

Looking After your Grape Plants

Upon Receiving Your Plants:

1. Check the consignment note to make sure all the cartons/bins are accounted for (if more than one). Check the contents of each carton to verify that the correct number of plants have been received. As per your contract, you have 7 days in which to notify us if you have a shortfall or problems.
2. Ensure they have not dried out.
3. Once you have taken possession of these plants they are your responsibility. We have no control over the treatment they receive after leaving the nursery.
4. We recommend that you plant your plants out as soon as possible. Plants that are stored run the risk of drying out.
5. If you intend to plant out within a few days of delivery, your plants can remain sealed in the cartons/bins in a cool shady position.
6. If immediate planting is not possible we recommend storing your plants in a cool store (3-5deg C).

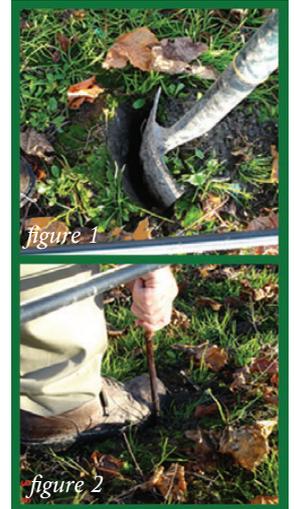
Ormond
Nurseries Ltd
MARLBOROUGH

- DO NOT store plants where apples are being, or have been stored. Ethylene gas given off by apples in storage can cause rapid deterioration of grape plants, even when stored in plastic lined cartons.
- If planting into ground which has recently been in pasture, be aware that there maybe a problem with grass grub ringbarking and killing the young plants. Seek advice regarding insecticide required to combat the grass grub.
- Make sure you check that the plants are kept moist and that the plants are completely sealed in plastic wrap. Regular checks of your plants are essential.

At all times ensure that the bundles of plants are not allowed to dry out. Cover with damp sacks, wet sawdust or stand in a bucket of water.

STANDARD VINE PLANTING | 300-350mm

1. Either dig a hole (or hole that is created through using a hole-auger) that easily accommodates the roots **without causing them to bend up**, 200-300mm diameter is adequate, or open a small gap and push the plant down behind the spade as shown in *figure 1*.
2. Ensure the plant is at least 150mm in the ground. Backfill and pack firmly, pulling the plant up to ensure the roots are pointing down into the soil, (*figure 2*) as well as creating a firm anchorage and an absence of air pockets. There should be approximately 150mm between the ground and the graft.
3. If planting by machine, ensure the graft union is not buried, preferably it should be 150mm above ground level.



TALL VINE PLANTING | 700-750mm

1. Ensure the “head” of the vine is approx 200 mm below the fruiting wire as you plant.
2. Either dig a hole (or use a hole-auger) that easily accommodates the roots without causing them to bend up (200-300mm diameter should be adequate) or open a small gap and push the plant down behind the spade. Planting depth should be approx 150 mm, but may need to be deeper if the head of the vine would otherwise be closer than 200mm to the fruiting wire.
3. Stake or string the cane to the fruiting wire.
4. There is no need to use vineguards as the cane is mature and the new growth is well above the spray zone so the plant will not be damaged by any herbicides.
5. During the first growing season limit the new growth to one or two shoots. This will ensure healthy strong fruiting canes for the following season.

For all young plants

1. If ground conditions are dry at planting, the plants should be watered at regular intervals.
2. To maximise cane development, ensure adequate water within the root zone especially in the first year of growth.
3. NB - Delayed planting (i.e. late spring planting) may result in poorer growth rates and a greater risk of plants failing to establish.

After Planting

For optimum growth in your young plants ensure they are kept well watered, well sheltered (if possible), secured to the wire and weed free. Young plants are very susceptible to stress in the first season.

Caution if Under-planting

Some growers have experienced problems with what appears to be herbicide damage (severe stunting growth and in some cases death of plants) when under-planting older vineyards. Excessive use of Simazine or the like should be avoided. There can be problems with herbicide contamination from older plants that have been cut off and painted with herbicide if new planting is very close. Talk to other growers who have under-planted and seek viticultural advice.