



 **HPA**

**2022 CROP
REPORT**

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HPA EXPANSION BEARS FRUIT FOR BREWERS

Hop Products Australia (HPA) have completed the 2022 hop harvest. We picked 810 hectares across our three farms, which resulted in 1,656 metric tonnes of hops. This was a 135 hectare (20.1%) net increase and a 130 metric tonne (8.4%) net increase year-on-year across six proprietary varieties - Eclipse®, Ella™, Enigma®, Galaxy®, Topaz™ and Vic Secret™ - as well as Cascade. Plus, impact in beer is expected to remain strong, with oil content equal or above the 5-year average for all varieties.

This year's harvest marked a significant milestone, with the completion of a \$35 million capital expansion project that involved planting 300 new hectares of in-demand Aussie flavour hops like Eclipse®, Galaxy® and Vic Secret™ as well as constructing a new processing facility in the past 3 years. The facility now houses an additional 2 picking machines, 12 kiln floors, 1 conditioning floor and 1 bale press, effectively boosting our total processing capacity by 50%. This increased capacity allowed us to process all hops in a timely fashion, as well as creating more chances for employment, skills development and priority purchasing of local products and services in our growing region.

Our focus now shifts to maximising the productivity of these new hop gardens. The increase in acreage has not yet resulted in a relative increase in production volume, with the new plantings scheduled to reach commercial maturity by 2024. At this point Eclipse® is forecast to reach 180 metric tonnes, making it our third biggest proprietary hop.

This season our three farms - Rostrevor Hop Gardens, Buffalo River Valley and Bushy Park Estates - endured the La Niña weather pattern, resulting in distinctly different seasons across our two growing regions. Our Victorian farms experienced above average rainfall through winter and spring, which impacted the execution of some on-farm activities.

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Total rainfall was ~25% above the long term average for the region, while temperatures were in line with the long term average for the region. In contrast, our Tasmanian farm experienced below average rainfall through winter and spring, and above average temperatures through spring and summer. Both growing regions also experienced record low levels of solar radiation, continuing a downward trend for the third consecutive year. Solar radiation is an area of interest since sunlight drives photosynthesis, and it's possible this could be affecting yield.

	Production Volume (Metric Tonnes)	Year-on-Year Variation
Galaxy®	1,007	+3.5%
Vic Secret™	290	+24.9%
Ella™	96	+6.5%
Eclipse®	94	+87.0%
Enigma®	86	+1.5%
Topaz™	54	- 18.4%*
Cascade	25	- 10.2%
Total	1,656	+8.4%

* Due to hail damage

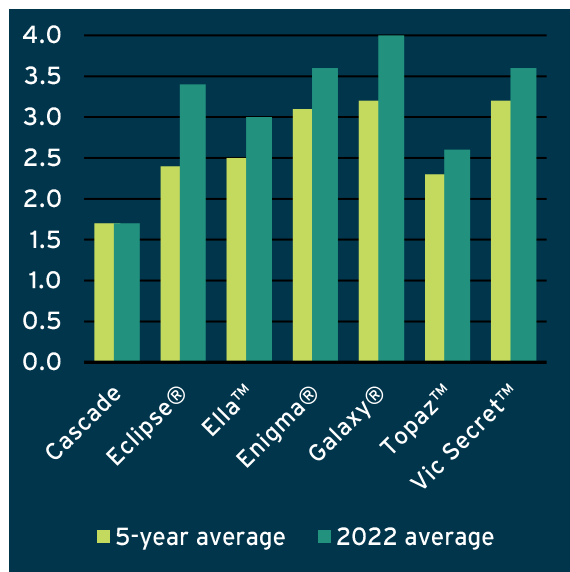
Note: measurements calculated on raw hop quantities.

