

A photograph of a vineyard in spring. The rows of grapevines are covered in bright yellow flowers. A path of white and yellow flowers runs through the center of the vineyard. The text is overlaid on the image.

# Spring Vineyard Management Tips From the Growers

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# Spring Vineyard Management

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- Shoot Selection
- Shoot Positioning
  - Trellis & Wire Options
- Vineyard Floor Management
  - Cover Crops
  - Weed Management
- Nutrition
- Pest and Disease



# Shoot Selection

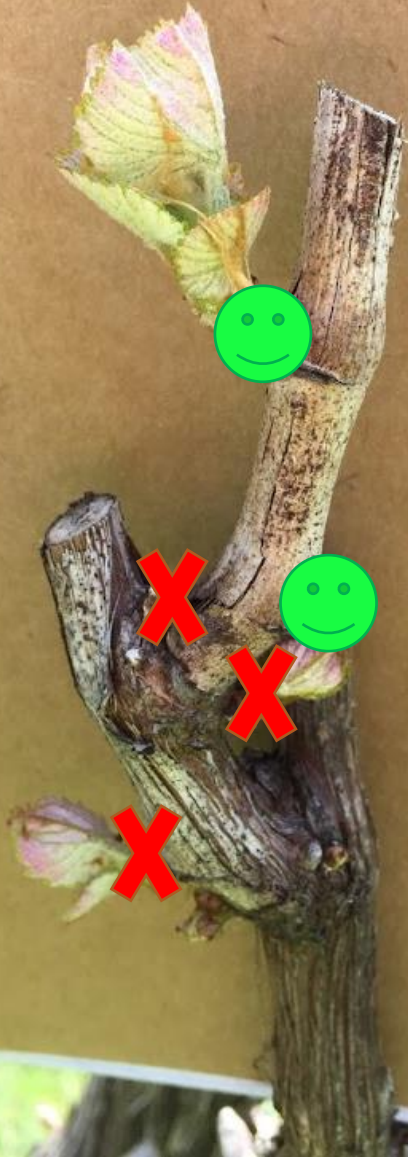
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- De-Sucker the trunk and bottom crown of the vine
- Thin shoots to your desired density
- Take pruning plan for following season into account



# Shoot Thinning Based on Pruning Strategy

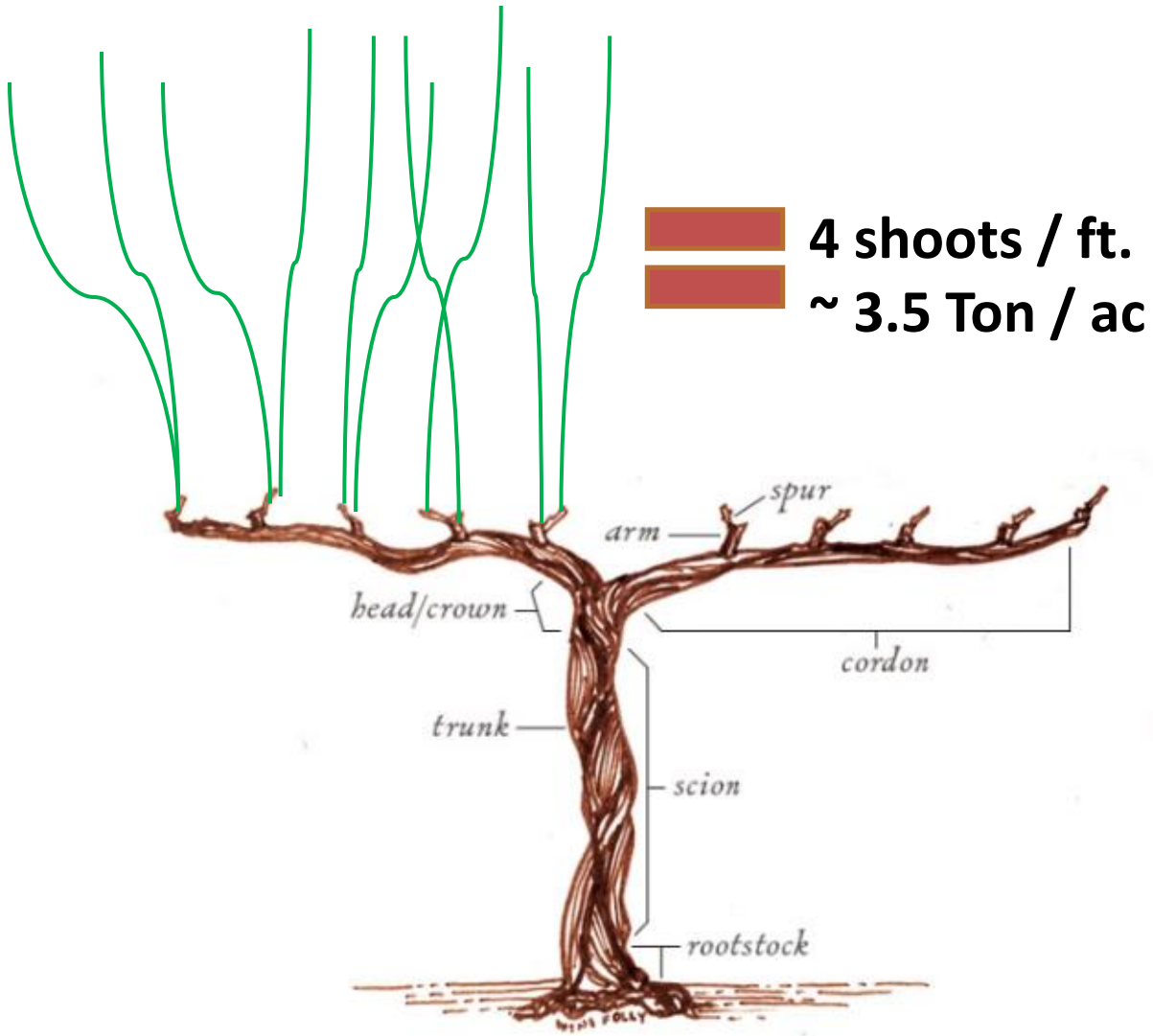
- Thin shoots to 1 shoot per count bud
- Perform a 2<sup>nd</sup> shoot thinning pass if necessary



