



## DEMAND FOR ROOTSTOCK REMAINS HIGH VINIFERA SALES DECLINE

General Manager, Michael Pullen

Despite a high level of uncertainty within all three grapes industries throughout Australia, sales of rootstock cuttings in 2005 compared favourably with the previous year. Once again rootstock varieties Ramsey, 1103 Paulsen, Dog Ridge and 101-14 Millardet were in high demand and it was pleasing that improved management of the rootstock source areas has produced greater numbers of cuttings from the same number of source plants.

Sales of Ramsey cuttings exceeded 568,000, Dog Ridge sales exceeded 160,000 and 101-14 Millardet sales exceeded 200,000. Sales of 1103 Paulsen exceeded 705,000 however late orders that were received after cutting had ceased could have seen sales exceed 900,000 cuttings.

There was an increase in demand for 110 Richter with sales of nearly 21,000 cuttings and VAMVVIA is in a position to cater for further demand of this and other high demand varieties following the establishment of their new source area site at Dareton, NSW.

Sales of vinifera reduced dramatically, down approximately 50% on the previously year. There was strong demand for J2 Gordo, Pinot Noir, Semillon, Viognier and H5 Sultana, however sales of Shiraz dropped by over 150,000 cuttings. There was only limited supply of a range of Chardonnay clones in 2005 however supply will improve significantly in 2006 as the new Dareton site comes into production.

### Rootstock

The production and sale of high health status rootstock cuttings continues to be the core business of VAMVVIA. Orders for Schwarzmann, 140 Ruggeri, 140 Ruggeri and 5c Teleki were modest however should demand increase VAMVVIA is in a position to provide large quantities of these and other rootstock varieties.

### Rootstock sales 2001 – 2005

Variety	Sales 01	Sales 02	Sales 03	Sales 2004	Sales 2005
Ramsey	337,409	387,700	424,086	506,807	568,791
Schwarzmann	246,085	210,717	205,700	98,424	99,692
Ruggeri 140	183,788	221,410	257,123	264,546	99,977
Richter 99	43,393	81,921	7,900	19,632	2,545
1103 Paulsen	374,274	385,218	614,493	765,501	705,222
5BB Kober (5A)	9,949	25,100	99,465	61,293	4,796
S04	59,814	17,400	4,574	10,600	60
5BB Kober	268,084	125,900	126,322	40,800	42,168
5C Teleki	81,633	39,176	31,100	30,694	12,389
Dog Ridge	39,335	45,000	62,700	94,508	160,263
K51-32 Lider	100	200		2,300	
Harmony	9,100	2,800	9,273	9,893	3,511
K51-40 Lider	13,645	3,400	10,500	13,200	300
101-14 Millardet	116,574	102,170	119,518	184,171	200,302
Teleki C		196		100	
110 Richter	6,443	17,500	10,947	1,746	20,908
Freedom	5,058	14,759	7,747	6,495	6,739
J17-48 Lider	100	400	107	5,100	
420A Millardet	24,505	15,300			
J17-69 Lider		185		4,835	
Riparia Gloire	1,980	2,780	1,529	200	2,580
ARG 1					
1202 Courderc	100				
125AA Kober	1,044	480	500		
8B Teleki		146			
3309 Couderc	10,700	3,500	11,027		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,833,113</b>	<b>1,703,358</b>	<b>2,004,611</b>	<b>2,120,845</b>	<b>1,930,243</b>



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**Vinifera**

Sales of Vinifera cuttings fell to a record low level of 217,663, an indication of the growing uncertainty that nurseries and growers have regarding likely industry demand.

Sales of table grape varieties Crimson Seedless, Red Globe and Sultana remained relatively low, however the availability of the new table grape variety Autumn Royal should generate interest among growers.

Demand for the dried grape variety, Sun Muscat increased significantly on previous years and demand is expected to remain steady. New varieties Diamond Muscat, DOVine and Summer Muscat are now available in limited numbers and should stimulate some interest among growers.

