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PLANT TISSUE Sampling Guidelines

GRAPE

Recommended timing

Optimum sample timings in grapes are pre-bloom, bloom, berry set, and veraison. Pre-bloom samples should be taken 10 to 21 days prior to expected bloom. Before bloom, the calyptra or “cap,” which consists of fused petals, encloses the other flower parts. During early bloom, the calyptra is beginning to dehisce, but stamens are not yet fully exposed. At bloom, the flowers open, pollen bearing stamens and the pistil are fully exposed, and pollination takes place. Berry set occurs 1 to 3 weeks after bloom when most flowers have fallen and those remaining develop into berries. Berry set may also be referred to as fruit set or shatter stage. Veraison is the beginning of fruit ripening, recognized by berry softening and beginning of pigmentation in colored varieties.

Sampling

For all samples, separate petioles from leaves. Normally, the petioles in grapes are used for the analysis of all plant nutrients. Always try to select petioles from unshaded leaves.

Pre-bloom.....Select petioles from recently matured leaves at nodes 2 or 3 from fruiting canes.

Bloom samplesSelect petioles from recently matured leaves opposite basal clusters, which is generally about nodes 4 to 6.

Berry set.....Select petioles from recently matured leaves about 2 nodes above the top most cluster.

Veraison.....Select petioles from recently matured leaves aabout 5 to 7 nodes back from the growing tip of fruiting canes.

Preferred analyses

All samples – Test codes 1155, 1156, 1160, 1161

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ALL VARIETIES

