

NEXT GENERATION VITICULTURE (NGV)

Public Summary – September 2025

Summary of progress during this period

The first quarter of the second year of the Next Generation Viticulture (NGV) Programme saw the completion of the winemaking trials from the 2024-2025 growing season. All trial wines were filtered and bottled, and the sensory and lab analysis was carried out to assess the impact of the NGV treatments on wine quality. Winter pruning measurements were collected, and collation and analysis of data from the Year 1 viticulture and winemaking trials were carried out. Industry engagement continued with a public workshop and a participant grower team day being held in quarter one. A full review of the first season took place with the Commercial Advisory Group, and additional feedback and technical input into Year 2 research plans were received from the Technical Advisory Group.

Key highlights and achievements

- **Vineyard activities:** Pruning of all trial sites was completed. Vine vigour and growth measurements were collected. Growing season data analysis was completed with results showing NGV systems have excellent potential for reaching programme yield and grape quality targets.
- **Winemaking activities:** Winemaking was completed for all NGV wines, including filtration, bottling and sensory analysis. Winemaking data analysis was completed, with wines from the 6 vertical cordon treatment showing good quality results when compared to the control wines.
- **Engagement and Communications:** A winter public workshop was held, focusing on pruning NGV systems. NGV updates were provided during a Bragato Research Institute visit to Hawke's Bay and at a Research Snapshots seminar at the Marlborough Research Centre.
- **Programme Management:** A review of the NGV Programme KPIs was completed, with input from the Technical and Commercial Advisory Groups. The NGV Outcome Logic Model was updated.

Upcoming focus areas

- **Vineyard Activities:** Spring vineyard activities include shoot growth and vine fruitfulness measurements, as well as light interception measurements and canopy density photographs.
- **Winery Activities:** Developing the 2026 grape maturity sampling plans.
- **Technology and Automation:** Installing vine water status sensors to assess vine water use efficiency and vine stress across different treatments. Continue to work with technology and machinery companies to discuss the needs and opportunities for the programme.
- **Engagement:** Hosting the Spring public workshop, the Technical Advisory Group annual meeting and tasting, and the Commercial Advisory Group Year 1 Results review.

Investment

Investment period Y2 Qtr1	Industry contribution	In-kind contribution	MPI contribution	Total investment
During this quarter	\$ 170,798	\$ 18,887	\$ 126,456	\$ 316,141
Programme to date	\$ 1,025,299	\$ 192,568	\$ 811,911	\$ 2,209,778

