

What's going on in your vineyard?

Most of us across North Texas are seeing bloom and fruit set coming to an end with berry growth ramping up. With scattered rain in the forecast for the foreseeable future, maintaining a tight spray program is absolutely critical. Remember that prevention is the name of the game!

'Tis the season for Black Rot... and more!

Foliar symptoms of Black Rot are becoming visible, this is in part due to the high sporulation and overwintering of many fungal pathogens, thanks to the challenging growing season last year. Symptoms include angular necrotic lesions with visible black dotting, these are the *pycnidia* or fruiting structures. Anthracnose, especially on Blanc du Bois, has been another challenge for some growers. Necrotic lesions on shoots and speckled dots on foliage are indicative of this fungal pathogen. Sulfur applications should have been applied as a dormant spray. Powdery mildew is another fungal challenge facing growers, white fuzzy patches on the top of the leaves is a giveaway. See the images below. Consult your 2016 Grape Pest Management Guide available from the AgriLife bookstore and/or contact your viticulture specialist for more details on fungicide products, proper sprayer calibration, and spray timings.

Weeds – Are they still an issue?

So do I really need to be maintaining a 3-4 foot weed free strip under my drip line? Yes, in most cases. This is especially true for vineyards that have young vines. Glyphosate is a routinely used herbicide but make sure you have grow tubes installed on young vines with herbaceous trunks. Read the product label for safe and legal applications.

Petiole Sampling – Why and When?

Monitoring nutrient status of your vineyard will help ensure a healthy and productive vineyard from season to season. One tool that every wine grape grower should include in their nutrition management program is a petiole analysis. This analysis informs the grower on what nutrients are actually taken up and found in the tissue of the vine. While not perfect, it will give the grower a better understanding of the vines nutrient status, leading to better informed decisions, which will save time and money. You may take samples at either 50-75% bloom or right at the start of veraison. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will analyze your samples, for more information including proper sampling protocol contact Michael Cook, additionally submittal forms and costs are available at soiltesting.tamu.edu.

In Other News

We have transitioned from a regional Facebook page to a state Facebook page so that all Texas growers can be informed about events and vineyard status. Find and *like* us at "Texas Viticulture". AgriLife viticulture specialists from all growing regions are posting pertinent information for their region, but it will be accessible to all who are subscribed to the page.

North Texas Viticulture

UPCOMING EVENTS

- North East Texas Field Day – July 14th
- Texas Hill Country Winery Field Day – June 10th
- TCBA Conference – June 12-14th
- Advanced Viticulture Short Course – June 21-22nd
- Collin County Vineyard & Winery Tour – July 9th

Contact Michael Cook for further information



Michael Cook
401 W Hickory Street
Denton, TX 76201
(940) 349-2896
m.cook@tamu.edu
www.winegrapes.tamu.edu



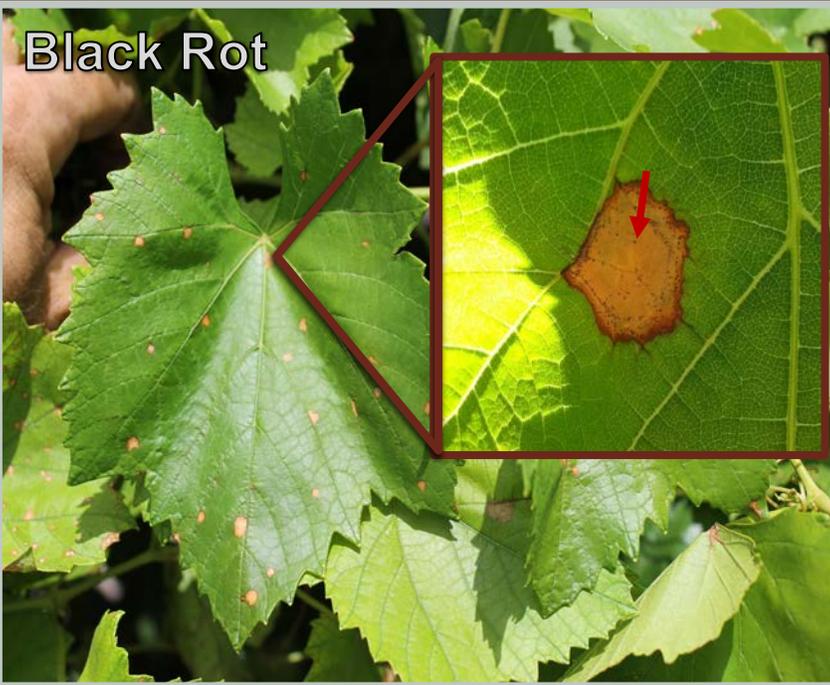
Anthracnose



Powdery Mildew



Black Rot



Images courtesy of Dr. Justin Scheiner, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service