5 ft. ←————→

2.5 ft. ←————→

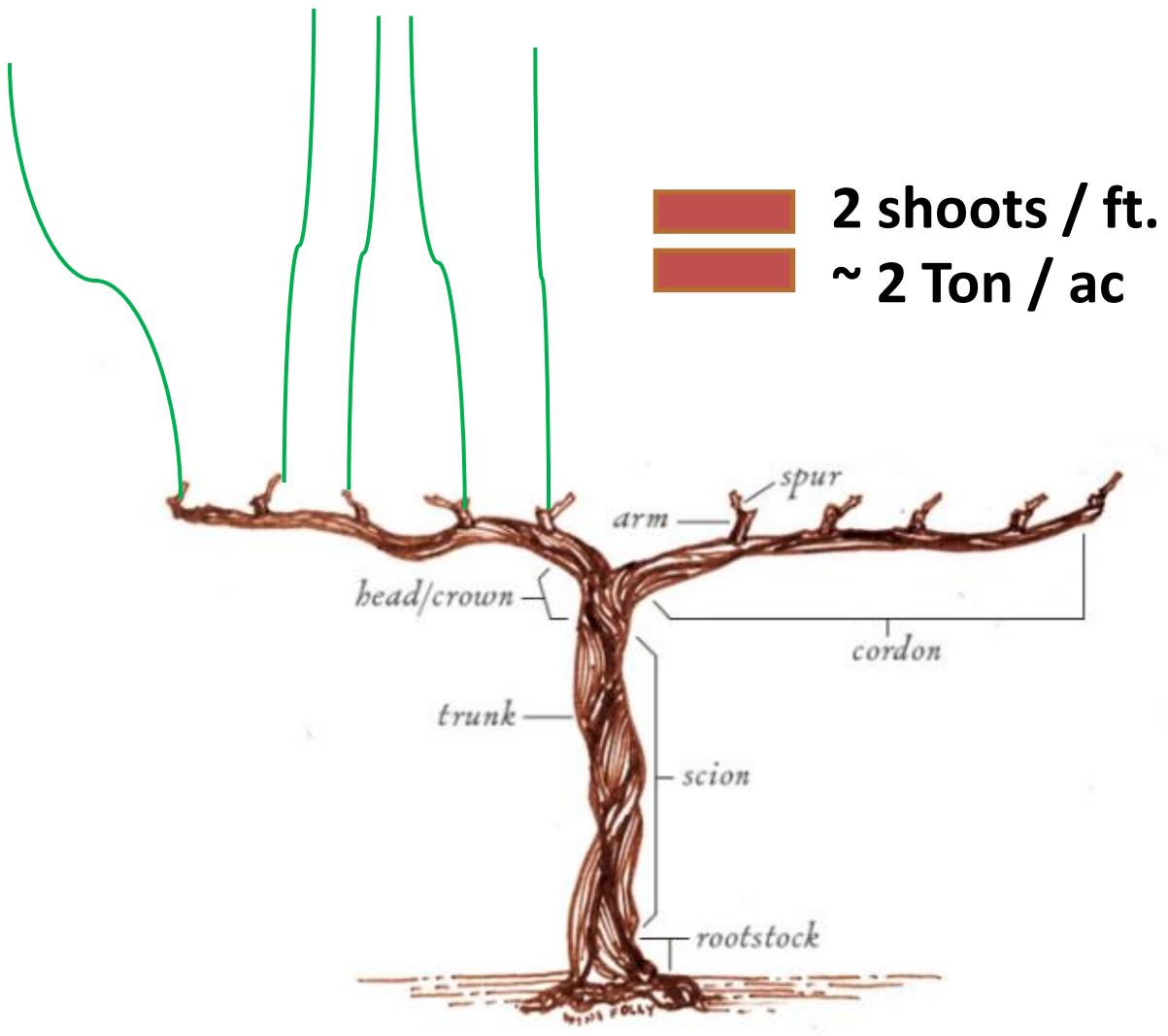
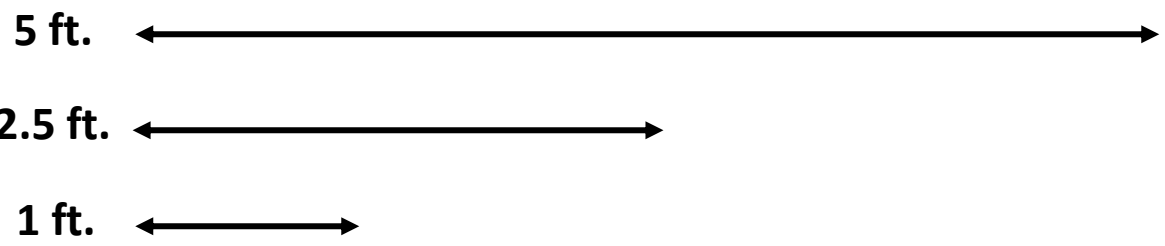
1 ft. ←————→



# Winter Pruning

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- Control shoot density using precision pruning
- Prune to specific bud count to achieve desired shoot / ft.
  - 2 buds / spur
  - Thinned to 1 shoot per bud
  - 4-6 shoots / ft. or canopy



# Winter Pruning

- Pruned to 1 bud / spur

# Shoot Thinning Based on Pruning Strategy

**Pruned to 2 bud spurs**  
**Thinned to 1 shoot per count bud**  
**4 shoots / ft.**  
**~ 3.5 Ton / ac yield**



**Pruned to 1 bud spur**  
**Thinned to 1 shoot per count bud**  
**2 shoots / ft.**  
**~ 2 Ton / ac yield**



# Shoot Thinning Based on Pruning Strategy

- **Performed in spring – best when shoots are 2- 6”**
- **Easier task when shoots are less developed**
- **Promotes growth of Fruitful shoots if performed on time**
  - **Prioritize your varieties or blocks based on quality**







# Shoot Selection

- Clean the base of the spurs
- Thin “doubles” down to 1 shoot per bud





# Shoot Selection

- **De-Sucker the base and trunk of the vines**
- **Maintain desired shoots for redevelopment plans**



# Renew spur positions during shoot thinning

- Identify spur positions that are tall or poorly positioned
- Maintain a renewal shoot to create a new lower position
- Same concept can be applied for replacing cordons





# Renew Tall Spur Positions

- Save renewal options at the base of tall positions
- If multiple tall positions exist per vine consider re-arming or cane conversion

