

Bunch Rot management with Vignoles

Provided by Mike White, Iowa State University Extension

Here are a few studies I was able to find Online.

1. Mid-wire system has a much less potential of bunch rot than high wire systems.

Vignoles Harvest: Shoot Thinning, Training System and Botrytis, Cornell Univ.
<http://www.fruit.cornell.edu/shared/pdfs/Vignoles.pdf>

2. “Vignoles, when balanced pruned, will not need any further reduction in fruit through cluster thinning but, it has been shown through research that leaf pulling after fruit set will help reduce fruit rots and increase sugar content.” This late leaf pulling will not affect cluster compactness, but will allow sunlight and air into the canopy.

Cluster Thinning and Leaf Pulling, OGEN, Ohio State University: 2007:
<http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/grapeweb/OGEN/20070706/ogen07062007.htm>

3. Leaf removal in the fruiting zone at trace bloom reduced Vignoles fruit set by approx.. 33

Stan Howell, Michigan State University:
<http://www.michiganwines.com/docs/Research/03howell3.pdf>

4. In the Vignoles, shoot thinning to 4-6 shoots per ft of row measurably changed canopy architecture. Average number of leaf layers was reduced from 2.5 to 2.0 (optimum being about 2), and the % of interior (shaded) clusters dropped from 80% to around 50%. Wines made from this experiment showed discernable sensory differences. In the Foch, Justine measured total flavonols (compounds associated with flavor and mouthfeel), and total anthocyanins (compounds that impart the red color to wines). Shoot thinning increased both.

Cornell University, 2005:
<http://blogs.cce.cornell.edu/grapes/files/2008/12/canopy-management-for-hybrids.pdf>

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