

New York Sustainable Viticulture Practices Workbook Scoresheet



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Date: _____

Soil Management

Management Considerations for Sites with High Leaching or Runoff Potential

- _____ If vineyard has a high leaching potential, is a plan in place to minimize this risk?
- _____ If vineyard has a high runoff potential, is a plan in place to mitigate the runoff?

Preplant Considerations

- _____ Are complete soil nutrient analyses done?
- _____ Are soil samples sent for nematode analysis?
- _____ Is preplant soil compaction addressed?
- _____ Are soil pits dug to evaluate the soil profile?
- _____ Are drainage problems addressed?
- _____ If necessary, is soil pH adjusted?
- _____ For sites with low soil organic matter, is additional organic matter added?
- _____ How are vineyard rows oriented with respect to slopes?

Established Vineyard Considerations

- _____ Is pH adjusted if necessary?
- _____ How is soil compaction addressed if evident?
- _____ How is soil erosion addressed?

Row Middle Management

- _____ If cultivation is used in row middles, what practices are used?
- _____ What type of seeded cover crop is used?
- _____ If permanent cover is used in row middles, how is it managed?
- _____ What is the frequency of mowing?
- _____ If mulch is used in row middles for erosion control, how is it managed?

Established Vineyard Considerations

- _____ Is ephemeral or gully erosion occurring on the farm?
- _____ Are filter strips (grass borders along watercourses) used?
- _____ Are drainage problems addressed?
- _____ If a nitrogen supplying cover is used, are its nitrogen contributions factored into the nitrogen needs?

Established Vineyard Considerations, cont.

- _____ For soils with low organic matter, is additional organic matter added?
- _____ Is biodiversity of soil microorganisms considered in soil management decisions?
- _____ How is pomace utilized?

Nutrition Management

Monitoring Nutrient Status

- _____ Is tissue analysis done on a regular basis?
- _____ Is soil analysis done on a regular basis?

Nitrogen (N) Management Practices

- _____ What criteria are used to determine the rate of N fertilization?
- _____ What is the total amount of supplemental N fertilizer applied from all sources?
- _____ Is contribution of N from organic sources considered?
- _____ Are different rates/timing of N fertilization tried to reduce overall N use?
- _____ Are organic fertilizers used?
- _____ When is N fertilizer soil-applied in spring?
- _____ If N fertilizer is soil-applied during the post-harvest period, what criteria are used?
- _____ In irrigated vineyards, how is N fertilizer applied?
- _____ If foliar N is used, when is it applied?

Macronutrient Management Practices

- _____ How are macronutrient (P, Ca, Mg, K) levels managed in soil?
- _____ Is the base saturation ratio in the soil analysis within recommended ranges?

Micronutrient Management Practices

- _____ How are micronutrients (B, Mn, Zn) managed?
- _____ What criteria are used for foliar and ground application of micronutrients?

Fertilizer Storage

- _____ What is the storage duration of fertilizers?
- _____ What type of storage is used for dry formulations?
- _____ What is the condition of the containers?
- _____ What security measures are taken at the storage area?
- _____ What is the distance from the fertilizer storage to the nearest waterbody or well?

Vineyard Management

Plant Material and Planting

- _____ Is certified plant material used for vinifera and hybrid selection where possible?
- _____ Are the variety and rootstock appropriate for the given site?
- _____ Is fungal resistance considered when selecting varieties for planting?
- _____ Is the row orientation appropriate for the site?

Vineyard Management

- _____ Does a map of the vineyard exist?
- _____ Are there on-farm experiments evaluating plant materials or trellising options?
- _____ Is the training system appropriate for the site and variety/rootstock?
- _____ Is vine size monitored?
- _____ If vines are unbalanced, are steps taken to increase or decrease vine vigor?
- _____ Is shoot density appropriate?
- _____ Is shoot positioning done in a timely manner?
- _____ Are the canopy management practices of leaf removal and hedging done properly?

Crop Management

- _____ Is the yield appropriate for the vineyard block?
- _____ Is crop thinning done in a thorough and conscientious manner?
- _____ Is yield estimated properly?

