	49	49	5	6
Bedford	25	29	40	42	2	0
Greene	23	33	26	26	2	3
Hanover	29	57	20	22	2	0
Louisa	39	70	35	36	7	6
Nelson	560	697	185	208	20	10
Orange	1,042	1,028	250	251	12	31
Spotsylvania	37	51	27	29	4	4
Other Counties	42	60	37	39	11	9
<b>District Total</b>	<b>2,849</b>	<b>3,445</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>EASTERN</b>						
Westmoreland	161	179	76	74	7	8
Other Counties*	277	307	142	142	7	28
<b>District Total</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>SOUTHERN</b>						
Franklin	5	4	5	5	0	0
Halifax	22	23	26	29	3	0
Patrick	169	120	40	40	0	0
Pittsylvania	64	60	23	15	4	2
Other Counties	157	182	50	54	4	6
<b>District Total</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Other District Total</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>36</b>

†Numbers rounded to nearest whole integer  
 \*Includes counties previously reported separately

# VIRGINIA 2014 COMMERCIAL GRAPE REPORT



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## 2014 GROWING SEASON

Virginia was spared some of the extreme cold that impacted grape-growing regions to our north and west over the 2013/2014 winter. Nonetheless, a number of Virginia vineyardists reported some degree of vine cold injury, especially in northern Virginia, into the western Piedmont and into southwest Virginia, where some of the state's lowest temperatures occurred on 7 and 23 January 2014. The injury was greatest on those varieties that we recognize as being relatively cold tender, such as Tannat, but even some of the more "moderately" hardy vinifera varieties, such as Cabernet Franc and Viognier, experienced some bud and trunk injury. The roller-coaster temperatures of winter continued into March and April, with some frost affecting southwest and Shenandoah Valley vineyards on the mornings of 15-16 April. Although we have seen an advance of budburst over the past 15 years, budburst of Chardonnay at the AHS AREC (24 April) was close to average recorded in the 90's.

The growing season was unusually wet in May and June, unusually dry in September until mid-October, and cooler overall than in recent years. There were exceptions, but wildlife such as deer, bear, squirrels and raccoons did not cause the grape depredation that many vineyards witnessed in 2013. Some of this likely related to more abundant primary food sources such as acorns. Pests that were present at greater-than-normal pressure included Japanese beetle and mites; mite populations often spike as growers attempt to combat Japanese beetles. Some growers, particularly in central Virginia, reported "stalled" ripening rates with certain varieties, including Merlot and Chardonnay. While the causes of this delayed ripening were not always apparent and likely varied from vineyard to vineyard, a common observation was cloudy, cool weather in late summer.

Harvest generally went well. As with 2013, the 2014 period of September and early October was generally very favorable for ripening. Many growers reported that their 2014 crop levels were greater than those of 2012 and 2013. Thus, the state's crop losses due to winter injury and spring frost injury would be offset somewhat by greater crops in uninjured vineyards. Sugar levels were somewhat depressed and acidity levels somewhat increased for many. The consensus, however, was that the favorable weather in the final 30 to 50 days before harvest was associated with very high-quality fruit, and great wine potential.

**2014 Growing Season Overview**  
by Tony Wolf,  
Virginia Tech's AHS Jr. Agricultural Research  
and Extension Center

## ABOUT THE SURVEY



This year marks the fifth time the Virginia Wine Board Marketing Office has managed the annual Commercial Grape Report (CGR) data collection and reporting. Prior to 2010, the CGR was produced by NASS (National Agricultural Statistics Service). The survey questions were identical to those used by NASS; however, the capture of information was slightly different. The 2010 through 2014 surveys drew upon exact data provided by Virginia grape producers.

The Virginia Wine Board Marketing Office captured the individual responses and reported the collective data generated by those individual responses; however, this survey is only as accurate as the information provided.

The information presented in this report was gathered through a census of all known grape producers in Virginia. Data was collected during the months of November 2014 through February 2015 by mail, telephone interview and online individual responses. Information obtained during the course of this survey was kept completely confidential. Only aggregate information is presented in this report. For further information about this survey, please contact the Virginia Wine Board Marketing Office at 804.344.8200.



