Importance of compliance

There are two major reasons for the establishment of any wine regulatory system:

- To protect consumers; and
- To ensure a fair trading environment for producers and exporters.

A robust and enforcible compliance system is essential for supporting the sector's promotional efforts. A scandal involving the misrepresentation of the provenance or composition of wine would potentially damage Australia's reputation for producing quality wines with truthful labels. Not all wine producing countries share the reputation enjoyed by Australia. It is critical to maintain this competitive advantage.

Australia is increasingly recognised as an abundant source of regionally distinctive wines made from an array of both traditional and recently introduced grape varieties. Maintaining the integrity of region and variety claims has never been more important.



Australian Government
Wine Australia

Wine Australia for Australian Wine

Producer's guide to the Label Integrity Program

Visit **wineaustralia.com** for more information and online resources.

For general assistance and enquiries, contact us at **enquiries@wineaustralia.com** or 08 8228 2000.

www.wineaustralia.com

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Wine
Australia

Producer's guide to the Label Integrity Program

Producers are required to keep winemaking records that form part of an auditable trail through which a wine can be traced from vineyard to bottle.



Why records need to be kept?

Records ensure traceability throughout the supply chain so that claims about a vintage, variety and origin can be verified to ensure the reputation for truthfulness of Australian wine labels. *The Wine Australia Act 2013* requires various records to be kept and applies penalties for failure to keep proper records.

Who needs to keep records?

Records must be kept by every party in the supply chain. This includes contract processors, growers, packagers and any other party in between.

What records need to be kept?

When supplying wine goods to another party, the following must be provided:

- the date of supply
- the quantity of the wine goods that you're supplying, and
- the vintage, variety and geographical indication (GI) of the wine goods.

When receiving wine goods, the following must be recorded:

- the type of wine goods to which the record relates to
- the date of supply
- the identity of whom you've received wine goods from (the individual or organisation's name and address)
- the quantity of the wine goods you've received, and
- the vintage, variety and GI of the wine goods.

During the production process, you must record:

- transfers
- winemaking processes (such as amelioration, racking, filtration or blending)
- information about the vessels (e.g. tanks or barrels) that the wine was moved between (all vessels must be individually identifiable)
- any changes to the volume or quantity that occurred, including both gains and losses, and
- any changes to the composition of the product (vintage, variety and/or geographical indication) that resulted through processing activities (such as blending or barrel topping).

Records must be made within three days of the transaction and kept for seven years.

Please note:

- A winery and grower can share the same record, provided it's made on same day that grapes are supplied and both parties retain a copy of it. For example, a copy of the weighbridge note or a carbon-copy docket containing the required information would suffice. The format of records is not prescribed and can take on a variety of forms, provided it contains the mandatory information.
- The most specific GI that the grapes are entitled to should be recorded from the beginning. For example, if fruit is sourced from Eden Valley (which is in the broader GI of 'Barossa'), record it as such from the beginning, even if 'Barossa' is likely to be claimed on the label.

Further information

More information and templates can be found on the Wine Australia website www.wineaustralia.com or by contacting the Regulatory Services team on 08 8228 2000.

This guide does not constitute legal advice. The *Wine Australia Act 2013* details the requirements and is available on the ComLaw website: www.comlaw.gov.au.