

COMPLIANCE SNAPSHOT

Rural Winery Wastewater and Grape Marc Monitoring



MARLBOROUGH
DISTRICT COUNCIL

KEY POINTS



77.7%

Proportion of grapes harvested in NZ



343,036

Tonnes of grapes processed in 2020



12%

Increase in total tonnage processed in 2020 when compared with 2019



40

Wineries discharge to land in the rural area

38

Wineries were monitored



0

Wineries assessed as significantly non-compliant



47% (18 wineries)

Of wineries complied with all consent conditions and standards



32% (12 wineries)

Of wineries were rated non-compliant.

Snapshot of the 2020 monitoring programme

What was found during the 2020 inspections and Annual Report monitoring

Marlborough District Council monitors all wineries which discharge wastewater to land under the permitted activity standards or resource consent. Only one winery inspection was completed in early March prior to the COVID-19 lockdown.

The wineries are monitored according to resource consent conditions and/or the permitted activity standards under the Marlborough Environment Plan (MEP) for the discharge of liquid and solid agricultural waste to land.

Following harvest, many wineries are required to provide an Annual Report which discusses in depth, the compliance of each consent condition. A compliance report is provided to all wineries detailing the compliance status for each consent condition or plan rule.

47% of winery waste discharges (18 wineries) were rated as compliant with all conditions/rules.

21% of wineries (8 wineries) were rated technically non-compliant;

24% of wineries (9 wineries) were rated non-compliant with 1 condition/rule; and

8% of wineries (3 wineries) were rated non-compliant with 2 or more conditions/rules.

Three wineries that were assessed as non-compliant for discharging waste within a Soil Sensitive Area, have existing use rights under Section 20A of the Resource Management Act (RMA) and may continue the discharge without resource consent until the PMEP becomes operative.

Common Areas of Non-compliance:

- pH parameters exceeded
- Discharge within Soil Sensitive Area
- Surface ponding
- Wastewater/soil parameters exceeded

Industry Issues and Challenges

- **Stormwater diversion**
Reduce the volume of wastewater created
- **Contingency plans**
The majority of wineries have little or no storage
- **Grape Marc storage**
The location and facility must be suitable

Summary of Compliance Rating System

Results reported in this snapshot reflect the compliance of each permitted activity standard or resource consent condition, the lowest rated condition is the overall compliance level. For example a wastewater discharge consent could have 25 conditions of which 23 are rated compliant (green), 1 is rated minor non-compliance and 1 is rated non-compliance – the consent is rated non-compliance.

Full Compliance	Technical non-compliance	Non-compliant	Significantly Non-compliant
100% compliance with all consent conditions/ permitted activity standards assessed	Non-compliance with conditions which are considered to only have minor or no adverse environmental effects. E.g. failure to keep records	Breach of effects based/best practice conditions/rules that cause minor actual or potential environmental effects. E.g. ponding of wastewater remediated immediately.	Significant breach of effects based/best practice conditions/ rules that cause actual or potential environmental effects. E.g. multiple exceedances of parameters or wastewater reaching a waterway.

Winery Wastewater

Winery wastewater consists of water used for:

- Cleaning floors
- Equipment
- Fermentation tanks and barrels



Grape Marc

Grape Marc is the seeds, skins and stalks left once the juice is squeezed from the grapes.



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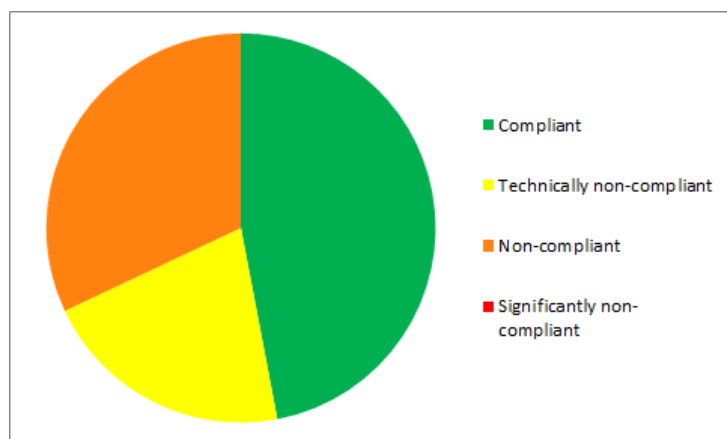
Compliance snapshot

Monitoring for the 2019/20 monitoring period was predominantly a desktop exercise and relied on each winery to provide detailed and sufficient records to demonstrate compliance.

The types of wastewater systems vary throughout Marlborough due to the range in production sizes at each winery. The systems vary from basic settling systems to complex systems using automotive aeration and microorganism selection for treatment.

Wastewater is spread in a variety of locations including in wood lots, under grape vines or in pastoral paddocks. Grape marc is stored in a 'compost' type facility on site at the winery, spread immediately under vines or in pastoral lots or it is sent to other rural locations.

Compliance Levels 2020 vintage



Wastewater Spread to Land - examples of compliance and non-compliance from previous surveys



Overwatering causing ponding



Overwatering causing ponding

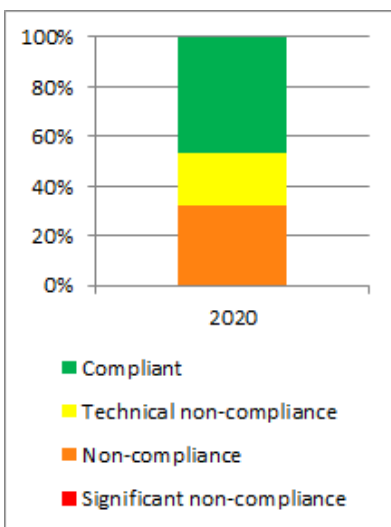
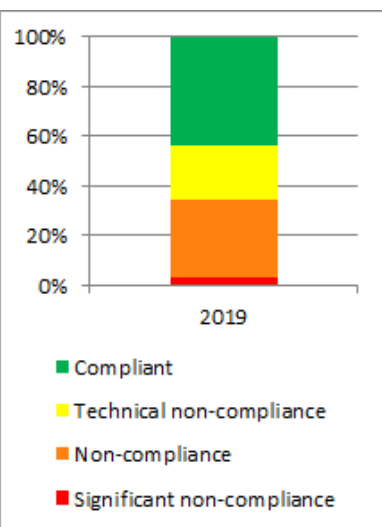


Low rate application system



Well monitored application

Compliance Levels over the last two vintages



Grape Marc Storage



Grape marc stored to land with no leachate collection



Sealed storage area with leachate collection

For More Information

For more information on compliance and enforcement monitoring undertaken by Marlborough District Council, contact the Environmental Protection Group

Phone: 03 520 7400
Email: monitoring@marlborough.govt.nz
Website: www.marlborough.govt.nz



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