



March 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

OVS Southern Oregon Growers Meeting

Thursday, March 5th
Belle Fiore Winery
Ashland, OR

5 ODA Pesticide Credits Offered!

OVS Grape Growers Meeting

Saturday, March 7th
McMinnville Community Center
McMinnville, OR

2 ODA Pesticide Credits Offered!

Southern Oregon Grape Symposium

March 16th
SOREC Auditorium
Central Point, OR

OSU Blueberry School

March 16th & 17th
LaSells Stewart Center
Corvallis, OR

Early Opening Hours

Begin at OVS McMinnville
on Monday, March 2nd

Monday - Friday

7am - 5pm

Saturday

8am - Noon

Frost Protection Information and Strategies



It is that time of year again; when many growers experience intermittent sleep, following winter hibernation. Early reports in California vineyards show bud break already, some berry growers claim early bud push on younger early varieties, and some North Willamette vintners claim to see woolly bud already. Perhaps by the time you read this article, your grapes/berreries will have broken bud as well. Our greatest risk is clear, cold nights.

The 60 day forecast is for above average temperatures and average rainfall, hence it appears we may not be exposed, but being prepared is essential. For most western Oregon locations, Mother's Day is considered the end of the frost potential. Thus we likely have at least several months of frost risk to endure.

Of course, the best way to avoid frost is to plant on a south-facing slope, because south (as well as east slopes) warm up fastest. More importantly, frost flows much like water, which means it will move downhill and can become "dammed" up by dense vegetation along headlands or tall cover crops. On a slope, frost is rarely deep enough to cause damage to buds up on a trellis, but frost pockets and low lying areas of your fields can be more susceptible, as they will have a tendency to collect colder air. Fortunately, there are practices you can employ to reduce risks on frost prone sites; mowing headlands and clearing fence rows can significantly increase air flow throughout your fields, as well as cover crop management (mowing, flailing, etc).

In areas where frost risk is ever present, many growers have already installed sprinkler irrigation, fans or smudge pots to protect their plants. However, sites without these tools sometimes need to employ other measures of protection. Ice nucleating bacteria are an invitation for frost/ice accumulation on plant tissue; applications of copper can effectively reduce bacteria populations on plant tissue, as well as mitigating risk of pseudomonas. Anti-transpirants are another tool available to growers to mitigate frost damage, and if applied ahead of the frost event, these can protect a plant from temperatures 2-4 degrees below freezing; the two anti-transpirants most commonly used are Miller's Vaporgard and Moisturin. Foliar Potassium fertilizers, such as OVS Special K are another option to growers to prevent frost accumulation on plant tissue. The main constituent of OVS Special K is not only a fertilizer, but also a common deicing material used in the commercial airline industry. All the spray approaches must be applied prior to the frost event and must often be repeated.

Call an OVS agronomist for specific products and protocols.

Nate Chambers - OVS Ag Supplies



GRUNDENS Raingear Sale

25% OFF Petrus & Brigg



Weed Control with Chateau® Herbicide in Wine Grapes

Chateau® Herbicide is a proven broad spectrum preemergence residual herbicide for use in vineyards, orchards and hops. It controls more than 90 annual broadleaf and grass weeds, including marestail, fleabane, mallow, filaree, annual ryegrass and other annual grasses. It remains active until ¼ inch rainfall or irrigation releases its activity and it stays where you put it as it won't leach or volatilize.

In Pacific Northwest wine grapes we typically recommend a rate of 10-12 oz per broadcast acre application. We usually tank mix Chateau with a post-emergent herbicide such as glufosinate (Rely etc.) or glyphosate (Roundup) along w/ OVS Cremate adjuvant @ 1 qt/100. Chateau is usually applied in the late winter prior to the bud swell, with a uniform broadcast spray to debris-free berms directed to the base of the vines. The spray volume is a minimum of 15 gallons of spray solution per acre. The PHI is 60 days and the REI is 12 hours.

Heavy flooding may disturb the herbicide barrier and bring untreated soil to the surface. This can lead to an early break in weed control. For grapes established less than 2 years, treat only if they are trellised at least 3 feet from the soil surface OR are protected from spray contact by non-porous wrap around the base, grow tubes or waxed containers. Apply a maximum of 6 oz/A per application on any soil that has a sand plus gravel content over 80% if vines are less than 3 years of age.

Finally Chateau is one of the very few pre-emergent herbicides OK'd for use by the sustainability organization LIVE (Low Input Viticulture and Enology). FYI, LIVE approves its use only in conjunction with a completed weed survey.

Mark Gibbs - OVS Agronomics



EQUIPMENT CORNER



Model AEP-200 50gal
Florida Sprayer
\$3,500

- Three point hitch
- One speed gearbox w/ neutral
- Stainless steel boom
- Galvanized frame
- Standard PTO shaft
- Vari-pitch fan
- Twin flip over nozzles



ERO Hedger
\$9,400

ERO Trimmers are robust, reliable, and available in numerous variations. As standard they are supplied with a double-acting lift on which other ERO products can also be mounted. The lift can also be used to carry the products of other manufacturers. All ERO Trimmers have stainless steel side members and stainless steel knives. Model LKF/E ½ row hedger price. *(Mounting not included)*



Model RIN-6DRF661 Rinieri Leaf Puller
with Electro-Hydraulic Controls
\$21,677

The new double barrel leaf remover DRF is the answer to the needs of the modern vineyard. The machine removes the leaves from the grape zone, increasing maturation and aeration while reducing chemical sprays. Consisting of two opposite rollers, one with holes and the other with rubber, allows for safe removal of leaves without damaging grapes. The fan is equipped with a hydraulic motor.

Reminder.... Aurora Ag Supplies Has Moved to Salem!

Effective January 2nd, our Aurora Ag Supplies Department relocated 30 minutes south to our newest Distribution Warehouse location in Salem, just minutes off I-5 and Salem Parkway. As a result, our Aurora location is now solely focused on serving our customer's Equipment, Service and Parts needs. Contact OVS McMinnville Ag Supplies for more information 800-653-2216.