

Crop Information

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Viticulture Foliar Programs

Foliar Program to Ensure Good Flowering and Fruit Set.

Application of foliar products that are required to increase flowering and fruit set such as Zinc, Boron and Mg when required should be prior to bloom just when the flower truss is visible which is 2-3 weeks before bloom. The second application of these products would be again when the flower buds are separated.

- * Magnesium early to ensure good photosynthesis and fruit set.
- * Boron and Zinc early to ensure good flowering and fruit set.

A foliar application of Phosphorus when flower buds separate and again at fruit set will:

- * A lack of Phosphorus can cause "coulure" on sensitive varieties
 - * Limit "millerandage" - and prolonged flowering and therefore the production of musts with:
 - * Low Sugar Levels
 - * High Acidity
- Lack of "Matter" (colour and unripe tannins)

Fruit Swelling and Ripening

Application of Mg, P, K and Ca during this period will help the crop finish with the quality that is required. Each of these products should be recommended based on tissue analysis at full bloom to veraison for best results. In Mg deficient conditions these applications will help to reduce GSN and ensure good ripening. Magnesium and or Phosphorus application timing based on requirements.

1. Pea-sized Berries
2. Varaison
3. One Month Before Harvest

Potassium Timing

Potash foliar application can help the vines in accumulation and transfer of sugars from the leaves to the grapes and increase the potential alcoholic degree in the wine. Potassium deficiency in grapes can cause high levels of acidity which is bad for wine quality giving the wine a rough, aggressive character. This application should begin earlier at fruit set and continue through to harvest but usually 3 applications beginning at fruit set, again when grapes are pea-size and then again at Veraison.

1. Fruit Set
2. Pea-sized Berries
3. Veraison

Calcium

Calcium improves the quality of the grape in protecting the cell from toxins slowing down the aging process. Good Calcium levels increase shelf life and aid in the reduction of disorders such as GSN, and pre and post splitting of table grapes. The timing should begin at fruit set and be applied in 7-10 day intervals to one month before harvest.

1. Fruit Set
2. Pea-sized Berries
3. Varaison
4. One Month Before Harvest