# Shoot Positioning

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- **3 passes required for VSP systems**
  - Timing is critical to reduce tendrils from early latching in the wrong place
- **Moveable wire systems can make the task easier**
  - Position the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> sets of catch wires below the fruiting wire before budbreak
  - Move the wires into position as the shoots grow



# Shoot Positioning – VSP with 3 sets of moveable catch wires



- Prepare for shoot positioning early spring
- Moving catch wires into desired position

# Shoot Positioning

5 wire VSP system

VSP with 4 fixed wires & 1  
moveable wire



# Floor Management

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- **Cover Crop Systems**
- **Weed Management Under Vines**
  - Herbicide
  - Under vine mowing & cultivation







# Cover Crop Management

- **Seeded in row middles to a prepped seed bed**
- **Annual cover for nutrition and soil building properties**
- **Perennial cover for ground cover and erosion control**
- **Blend**
  - Mustard (3lb/ac)
  - Dicon Radish (5 lb/ac)
  - Rape Seed (5 lb/ac)
  - Annual Rye (20 lb / ac)
- **Terminate with crimper or roller**



# Herbicide Under vines

## Pros:

- Efficient/fast
- Clean undervine

## Cons:

- Risk to vines-properly trained applicator
- Material Costs \$\$\$-Supply chain issues
- Erosion on hillsides

Consider narrower strips  
Timing is everything



# Protective Grow Tubes or Grave Stones?

## Pros:

- Tubes protect young vines and retrained vines from Herbicide and Herbivores

## Cons:

- Greenhouse Effect
- Labor intensive
- Prevent Fungicide from being applied
- increase in disease susceptibility
- decrease vine hardiness



# Mowing Under Vine

## Pros:

- cover crops can increase competition and decrease vine vigor
- supports soil biology
- decrease erosion

## Cons:

- requires skilled operator
- slow/time consuming
- specialized equipment
- not ideal for young vines or areas of low vigor/weak vines



# Undervine Cultivation

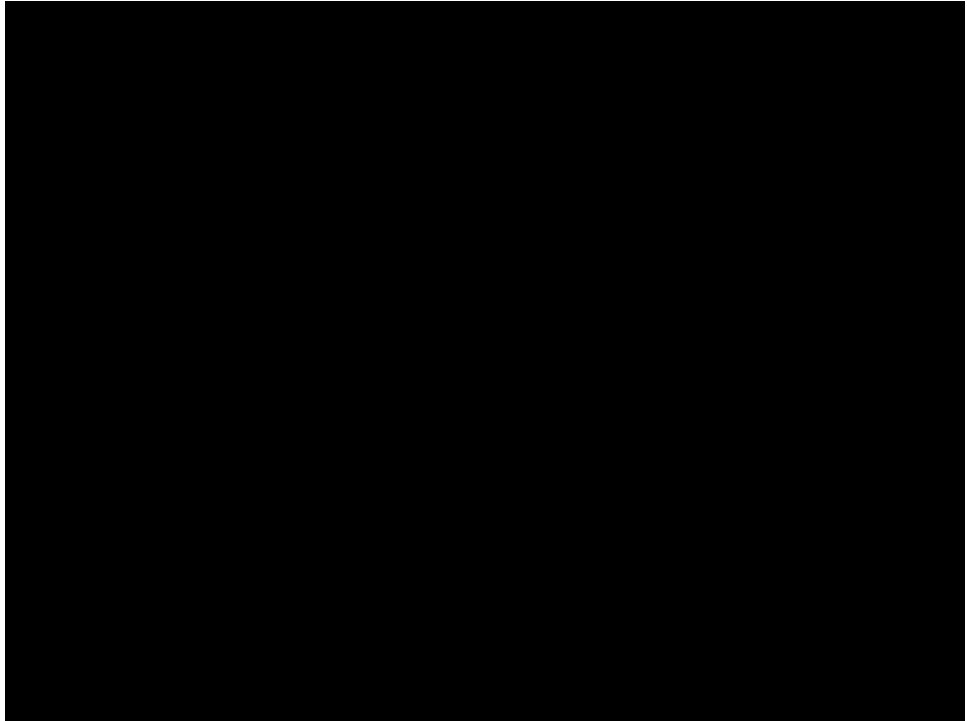
## Pros:

- Less reliance on Herbicide
- Great for cleaning up area with tall weeds or weeds with herbicide resistance
- Can mix in soil applied amendments/fertilizer