Impact in beer is expected to remain strong, with this year's average oil content coming in equal or above the 5-year average for all varieties. Oil content and alpha acids are the key indicators of brewing quality in hops. This year, the oil and alpha values across our two growing regions were more closely aligned than ever before. These year-on-year improvements come from continuously optimising our production process in the pursuit of

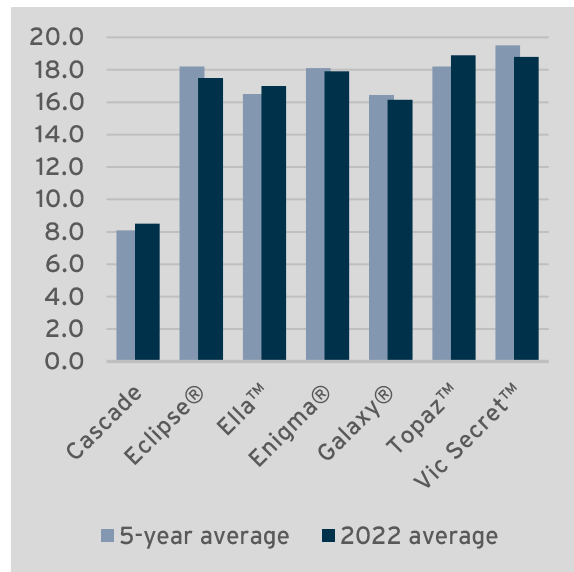
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maximum yield, quality and efficiency. Production is one of several key areas we are prioritising in our [sustainability strategy](#) alongside social responsibility, environmental footprint and responsible sourcing.

OIL CONTENT



ALPHA ACIDS



Note: measurements calculated on raw hop quantities. Processed hop pellets will show reduced values.

HPA is focused on a kinder, greener future of quality beer bursting with Aussie hops. This means a successful harvest is about more than production volume and oil content. To maximise the health, safety and productivity of our team, we worked with labour hire providers to attract a suitable number of seasonal workers, which allowed us to comfortably pick each hop within its ideal harvest window. COVID-19 restrictions gradually eased throughout the growing season, which also assisted with recruitment, training and the implementation of COVID-safe work practices.

We were hoping to welcome our brewing customers on farm this year, but made the decision to keep our farms closed to visitors to protect the health of our team and the security of our crop. Instead, brewers and beer lovers around the world were invited to be part of the second instalment of our [virtual harvest](#). This year, we explored the topics of

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carbon neutral beer, experimental hop sensory analysis, the art and science of beer recipe design, and the fascination with fresh hop beers. It will continue to be available for those who want a refresher on the technical content or are simply feeling nostalgic for the sights and sounds of our Aussie hop harvest.

Our Aussie hops continue to enjoy strong demand from brewers everywhere, which means crop 2022 is heavily contracted. The importance we place on responsible contracting will allow us to meet all commitments, with a very limited amount of hops available on the spot market. Brewers are encouraged to communicate their Aussie hop requirements to our sales team, and enter into rolling forward contracts for supply security.



Tim Lord

Managing Director


April 2022

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HARVEST SNAPSHOT 2022

PRODUCTION

	VICTORIA	TASMANIA
810 hectares of hops	557	253
17,340 bales pressed	13,396	3,944
4,110,028 strings cut	2,893,383	1,216,645
1,657,201 KG total production volume		




4,136 samples taken from the fields to the labs




42,725 measurements taken from samples

- Gland fill
- Moisture
- Dry matter
- Oil content
- Cone weight




537 hours runtime per tractor




6,488 views

VIRTUAL HARVEST

Top 10 countries brewers from:
Australia • US • Germany • NZ
France • UK • Canada • Belgium
Poland • Thailand




122,000 cartons packed



26,715 kilometres of strings used


PEOPLE

	VICTORIA	TASMANIA
55 permanent staff	31	24
346 casual staff	232	114
401 total harvest staff	263	138



68/32
male/female staff ratio

274 male staff
127 female staff




harvest staff from **22** countries

Australia	183	Nepal	4	Canada	1
France	24	Sudan	4	Columbia	1
UK	11	Taiwan	3	Czech Republic	1
Argentina	9	Thailand	3	Indonesia	1
China	8	India	2	Ireland	1
Germany	7	Japan	2	Korea	1
Italy	6	US	2		
Chile	4	Bhutan	1		

PROPRIETARY HOPS

- Eclipse®
- Ella™
- Enigma®
- Topaz™
- Galaxy®
- Vic Secret™



HPA

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