

Summary of progress during this quarter

This quarter marks the launch of the programme, which was announced by Agriculture Minister Hon Damien O'Connor and New Zealand Wine on 9th December. A Programme Governance Group (PGG), which includes members of the New Zealand Wine Industry, the Ministry for Primary Industries, and an independent Chair, was appointed and held their first meeting. Before the year-end, work began on the plant production project to take advantage of the 2021 flowering season for sample collection.

Key highlights and achievements

- The programme launch was broadly communicated via industry and public media and received a very positive response.
- Membership of the Programme Governance Group was confirmed, and the members met to approve the programme governance and management structures.
- The first meeting of the programme's industry grantors was held to discuss upcoming programme activities and in-kind contributions.
- Work began on the production of new Sauvignon Blanc vines.

Upcoming

- Project workplans will be finalised with the programme's key research partners.
- Identification and collection of Sauvignon Blanc diversity from commercial vineyards will begin, with the support of the programme's commercial grantors.
- A project to sequence the DNA of New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc and prepare of a high-quality reference genome will begin, using a new long-read DNA sequencer.
- The programme's Commercial and Technical Advisory Groups will be established.

Investment

Investment period	Industry contribution	MPI contribution	Total investment
During this quarter	\$ 47,083	\$ 31,389	\$ 78,472
Programme to date	\$ 47,083	\$ 31,389	\$ 78,472