


100% CARBON NEUTRAL ISO 14044

A Family Commitment to Sustainability

Taylor's Eighty Acres
The World's First
100% Carbon Neutral Wine Range

Merrilyn Piek
Taylor's Wines Environmental & Systems Manager




Environmental Stewardship

"Taylor's Wines is a family owned wine company operating in both rural and urban environments. The direct link with the land, along with the long term view we hold for our business development, results in a commitment to operating in a manner that minimises any negative impact on the environment."

Mitchell Taylor, Managing Director & Winemaker




Our Commitment

"For each and every bottle of Eighty Acres wine sold Taylor's Wines is committed to offsetting 100% of the carbon dioxide emissions associated with the complete life cycle of that product"

Mitchell Taylor, Managing Director & Winemaker



What does it mean?

The complete neutralisation of carbon emissions associated with the production, sale, consumption and disposal of every product in the Eighty Acres range of wines.




What products does it affect?

The 100% Carbon Neutral status will apply to the entire Eighty Acres range of wines:

- Chardonnay
- Shiraz Viognet
- Classic Dry White
- Cabernet Shiraz Merlot





Measuring the carbon footprint

In 2006 Taylor's Wines engaged Provisor to develop a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) model for the entire Eighty Acres range of wines.

In developing this model Provisor worked extensively with Taylor's Wines and their supply chain partners to collect data associated with the unique production and distribution of every product in the Eighty Acres range of wines.

The finished model was then independently verified by RMIT University in May 2009.

The completion and verification of this model means that Taylor's Wines can now accurately measure the carbon footprint of each product in the entire Eighty Acres range of wines and take steps to neutralise the associated carbon emissions.





How do you measure carbon emissions?

On behalf of Taylor's Wines, Provisor completed an externally verified ISO 14044 compliant Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) which measured the carbon dioxide or equivalent emissions (CO₂e) associated with each and every step in the life cycle of the Eighty Acres range of products.



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Defining the carbon footprint

ISO 14044 Life Cycle Assessment is the international standard that specifies the guidelines and requirements for life cycle assessment (LCA) for the specific purpose of defining the carbon footprint of a product or process.

Measured in accordance with ISO 14044, the product life cycle of a bottle of Taylor's Eighty Acres wine can be broken down into four key stages with each contributing a varying percentage to the overall product's carbon dioxide or equivalent emissions (CO₂e):



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The Eighty Acres Carbon Footprint

Each stage in the life cycle of a bottle of Eighty Acres wine contributes a varying percentage of carbon dioxide or equivalent emissions (CO₂e) which in their summation is equivalent to 100% of the CO₂e produced across the entire life cycle of that product.



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LEAN + GREEN™ Light Weight Glass

With the Eighty Acres range, Taylor's Wines are amongst the first Australian wine producers to use D's new LEAN+GREEN™ range of premium light weight glass wine bottles.

This innovative new premium light weight glass is almost 40% lighter than the original glass used to package the Eighty Acres range and delivers significant energy and water efficiencies per bottle.

The environmental benefits don't stop there –

This new glass bottle also delivers a reduction in CO₂e per bottle of more than 15%*

Taylor's Wines also uses a range of other environmentally friendly light weight glass bottles for its Estate and Promised Land wine ranges.

* In 2012 in 2011 based on 2010



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Neutralising the carbon emissions

Following a detailed review, Taylor's Wines chose Carbon Neutral as their partner for the purchase of carbon offsets credits.

Established in 2001, Carbon Neutral is a not for profit organisation which provides carbon offsets including Verified Emission Reduction Units (VERs).

Each VER is equivalent to one tonne of carbon dioxide or equivalent emissions (CO₂e) avoided.

Taylor's Wines and Carbon Neutral are committed to purchasing their VERs through domestic projects, independently certified by the Australian Federal Government, ensuring the avoided emissions maximise the benefit to the local environment.



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Verified Emission Reduction Units (VERs)

Verified Emission Reduction Units (VERs) are certified by the Federal Department of Climate Change's Greenhouse Friendly programme.

In 2009/10 the VERs purchased by Taylor's Wines have been generated through avoided emissions from a project at the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council waste composting facility in Western Australia.

This multi-award winning facility is verified through the Federal Government's Greenhouse Friendly scheme and diverts from landfill the household rubbish of more than 350,000 residents of Perth's Southern metropolitan suburbs thereby abating those greenhouse gas emissions.

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Voluntary carbon offset market in Australia

From 1st July 2010

The existing Greenhouse Friendly™ carbon neutral certification has been replaced with certification under the Government's new National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS).

Taylor's Wines will continue to purchase VERs under the former Greenhouse Friendly™

We will continue to uphold our ISO 14044 Certification, reporting carbon data on an annual basis.

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Why we manage our carbon footprint?