**Vinifera Sales 2001 – 2005**

Variety	Sales 01	Sales 02	Sales 03	Sales 04	Sales 2005
Arneis				300	200
Barbera	437		686		300
Brachetto		100			
Blush Seedless				200	197
Cabernet Franc	1,760	507		1,200	1,060
Cabernet Sauvignon	31,815	2,914	3,085	5,514	5,313
Carina	19,126			1,947	2,115
Centennial Seedless		937	292	100	387
Chambourin		80	112		
Chardonnay	100	25,870	147,517	26,600	1,761
Chenin Blanc	968	534	197		
Christmas Rose			217	100	642
Colombard	24,544	6,634	2,543	7,017	3,549
Crimson Seedless	5,180	5,845	21,250	13,342	4,800
Dawn Seedless	1,500	837	372	388	570
Dolcetto	190			8,520	1,350
Emperor	100	800			
Fantasy Seedless	300	123	1,010	1,650	2,037
Fiesta		714			
Flame Seedless	2,510	4,449			
Gamay	100		279	636	1,136
Gordo	27,855	33,829	31,332	56,795	36,966
Grenache					
Malbec	699		1,414	1,230	
Maroo					
Mataro					
Merbein Seedless			984	1,966	393
Merlot	34,188	7,010	7,277	10,924	4,600
Muscat Hamburg		300	469	496	884
Nebbiolo	365	197	2,556	2,483	275
Petit Verdot			732	700	308
Pinot Noir	59,946	30,667	6,839	14,888	15,459
Red Globe	10,525	24,622	15,091	7,225	9,525
Reisling	100	2,000	558	2,545	1,071
Ruby Cabernet	1,500				
Ruby Seedless	1,536		1,345		195
Sangiovese	1,309	275	510	655	305
Sauvignon Blanc	3,178	10,422	20,905	12,362	6,982
Semillon		3,600	8,900	25,876	20,460
Shiraz	168,298	15,272	192,718	161,192	10,802
Sultana	98,597	149,620	86,392	42,060	39,791
Sunmuscat	18,893	20,385	1,733	4,726	13,868
Tarrango	4,700				
Tempranillo			62		
Viognier	10,323	8,652	23,426	24,981	29,645
Zante Currant	300				
Zinfandel	3,865	7,349	432	634	717
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>534,807</b>	<b>364,544</b>	<b>581,235</b>	<b>439,252</b>	<b>217,663</b>



### **AVIA Accreditation**

VAMVVIA continues to maintain its AVIA accreditation under the National Vine Accreditation Scheme – Part 1. VAMVVIA fully supports the Scheme, that involves identification of all procedures carried out by VAMVVIA Staff, detailed record keeping, and mechanisms for trace back. An annual audit of VAMVVIA's operating system was successfully completed in 2005.

### **Ampelography, Disease and Virus Testing**

VAMVVIA maintains stringent inspection, sampling and testing procedures for all Registered Mother Block (RMB) source areas under its control. During January and February of each year, trained staff inspect RMB's to ensure source plants are true to type, free of pests and do not have symptoms of Australian Grapevine Yellows, Restricted Spring Growth, and Crown Gall. This inspection process requires that all vines are visually inspected.

In April, May of each year the RMB's are revisited and samples taken to determine virus status. Samples are forwarded to a NATA accredited laboratory for analysis using PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) or ELISA (Enzyme Linked Immuno Sorbent Assay).

At the same time VAMVVIA staff complete an assessment of cutting numbers for the coming season.

Two trained source area inspectors carry out inspections, with any vines not meeting accreditation standard being tagged and eliminated from the cutting pool.

### **Rootstock and Vinifera Source Area Expansion**

VAMVVIA currently maintains two primary source areas for rootstock production, one in Irymple, Victoria and another in Dareton, NSW. The site in Victoria consists of approximately 17 hectares of Rootstock that has been the major source of material for Victoria and South West NSW for nearly twenty years. Increased demand for a range of rootstock and vinifera material has prompted the VAMVVIA Committee to develop additional land at the NSW site. Approximately 19 hectares of rootstock and vinifera are now in production in NSW, giving VAMVVIA a total source area of approximately 36 hectares. The latest development was undertaken at the request of the regional grape and nursery industries to ensure sufficient quantities of high health status were available when needed.



A section of the new Dareton  
Rootstock Development



A section of the new Dareton  
Vinifera development

### **Orders for 2006**

Order Forms for 2006 Cutting Material will be forwarded to clients registered with VAMVVIA in April 2006 and must be returned no later than May 12, 2005 to be part of the first round of allocations. For further enquires contact VAMVVIA on 03 5051 4578 or fax 03 5051 4526.