



CLARE VALLEY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA – KILIKANOON

Vines were 'stress free' going into winter 2015 allowing them to store extra nutrients creating the potential for a better 2016 crop. Winter 2015 was slightly cold and rainfall was below average. Good rains in August were with mild conditions.

Spring was very mild and dry giving rise to early bud burst and very fast vine growth with most flowering complete by the start of November. Good rains fell just after flowering with the absence of any spring frost.



Overall, there was little rain between November and the last week of January. The minimal rainfall meant disease pressure was also down. Much welcomed rain (40mm) fell in the last week of January and then another 11mm on the 3rd of February. In general, a warm, dry spring, early, rapid flowering, a hot start to summer then persistent warmth.

Vibrant, flavoursome and unblemished fruit from the healthy vines made a promising start to what turned out to be the most exciting vintage in a decade. The quality of Shiraz and Riesling in general is outstanding, while the crush is up 25% on last year, with solid fruit quantities across all varieties.