## Cons:

- Skilled tractor operator
- Risk to damage vines/vineyard structures
- Crown Gall spread
- Erosion problems





# Nutrition

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# Soil Nutrition

- **Soil Analysis Performed Every 2-3 years in the fall or spring**
- **Tissue analysis performed every year at bloom**





Report Number: 22-104-1334  
 Account Number: 14435



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Send To: Highland Winery

"Every acre...Every year."™

Grower: Joseph Geller

**SOIL ANALYSIS REPORT**

Analytical Method(s): Mehlich 3 SMP Buffer pH Loss On Ignition Water pH

Date Received: 04/14/2022 Date Of Analysis: 04/15/2022 Date Of Report: 04/20/2022

Sample ID Field ID	Lab Number	OM	W/V	ENR	Phosphorus			Potassium	Magnesium	Calcium	Sodium	pH		Acidity	C.E.C
		% Rate	Soil Class	lbs/A	M3 ppm Rate	ppm Rate	ppm Rate	K ppm Rate	Mg ppm Rate	Ca ppm Rate	Na ppm Rate	Soil pH	Buffer Index	H meq/100g	meq/100g
B-MER	06475	3.6 M		117	3 VL		54 L	101 H	306 L	14 VL	5.6	6.85	0.8	3.4	
D-CAS	06476	3.4 M		113	15 L		77 M	99 VH	335 M	13 VL	6.1	6.89	0.4	3.2	
A-PV	06477	4.0 M		125	9 VL		55 L	99 VH	260 L	13 VL	5.4	6.84	0.9	3.2	
A-CASB	06478	3.6 M		118	29 L		94 H	65 H	179 VL	15 L	4.9	6.79	1.4	3.1	
D-PV	06480	3.4 M		113	15 L		68 M	85 H	364 M	13 VL	6.0	6.88	0.5	3.3	

Sample ID Field ID	Percent Base Saturation					Nitrate	Sulfur	Zinc	Manganese	Iron	Copper	Boron	Soluble Salts
	K %	Mg %	Ca %	Na %	H %	NO <sub>3</sub> N ppm Rate	S ppm Rate	Zn ppm Rate	Mn ppm Rate	Fe ppm Rate	Cu ppm Rate	B ppm Rate	SS ms/cm Rate
B-MER	4.1	24.8	45.0	1.8	23.5		52 VH	3.2 M	16 M	28 H	2.2 H	0.2 VL	
D-CAS	6.2	25.8	52.3	1.8	12.5		27 H	3.3 M	12 M	43 H	4.6 VH	0.2 VL	
A-PV	4.4	25.8	40.6	1.8	28.1		72 VH	3.7 H	2 VL	35 H	2.5 H	0.2 VL	
A-CASB	7.8	17.5	28.9	2.1	45.2		70 VH	3.8 H	5 L	45 H	1.9 H	0.2 VL	
D-PV	5.3	21.5	55.2	1.7	15.2		36 VH	2.5 M	7 L	46 H	4.7 VH	0.2 VL	

Values on this report represent the plant available nutrients in the soil. Rating after each value: VL (Very Low), L (Low), M (Medium), H (High), VH (Very High). ENR - Estimated Nitrogen Release. C.E.C. - Cation Exchange Capacity.

Explanation of symbols: % (percent), ppm (parts per million), lbs/A (pounds per acre), ms/cm (milli-mhos per centimeter), meq/100g (milli-equivalent per 100 grams). Conversions: ppm x 2 = lbs/A, Soluble Salts ms/cm x 640 = ppm.

This report applies to sample(s) tested. Samples are retained a maximum of thirty days after testing.

