Planting and Early Care of a Vineyard

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Planting Topics

- Final soil preparation
- Laying out rows and vines
- Handling plants
- Machine planting
- Hand planting
- Fertilization & irrigation
- Grow tubes or not?
- Weed control
Preparing the Field
(Plowing, discing, etc.)
Planting Options

• Planting into a cleanly cultivated site

• Planting into cultivated strips
  • Nice if a ground cover has been established
  • Limits erosion potential
Laying Out and Marking the Vineyard

Diagram:
- Edge of field
- Row 1 of vineyard
- Stakes marking the end of vine rows
- Lines perpendicular to row 1 for setting end stakes of other rows
Care of planting stock

- Keep plants cool and moist
- Maintain nursery tags and labelling
- Do not root prune
- Make sure crew recognizes graft union
Keep vine roots moist at all times
Maintain tags and labelling to avoid confusion at planting
Do not root prune!!

Cabernet franc/C3309
not root pruned

Cabernet franc/C3309
root pruned
Educate the planting crew
Place the graft union on grafted vines about 2 inches above the level vineyard floor.
Planting techniques
Hand Planting Grapevines
The Hard Way
The Hard Way
The Hard Way
Improved hand planting
Improved hand planting
More difficult to place vine correctly
Use reference marks and guides
Slow, but very effective method
Many types of systems are available
Basic parts – V-plow to open trench
Basic parts – platform to hold vines
Basic parts – seats for planters
Basic parts – trench closing system
Basic parts – follow-up crew
Improved planter guidance systems