**SPECIAL THANKS  
TO ALL PRODUCERS  
WHO TOOK THE TIME  
TO PARTICIPATE  
IN THIS SURVEY!**

## Grape Production, Acreage and Average Price by Variety, 2013 and 2014<sup>†</sup>

	2013 Tons Produced	2014 Tons Produced	2013 Bearing Acres	2014 Bearing Acres	2013 Non-Bearing Acres	2014 Non-Bearing Acres	2013 Average Price	2014 Average Price	2014 Absolute Range	
									Low	High
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,862</b>	<b>8,039</b>	<b>3,088</b>	<b>3,144</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>\$1,839</b>	<b>\$1,844</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$3,300</b>
<b>VINIFERA</b>	<b>4,942</b>	<b>5,673</b>	<b>2,387</b>	<b>2,459</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>\$2,014</b>	<b>\$2,061</b>	<b>\$1,350</b>	<b>\$3,300</b>
Albariño	19	30	27	27	8	15	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Cabernet Franc	869	964	376	379	47	50	\$1,845	\$1,949	\$1,500	\$2,600
Cabernet Sauvignon	440	554	261	289	24	23	\$1,959	\$2,117	\$1,350	\$3,300
Chardonnay <sup>1,2</sup>	850	1,104	449	441	13	25	\$1,851	\$1,960	\$1,100	\$3,200
Gewürztraminer	12	22	10	10	1	1	\$2,000	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100
Malbec	59	63	31	39	8	18	\$2,235	\$2,246	\$2,000	\$2,880
Merlot <sup>1</sup>	732	995	322	333	26	35	\$1,983	\$2,099	\$1,600	\$3,300
Petit Manseng	162	206	63	75	14	15	\$2,043	\$2,130	\$1,700	\$2,700
Petit Verdot <sup>2</sup>	384	502	192	196	41	31	\$2,206	\$2,275	\$1,300	\$3,300
Pinot Gris/Grigio	153	173	73	75	11	9	\$1,777	\$1,704	\$1,300	\$2,000
Pinot Noir	50	55	36	36	0	1	\$1,950	\$1,933	\$1,700	\$2,100
Riesling <sup>2</sup>	99	76	42	42	5	7	\$1,570	\$1,900	\$1,800	\$2,000
Sauvignon Blanc	111	118	39	51	15	11	\$3,620	\$2,475	\$2,000	\$2,000
Syrah	83	71	31	31	3	3	\$1,997	\$2,175	\$1,600	\$2,600
Tannat <sup>1,2</sup>	101	86	27	29	9	11	\$2,259	\$2,309	\$2,000	\$2,800
Viognier <sup>1,2</sup>	457	366	262	259	36	68	\$2,174	\$2,087	\$1,500	\$2,210
Other White Vinifera	148	180	58	58	9	18	\$1,756	\$1,780	\$1,650	\$2,600
Other Red Vinifera <sup>2</sup>	213	108	88	89	8	10	\$1,861	\$1,865	\$1,600	\$2,600
<b>HYBRID</b>	<b>1,507</b>	<b>1,830</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>\$1,180</b>	<b>\$1,301</b>	<b>\$1,100</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
Chambourcin <sup>1</sup>	450	532	141	133	13	9	\$1,095	\$1,281	\$1,180	\$1,800
Seyval <sup>1,2</sup>	110	120	49	32	3	5	\$1,143	\$1,415	\$1,150	\$1,680
Traminette	254	288	101	109	11	4	\$1,187	\$1,450	\$1,100	\$1,800
Vidal Blanc	579	741	149	149	8	10	\$1,278	\$1,925	\$1,850	\$2,000
Other White Hybrid	85	125	33	35	9	14	\$1,142	\$1,550	\$1,100	\$2,000
Other Red Hybrid <sup>2</sup>	29	23	35	32	2	5	\$1,600	\$1,450	\$1,100	\$1,800
<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>\$1,472</b>	<b>\$1,472</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$2,100</b>
Concord	89	118	28	29	1	0	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$1,500
Niagara	128	156	35	39	14	3	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$1,500
Norton <sup>1,2</sup>	190	252	123	120	17	25	\$1,650	\$1,620	\$1,350	\$2,100
Other White American	4	4	1	1	2	2	X	X	X	X
Other Red/Black American	2	6	6	6	0	0	X	X	X	X

<sup>†</sup>Numbers rounded to nearest whole integer

(1) Reported removal of vines from production

(2) Reported reduction of yield due to weather, disease or predation