Analysis prepared by: Waypoint Analytical Virginia, Inc.

by: *Pauric Mc Groary*

Pauric Mc Groary Ph.D., CPAg

Send To: Highland Winery



"Every acre...Every year."™

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Grower: Joseph Geller

Date Received: 04/14/2022

Date Of Report: 04/20/2022

**SOIL FERTILITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Sample ID Field ID	Intended Crop	Yield Goal Tons	Lime Tons/A	Nitrogen N lb/A	Phosphate P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> lb/A	Potash K <sub>2</sub> O lb/A	Magnesium Mg lb/A	Sulfur S lb/A	Zinc Zn lb/A	Manganese Mn lb/A	Iron Fe lb/A	Copper Cu lb/A	Boron B lb/A
B-MER	Grapes-Vinifera	4	1.0	**	140	0	0	0	1.4	2	0	0	3.0
D-CAS	Grapes-Vinifera	4	0.8	**	140	0	0	12	1.4	2	0	0	3.0
A-PV	Grapes-Vinifera	4	1.3	**	140	0	0	0	1.2	4	0	0	3.0
A-CASB	Grapes-Vinifera	4	1.5	**	104	0	0	0	1.1	3	0	0	3.0
D-PV	Grapes-Vinifera	4	0.8	**	140	0	0	0	1.8	3	0	0	3.0

**Comments:**

"The recommendations are based on research data and experience, but NO GUARANTEE or WARRANTY expressed or implied, concerning crop performance is made."

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Pauric Mc Groary Ph.D., CPAg



