

Research area: VITICULTURE: CLIMATE MITIGATION

Regional cluster: LIMESTONE COAST

## How can results from the Coonawarra Rootstock Trial inform future vineyard planting in the region?

### Background

A long-term project has been underway in Coonawarra to understand rootstock performance in the region. The project is a partnership between Coonawarra Vignerons, Vinehealth Australia and Treasury Wine Estates to compare the performance of own-rooted Cabernet Sauvignon vines against that of eight rootstocks of varying vigour. Data on grape maturity, yield and vine balance has been collected over a number of seasons and there is a need to collate this historic information and integrate results from winemaking undertaken in the 2019 vintage.

### Why is it important?

Rootstock varieties are variable in performance in different locations, and confidence in rootstock selection and performance in the Limestone Coast region is low. This project will build on the large amount of data already collected in the Coonawarra Rootstock Trial, as well as factoring in winemaking outcomes, to provide knowledge on the influence of rootstock on wine quality.

### What would success look like?

Results from this work will enable growers to make informed decisions on rootstock selection when replanting their vineyards. Increased use of appropriate rootstocks in the Limestone Coast region will improve vine performance and grape quality, as well as providing resilience to pests and diseases such as Phylloxera.

For further information and to develop an application please contact:

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