

- Strings tied between 2 wires are suitable for dormant vines but still have movement in the wind and are not as rigid as a stake.
- Irrigation is necessary and should be programmed to give the vine regular small amounts of water with the aim of keeping the soil around the vines moist. In the year after planting, when roots have a greater area to draw moisture from, watering periods can be longer and less frequent.
- The vines will require some fertilizer immediately as the supply in the pot will be almost depleted. Slow release fertilizers in granulated or pill form are excellent for this purpose.
- Residual herbicides should be used with care. Many are not registered for use in vineyards with young vines and can cause them damage. Often it is preferred to use contact or translocated products.

Remember, potted vines will achieve excellent growth provided attention is given to these points.

Residual herbicides should be used with care. Many are not registered for use in vineyards with young vines and can cause them damage. It is preferred to use contact or translocated products. Application of these will need to be repeated. A combination of shrouded nozzles and spray guards (plastic or cardboard) work well to protect the vines after planting. Care should be taken to prevent contact with the young vine. Any issues or problems should be notified in writing as soon as possible including the number of vines affected and the graft lot number.

Riversun Potted Vines

Guide to Planting Potted Vines



**For any queries please contact
the Sales Department at
Riversun Nursery Ltd
P O Box 1199
Gisborne
New Zealand
Tel: 64 6 8671120
Fax: 64 6 8678800
Freephone: 0800 11 37 47
email:
riversun@riversun.co.nz**



Planting Potted Grafted Grapevines

Prepared by
Nick Hoskins
Viticulturist
Mobile: 027 248 7724
Fax: 06 867 8800

Potted vines will achieve excellent growth, equal to one-year-old dormant vines, provided they receive the extra care and attention required. Please read through these instructions to make certain the vines will perform to your satisfaction.

1. Check Order

- Please check that the vines supplied match the documentation sent with the consignment.
- Call Riversun immediately if there are any discrepancies, or if you are unhappy with **any** aspect of your consignment.
 - Damage in transit
 - Delays from dispatch to receipt (more than 3 days)
 - Appearance of vines

2. Before Planting

- Ideally, the vines should be planted soon after you receive them.
- Keep the vines moist at all times.
- Ensure that your site is well prepared.
 - All weeds should be under control
 - The rows ripped and any cultivation completed
 - Soil tested for nutrient levels and fertiliser applied (if needed).
 - Posts, wires and irrigation installed.
 - It is preferable to delay planting until preparation is completed rather than planting prematurely.
 - Old vine stumps should be removed if replanting a vineyard. If this is not possible they should be treated with translocated herbicide. Care should be taken to not use other products because they can affect new vines.
 - Dig hole in line with the posts.
- Soak plant **thoroughly** either under a sprinkler for a minimum of one hour just before planting or submerge in a water trough or similar for 5 minutes.

3. Planting

- Vines will be supplied in recyclable plastic pots. These must be removed at planting. Remove the pot carefully so as to retain the soil around the roots.
- Place vine in the hole dug so that the top of the potting mix is about 5 centimetres below the soil level.
- Try not to disturb the roots.
- Ensure that the vines are watered immediately and regularly. Irrigation is essential.
- Leave a small mound of soil around the base of the vine to compensate for the soil settling. Failure to do this can result in water ponding at the base of the vine.
- A delivery of a combination e.g. Merlot 481 on 101-14 may be made up from several different sources. The information relating to the source of the material is contained in the graft lot number underneath the barcode.
- It is worth planting each block separately and mapping the block i.e. marking and recording the location of the first and last vine of each graft lot.
- Then if there are any differences in performance Riversun can isolate the original source of the rootstock and scion for the vines in question. Because potted vines are graded and dispatched, when ready there may be more than once delivery of a graft lot so planting by delivery date and graft lot will be necessary, i.e. Merlot 481 on 101-14, delivery 17 December, GL 297
1st vine – Row 5, Bay 3, Vine 2 Last vine – Row 10, Bay 29, Vine 1

4. Immediate Care

- Maintain a high standard of weed control. This is **very** important during vine establishment as weeds compete directly with vines for moisture and nutrients.
- Although these vines have been outside for a period of three weeks or more, they have been in a sheltered nursery situation so some form of vine guard is necessary to protect the top growth and graft union. There are two options here – vine wraps (coated cardboard) and corrugated plastic vine guards. This protection will also assist in weed control. If you would like to discuss this further please contact our office on 0800 11 37 47.
- Remove side-shoots regularly to maximise growth.
- Stake the vine as soon as possible. It is very important the vine be staked immediately for the following reasons:
 - the roots in the pot are soft fibrous roots that will break very easily if there is any movement in the vine at all.
 - unlike dormant vines, the potted vine already has foliage but no woody root structure to anchor the vine in the wind so even in a light breeze will be enough to limit the root contact with the surrounding soil if the vines are not staked.