Maintaining Vineyard Profitability

- _____ Are grafted vines hilled up in regions prone to damaging winter temperatures?
- _____ Are missing vines counted and replaced regularly?
- _____ Are adequate production records kept to evaluate vineyard profitability?

Irrigation Management

- _____ Is there off-site water movement?
- _____ What type of irrigation do you use?

Irrigation System Maintenance

- _____ Do you check for distribution uniformity?
- _____ Is routine maintenance performed on the irrigation system?
- _____ Is a flow meter installed?

Irrigation Scheduling

- _____ Is the vineyard's soil water holding capacity used in setting irrigation schedules?
- _____ Are monitoring devices used to determine the irrigation schedule?
- _____ What factors are used to determine the length of time for irrigation?

Weed Management

- _____ Is vineyard monitored and mapped for weeds?
- _____ What percent of the area between rows contains permanent ground cover?
- _____ Are non-chemical weed management techniques being used?
- _____ In planning a weed control program, how are control methods and rates chosen?
- _____ Are the leaching potential of herbicides & soil characteristics considered in choosing soil-applied herbicides?
- _____ What type of herbicide sprayer is used?
- _____ Is the herbicide sprayer calibrated properly?
- _____ Are residual herbicides rotated to reduce the potential for resistant weeds?
- _____ Is the amount of spring residual herbicide adjusted based on soil characteristics?
- _____ What types of postemergence herbicides are used?
- _____ How often are postemergence herbicides applied?
- _____ Is spot treatment of weeds used to reduce the amount of postemergence herbicides used?

Pest Management

Pesticide Application Equipment

- _____ What type of canopy sprayer is used?
- _____ Are the selected nozzles appropriate for use? Are they replaced when worn?
- _____ Is the canopy sprayer calibrated properly?
- _____ Are environmental conditions considered before deciding to spray?
- _____ Is the canopy sprayer maintained properly?

Pruning and Dormant Vineyard Practices

- _____ Is pruning done in a way to minimize overwintering pathogens and insects?
- _____ Can the Vineyard Manager identify Eutypa dieback symptoms?
- _____ Can the Vineyard Manager identify symptoms of crown gall infection?
- _____ Are dormant fungicide sprays applied?

Disease Management

- _____ Are canopy management practices followed to minimize fungal disease pressure?
- _____ When planning a disease management program, is block history taken into account?
- _____ What actions are taken to minimize disease pressure in Labrusca varieties?
- _____ Can Vineyard Manager identify fungal and viral disease symptoms on shoots/leaves/fruit?
- _____ How are virus-infected vines dealt with?
- _____ Is scouting done for fungal and viral diseases?

Disease Management, cont.

- _____ Does the Vineyard Manager provide or arrange for training of field staff in disease and insect identification?
- _____ Are fungicides with low leaching potential selected for use?
- _____ When possible, are reduced risk/minimum risk/organic fungicides or biopesticides used?
- _____ Is a Botrytis control program in place for susceptible varieties?

Insect and Mite Management

- _____ Can the Vineyard Manager identify insect and mite pests and the damage they cause?
- _____ Are dormant miticide sprays applied?
- _____ Does scouting for insect and mite pests take place?
- _____ Are insect/mite thresholds considered when making a treatment decision?
- _____ Is spot treatment used for insect/mite infestations?
- _____ Where practical, are reduced risk/minimum risk/organic insecticides and miticides or biopesticides used?
- _____ Is the impact on ERM predators considered when making a treatment decision?
- _____ Are mancozeb products used in a way to minimize their impact on European Red Mite predators?

Pesticide Management

Pesticide Storage

- _____ What type of storage shelving is in place?
- _____ What is the condition of the floor in the pesticide storage area?
- _____ What security measures are taken at the storage area?
- _____ What is the storage duration of the pesticides?
- _____ What is the condition of the containers?

Mixing and Loading Practices

- _____ What is the proximity of the mixing/loading area to wells and watercourses?
- _____ Is a spill kit available?
- _____ How are spills handled?
- _____ What type of mixing and loading area is used?
- _____ What is the water source for pesticide applications? Is an anti-backflow device in place?
- _____ Is filling supervised by a certified applicator?
- _____ How is the sprayer cleaned, and how is rinsate disposal handled?
- _____ Is an inspection and emergency plan in place?



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