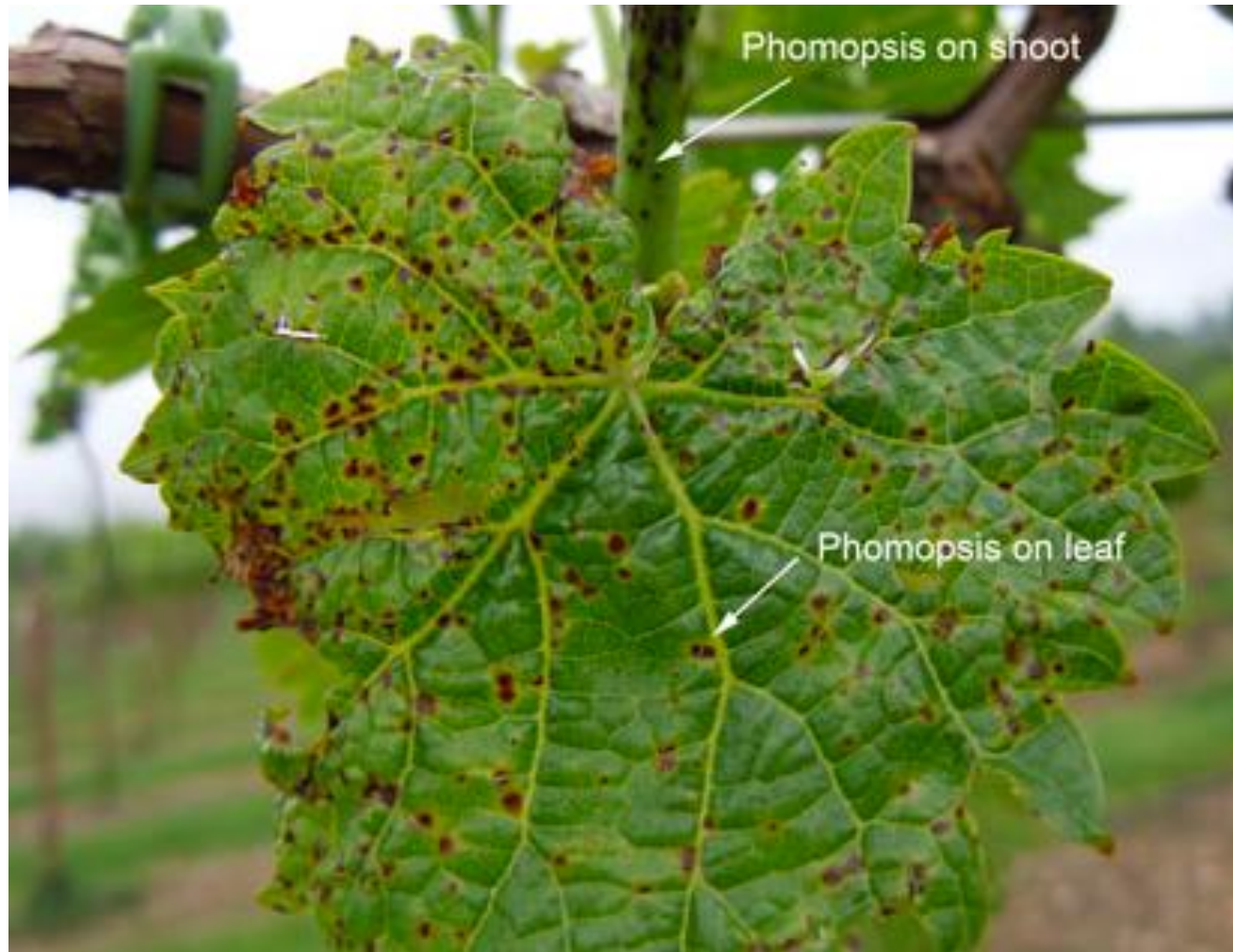
# Foliar Nutrition

# Pest and Disease

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# Phomopsis



# Phomopsis

- Mancozeb (backbone of early season Phomopsis prevention)
- Ziram (to stretch out Mancozeb or if getting close to 66 day PHI...not best Phomopsis material)
- Captan (best saved for late season but could sub for Mancozeb for a rotation if you want to stretch out Mancozeb)
- Cevya
- Topsin
- Pristine (expensive material for phomopsis)
- Lime sulfur in the late winter can help some...consider if you have phomopsis problem areas

# Powdery Mildew



# Powdery Mildew

- Sulfur (backbone of every vinifera program but might not be the best for Hybrids)
- QoI's(strobis) FRAC 11 (Abound, Flint, Pristine)
- DMIs FRAC 3 (Rally, Elite, Cevya, Rhyme, Mettle, tebustar)
- SDHI FRAC 7 (Approvia, Luna Experience)
  - best used at bloom
- Quentec
- Torino (good if you need to get a crew into block ASAP)
- Vivando or Prolivo
- Kenja 400SC
- Gatten
- Horticultural oils
  - good at stopping active infections at high GPA rates
  - doesn't play well with other products and not recommended for NC as it slows fruit maturing



# Downy Mildew



# Downy Mildew

- Mancozeb (Manzate Max, Dithane) backbone of program early season
  - 19 lbs of active ingredient per season
  - 66 Day PHI
- Ziram-provides suppression
- Captan
  - Save for late season
- Copper
  - poor mixing partner
- Ridomil Gold MZ Ridomil Gold Copper
  - not to be used early season unless pressure very high
- Phosphorus Acid (phostrol,prophyt, Reveille) Use sparingly early season if there is a major rain event....try to save for late season
- Ranman
- Zampro
- Revus Top- Could be resistance issues
- Abound and Pristine (FRAC 11)...could be resistance issues
- Aliette (expensive material)

# Black Rot



# Black Rot

- Mancozeb (Dithane, Manzate Max) best protective and backbone of early spring spray program
- Ziram (can sub in for Mancozeb if you want to stretch out Mancozeb or getting too close to 66 PHI window)
- Captan (less effective) and should be saved for after 66 day PHI window closes for Mancozeb
- DMI FRAC 3s (Rally, Tebuconazole, Mettle) Highly effective
- QoI's FRAC 11s (Abound, Sovran) also highly effective

