

Biggest Factors To Consider In Deciding Where To Plant A Vineyard

NV&W Workshop
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What's the biggest factors to consider in deciding where to plant a vineyard?

Plant your vines on high ground with good air flow and drainage to avoid late frosts in the spring and early frosts in the fall.

South slopes are ideal but not essential. Avoid north slopes as the reduced sunlight and heat will retard ripening and the crop will have reduced sugar and increased acidity levels.

Have your soil tested and use the results to help decide your variety types. Not all varieties are suited for the soils we have here in Nevada. Vinifera will not grow well in more acid soils like we have at TMV, but our hybrids do very well.

TWIN MUSTANG VINEYARDS

TMV typical row and vine spacing, watering schedule

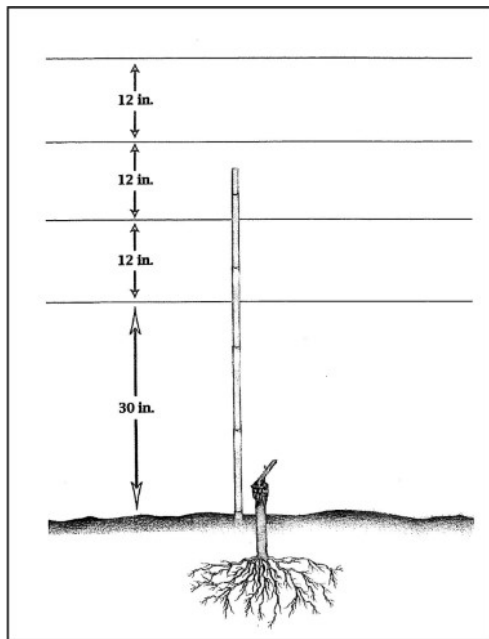
Vines 6' apart and the rows 7' apart with excellent success. We trench our rows end to end to mix the top 2' of soil using a backhoe. Remove rocks over a softball size as you will generally have more dirt left over after trenching. We backfill the trench installing the required posts for the trellis system. Allow the trench to settle by itself, filling in where required but never compacting. The loose rows will make it easier to plant or change out new vines for old and possible casualties the first few years. The TMV irrigation system is 50 vines per zone installing (2) 2-gallon drip emitters per vine approximately 18" apart along the bottom trellis wire which is 12" – 16" above grade. The first 2 years we water the young vines every day for 15 minutes, once they are 3 years old and appearing healthy we cut back to 25 minutes 3 times a week with more when it gets 90+ degrees for multiple days. Keep an eye on the dryness of the tendrils which will be a good indication if the vines require more. Soil types and local drainage conditions may dictate other water schedules; each area will be different, pay attention to your vines and give them what they need per your location.

What kind of training system should I use with my varieties?

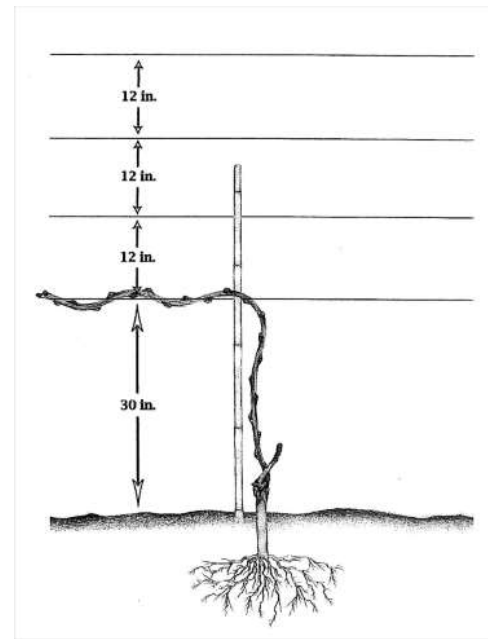
Our Frontenac, Frontenac Gris, and Marquette have all performed well when trained to Vertical Shoot Positioned (VSP) systems. The Top Wire Cordon (TWC) system is best for the more sprawling La Crescent, Petite Pearl, and Edelweiss. When choosing between VSP and TWC some factors to consider are the potentially better light exposure and fruit quality of VSP as opposed to the reduced labor of the TWC. Research your particular varieties for what others have had success with.