Customers and staff now expect it

Improve our triple bottom line performance

Attract new business (brand differentiation)

Improve our knowledge and education

It is everyone's responsibility – the right thing to do (Corporate Social Responsibility)

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4. Other environmental initiatives

As part of its commitment to environmental stewardship, Taylor's Wines is also active in a range of other environmental initiatives that include:

- 4.1 ISO 14001 Environmental Management System
- 4.2 Eco-Mapping
- 4.3 Water Recycling
- 4.4 Composting
- 4.5 Winery Mulching
- 4.6 Wakefield River Regeneration
- 4.7 Sheep
- 4.8 GreenPower™

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4.1 ISO 14001 Environmental Management

In March 2009 Taylor's Wines received ISO 14001 accreditation for its Environmental Management Systems (EMS) at both the Auburn Winery, Clare Valley, and its Head Office operations in Peterborough, Sydney.

The EMS assists in the identification and control of environmental impacts across the business whilst providing a framework for continuous improvements in environmental management.

In consultation with Provalor, Taylor's Wines used Eco-Mapping as the framework for the preparation of its EMS.



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4.2 Eco-Mapping

Eco-Mapping is an internationally recognised system that helps to define and prioritise environmental problems and issues to act upon.

Through the creation of a series of visual "heat maps", Eco-Mapping enables Taylor's Wines to audit their environmental impact on a number of key measures:

- Water consumption
- Waste
- Noise and air emissions
- Soil contamination
- Environmental risks

The use of Eco-Mapping since 2006 has directly led to the creation of a series of environment best practice across the business and provided the framework for Taylor's Wines Environmental Management System (EMS).



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4.3 Water Recycling Plant

In 2006 Taylor's Wines commissioned its state-of-the-art Water Recycling Plant located at the Auburn Winery in the Clare Valley.

Operating continuously, the plant recycles 100% of the waste water generated by the winery and bottling hall.

This water is then stored in one of two lined dams on site for re-use on the more than 500ha of estate vineyards.

In addition to the recycling of waste water, all of the storm water and associated run-off from winery buildings is also harvested for re-use.



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4.4 Composting

All solid organic waste material produced in the winemaking process, including grape marc, is silkked as compost on the vineyards.

During the winemaking process, these materials are collected for composting on site at the winery.

No water is added to the compost and the mix is regularly turned during the composting process.

The temperature inside the compost heap reaches 60-70°C. This sterilises the grape seeds and kills any pathogenic microbes.

The end result is a carbon rich material which is spread in the vineyard to condition and improve the soil.



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4.5 Vineyard Mulching

Since 2007, Taylors Wines have been using organic matter to mulch the soil under the vines in their Clare Valley estate.

This provides benefits such as superior root growth near the soil surface to allow water and nutrients, enhanced earthworm and soil microbe activity for healthier soils and reduced weed growth (requiring minimal herbicide use).

In addition to our own compost, materials used for mulching include straw from farmers in surrounding districts and composted green organics purchased from local third party suppliers.



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4.6 Wakefield River Regeneration

In 2007, Taylors Wines was instrumental in the formation of the River Wakefield Group which champions the regeneration and renewal of the historic, Wakefield River which flows South through Auburn in the Clare Valley.

In partnership with the local community and with funding assistance from the Federal Government, a number of initiatives have been commenced:

- removal of unwanted weed and other introduced plant species
- planting of local indigenous vegetation to enhance biodiversity



STAGE 1 TO BE COMPLETED IN 2009
STAGE 2 TO COMMENCE IN 2010

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4.7 Sheep

In 2008, Taylors Wines reintroduced sheep into our vineyards for the first time in 25 years.

The sheep, which are allowed to roam free within specific vineyard blocks, have been introduced as a means to keep winter grasses and weeds under control.

This has led to an immediate reduction in the requirements for pesticide use to control weeds and associated diesel fuel usage to run the spray tractors.

An associated benefit is also that the manure waste from the sheep is used as a natural fertilizer and soil conditioner for the vines.



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4.8 GreenPower™

Since 2008, Taylors Wines Head Office in Pottersham, Sydney, has been powered by renewable energy purchased through the NSW Government's GreenPower™ accreditation programme.

Taylors Wines Head Office is home to the following functions:

- Executive
- Finance
- Marketing
- Sales
- Administration



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Carbon neutral forests

Taylors Wines and Carbon Neutral are committed to restoring biodiversity and improving degraded land through revegetation projects which achieve multiple benefits.

For each tonne of VFA purchased by Taylors Wines, Carbon Neutral will plant one tree.

The planting programme for these trees can be followed online via the Carbon Neutral website.

Each tree planted is legally protected for at least 70 years and assists in providing benefits such as windbreaks, reducing soil erosion, helping combat salinity, improving biodiversity, sequestering carbon and creating habitat for native fauna.



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Future environmental initiatives

Future investment in energy efficient refrigeration – \$500,000 Federal funding secured. Estimated 35% energy saving on refrigeration

Sustainability Reporting

Improving environmental monitoring – installing specific equipment

Biodiversity Asset Register – maintaining a biodiversity asset register that describes the current condition of assets and identifies threats to biodiversity

Electronic EMS – improve quality control