


Purchasing Grapevine Nursery Stock.....what a grower should know



Tony Linegar
Agricultural Commissioner
County of Sonoma



CA Grapevine Registration and Certification

- ▶ Program administered by CDFA
- ▶ Program aims to eliminate viral diseases of grapevines such as leaf roll, fanleaf, corky bark etc.



CA Grapevine Registration and Certification

- ▶ Once screened, foundation materials are maintained by Foundation Plant Services (FPS) in its Foundation vineyard blocks at UC Davis
- ▶ Participating nurseries can then expand these foundation materials into commercial quantities



“A”

An organism of known economic importance subject to state (or commissioner when acting as a state agent) enforced action involving: eradication, quarantine regulation, containment, rejection, or other holding action.

“Q”

An organism or disorder requiring a temporary “A” action pending determination of a permanent rating. The organism is suspected to be of economic importance but its status is uncertain because of incomplete identification or inadequate information.

In the case of an established infestation, at the discretion of the Director, the Department may conduct surveys and may convene the Division Pest Study Team to determine a permanent rating.



“B”

An organism of known economic importance subject to: eradication, containment, control or other holding action at the discretion of the individual county agricultural commissioner.

OR

An organism of known economic importance subject to state endorsed holding action and eradication only when found in a nursery.

“C”

An organism subject to no state enforced action outside of nurseries except to retard spread. At the discretion of the county agricultural commissioner.

OR

An organism subject to no state enforced action except to provide for pest cleanliness in nurseries.

“D”

No Action. (Parasites, predators and organisms of little or no economic importance.)


CA Nursery Stock Standards of Cleanliness

- ▶ All nursery stock must be “commercially clean” which means that pests are under effective control, are present only to a light degree, and only a few of the plants in the lot show any infestation.
- ▶ Shipments that do not meet this standard are subject to a Notice of Rejection and return to shipper or destruction.
- ▶ When receiving a shipment of grapevine nursery stock, be sure to thoroughly inspect before planting. Call the Agricultural Commissioners’ Office if you find your shipment to be infested.
- ▶ **DO NOT PLANT INFESTED NURSERT STOCK IN YOUR VINEYARD!**

**WESTERN GRAPE-LEAF SKELETONIZER MENDOCINO, NAPA, NEVADA
AND SONOMA COUNTIES:**

By county ordinance, all green-growing (bearing leaves) grapevines are prohibited entry into these counties due to the threat of Western grape-leaf skeletonizer (*Harrisiana brillians*) unless accompanied by an origin certificate or a treatment certificate, as described below:

1. An origin certificate may be issued by the agricultural commissioner or authorized representative in the shipping county after a survey for Western grape-leaf skeletonizer (GLS) has determined that the pest does not occur in the growing area, holding area or within a one-mile radius of these areas. The origin certificate shall include the statement "No GLS is known to exist in the area where the vines were grown or held."
2. Certificate of treatment affirming that the grapevines have been treated by at least one of the following methods:



All Green growing vines shipped into Sonoma County must be held for inspection

- ▶ Shipments should come with notice telling receiver to call County Ag Commissioner for inspection.
- ▶ If you receive a shipment that does not come with the notice please also notify the Ag Commissioner's Office.

Questions to ask nursery.....

- ▶ Does the nursery follow hot water dip protocols (127 degrees F for 5 minutes) to kill all stages of VMB.
- ▶ Does the nursery utilize pheromone traps in their nursery blocks to detect VMB?
- ▶ If buying green growers, ask if they are protected from infestation by a screenhouse &/or greenhouse.
- ▶ Also...train your crews on how to identify VMB.









Photo: Jack K. Clark

Vine mealybug female (left) with oval body shape, thick, even (uniform) filaments and short tails and **grape mealybug (right)** with rectangular body shape, thin, slightly unparallel (non-uniform) filaments and long tails.