Vertical Shoot Positioned (VSP)

Year 1

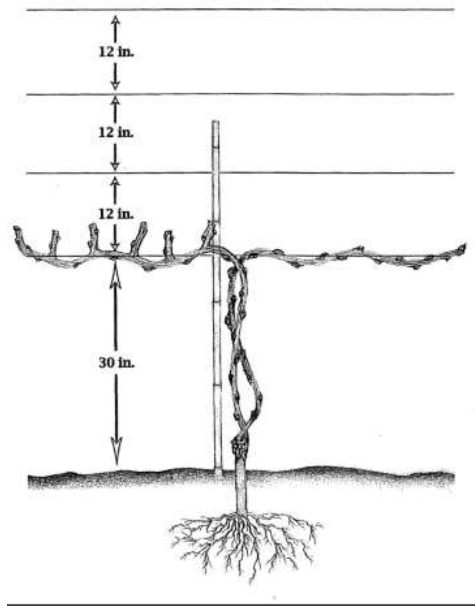


Year 2

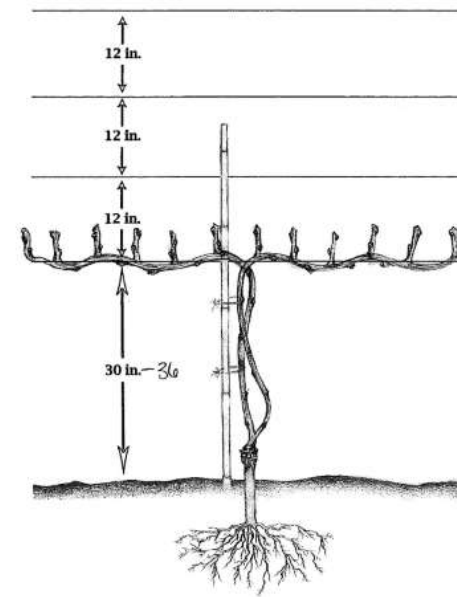


Vertical Shoot Positioned (VSP)

Year 3

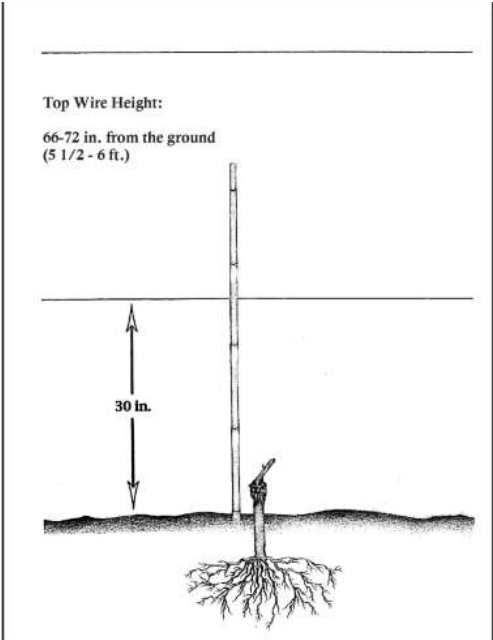


Year 4

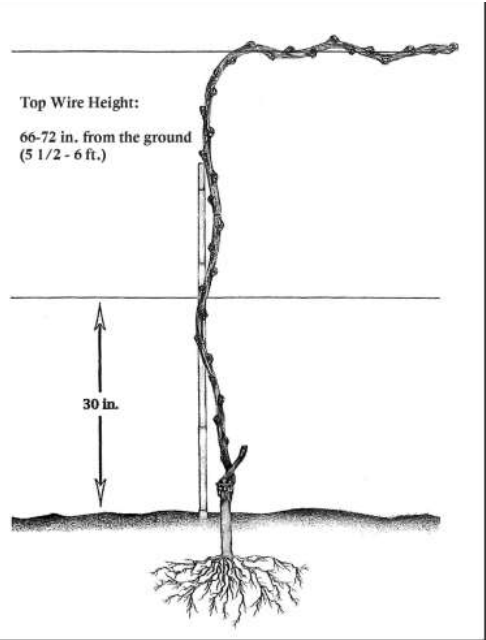


Top Wire Cordon (TWC)

Year 1

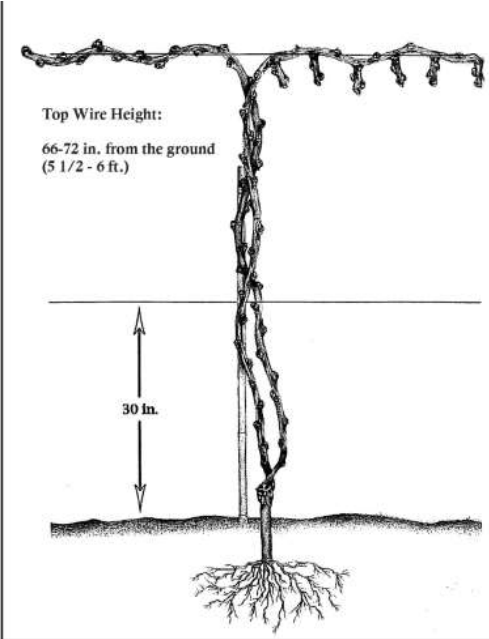


Year 2



Top Wire Cordon (TWC)

Year 3



Year 4