# Anthracnose

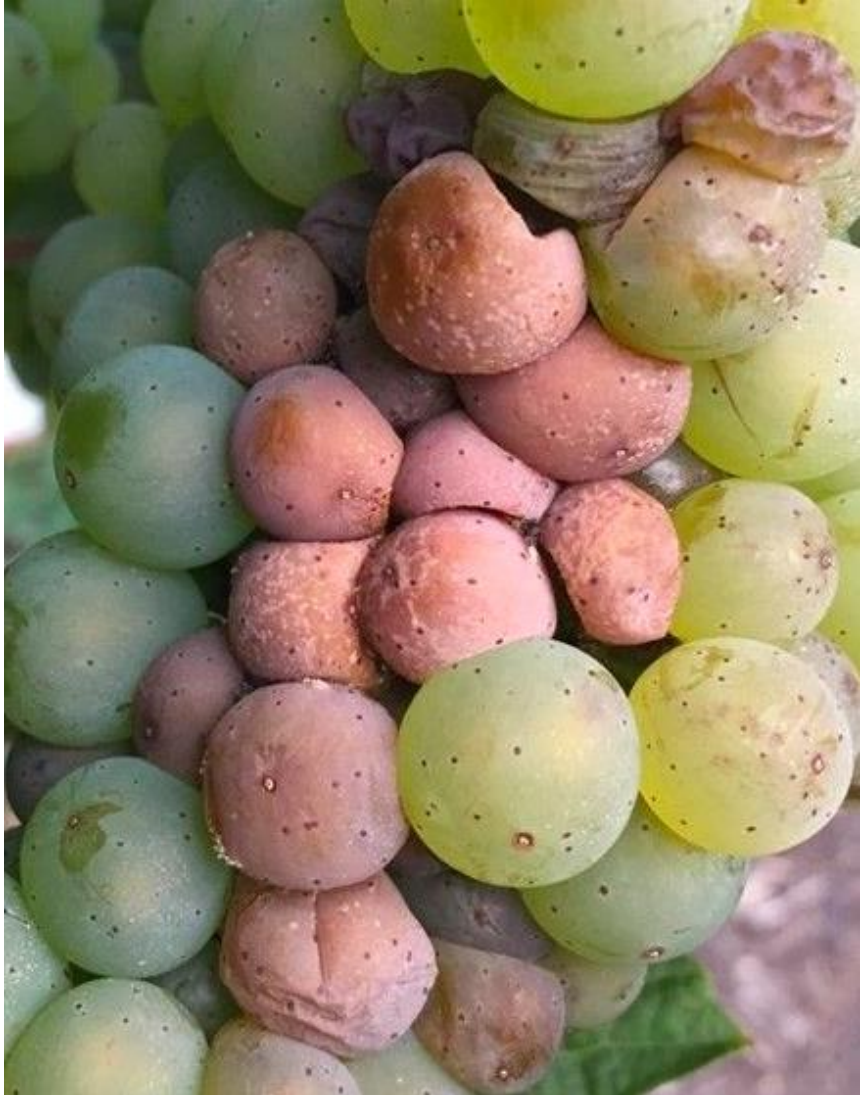


# Anthracnose

Many of the materials you apply for Phomopsis, Black rot and Downy Mildew are going to protect against Anthracnose

- Mancozeb will be stable of Anthracnose program
- Captan also has efficacy
- Most FRAC 3s will offer protection. Use minimum to avoid resistance issues
- FRAC 11s offer protection. Use a minimum to avoid resistance issues.
- Quadris Top and Pristine have great efficacy

# Botrytis and Rot Complexes



# Botrytis and Sour Rot Complexes

Botrytis Bloom Spray options:

- Switch
- Luna Experience
- Miravus Prime
- Rovral
- Elevate
- Vangard
- Inspire Super
- Endura (Bascalid)
- Kenja 400SC (isofetamid)
- Pristine
- Scala
- Intuity

Switch and Miravus Prime Only products labeled for Sour Rot but doubtful of efficacy

Canopy Management is key to success



# Mealybugs

- First Active April and May
- Feed on base of young shoots or pedicels of grape clusters
- Treatment includes:
  - imidacloprid (Admire pro)
  - Dinotefuran (Venom or Scorpion 35SL)
  - clothianidin (Belay)
  - acetamiprid (Assail 30SG)
  - buprofezin (Aplaud 70DF)
  - Spirotetramat (Movento)
  - Horticultural oil
  - Prev-Am



# Climbing Cutworm

- monitor in early Spring for damaged buds and young shoots
- If damage is found you may need to scout at night to see if the population is of concern
- Materials for control include:
  - methoxyfenozide (Intrepid 2F or Troubador)
  - IRAC 3A including beta-cyfluthrin (Baythroid)
  - Bifenthrin (Brigade)
  - Carbaryl (IRAC 1A)
  - Altacor (IRAC 28)
  - Dipel DF or other BT products



May need to spray at night for best control

# Grape Berry Moth

- Monitor with male pheromone traps and sticky cards
- monitoring at night if concerned with density
- First generation shows up pre bloom to bloom
- Larvae feed on blossoms or puncture and feed on berries and can be identified by webbing in and around flower/cluster or holes left in berries
- Adults lay eggs on individual grapes blossoms and stems
  
- Control includes Intrepid 2F, Entrust SC, Delegate WG, Altacore 35WDG, Avaunt 30DG



# Pierce's Disease Prevention

- Monitor for Vectors
- IRAC 4A Insecticide for systemic protection foliar or soil applied
- Imidacloprid, dinotefuran, acetamiprid

Summer time flagging of vines and roguing important for reducing spring transmission

