Boundary extensions to the Maroondah PIZ

Industry Notice February 2020

The Maroondah Phyloxera Infested Zone (PIZ) proposed boundary extensions.

BOUNDARY EXTENSION
In response to new phylloxera detections in the Yarra Valley Geographic Indicator, the current position of the Maroondah PIZ boundary will need to change. Please refer to Diagram 1, which shows the locations of the confirmed new detections and the proposed boundary extensions in accordance with the requirements of the National Phylloxera Management Protocols.

Agriculture Victoria is now working in partnership with those agriculture and horticulture businesses affected by the redrawing of the boundary positions to determine any long-term market access impacts.

ACTION TAKEN BY AGRICULTURE VICTORIA
In response to new phylloxera detections affecting the boundary of the PIZ:

- Issued an Infested Lands Notice to the property owners affected by phylloxera to restrict the movement of host materials from their vineyards.
- Advised the Yarra Valley Wine Growers Association (YVWGA) and Nursery and Garden Industry of Victoria (NGIV) confirming their support to facilitate discussions with affected producers.
- Advised interstate biosecurity agencies of the detections and planned actions regarding the establishment of an expanded Phylloxera Infested Zone in accordance with the National Phylloxera Management Protocol.

INFORMATION FOR GROWERS

Grape growers are reminded to enact good practice on-farm biosecurity measures to help mitigate the threat of phylloxera spreading to their vineyards.

These measures include:

- Reminding visitors to use footbaths before entering the vineyard.
- Ensuring contract staff disinfect equipment and clothing and park vehicles outside of vineyards.
- Ensuring all viticultural machinery is cleaned prior to entering the vineyard.

Diagram 1: Proposed PIZ boundary changes

NEXT STEPS

Agriculture Victoria will provide regular updates to the wine grape growing industry in the region via the YVWGA on this issue and on any further phylloxera detections in the region.

Agriculture Victoria will work with the YVWGA and NGIV to provide businesses in both industries with access to information required to better manage the impact of phylloxera on their market access needs.

Phylloxera is a notifiable pest under section 5(1) of the Plant Biosecurity Act 2010. If you suspect phylloxera is present on your vineyard please notify Agriculture Victoria by emailing market.access@agriculture.vic.gov.au.