Fundamentals of Grape Integrated Disease Management for Beginners

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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
VIRGINIA TECH.

Outline

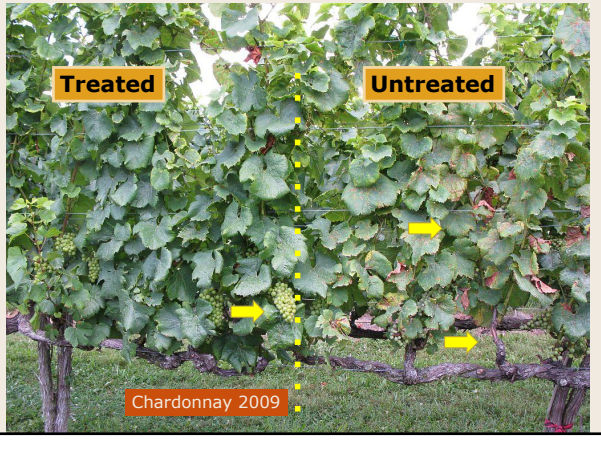
- Plant diseases and Integrated Pest Management
- Fungicide Resistance
- Pictures of common diseases
- Resources

Fungal diseases are very common in VA vineyards (or any vineyards located east of Rockies)

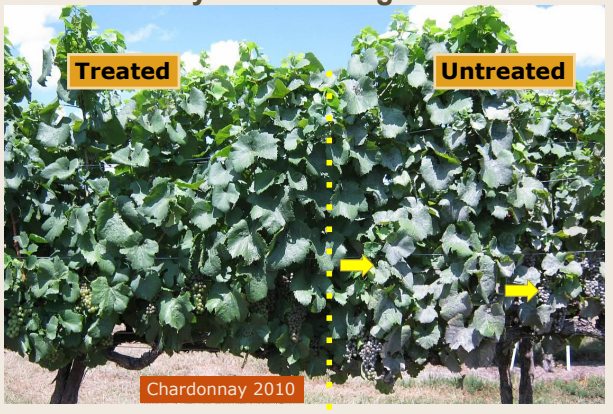
- Due to high humidity (rain and relative humidity) during the growing season
- Variety selection
  - Susceptible varieties such as 'Chardonnay' are preferred

A commercial vineyard in Loudoun county, VA

Grape diseases can be very serious!



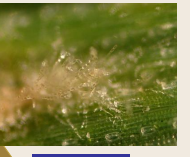
It is not possible to grow susceptible variety without fungicides



How do these disease occur? Disease triangle

- Pathogens need to have a certain condition to infect and cause disease

Host (grape)



Environment (esp. Rain & Temp)

Pathogen

Since our environment tend to favor the development of various diseases, we need to use as many tools as we can to manage.

Genetic resistance
Cultivar selection

+

Cultural Practice

- Site selection (air, sun, water, etc.)
- Canopy management
- Clean plant materials
- Sanitation

+

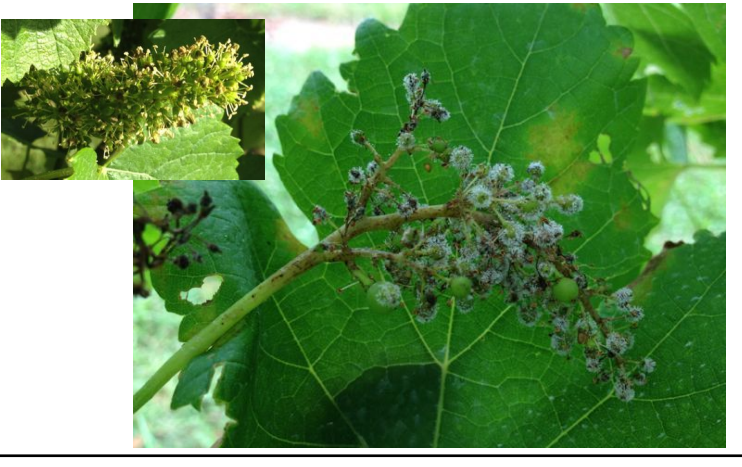
Use of Chemical
- Timing
- Selection

+

Use of Biological agent, Plant Defense Activator
- Results tend to be less consistent than chemical options: use with a caution

Integrated Pest (and disease) Management (IPM)

2013 was very rainy, and I did not have enough help...

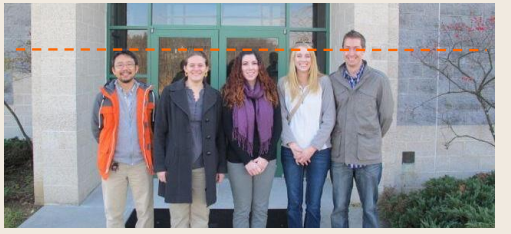


Fungicide resistance

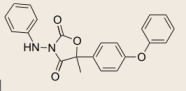
- After several years of use, some of fungicides, especially newer ones, become less effective
- Many of new fungicides are targeting a specific gene or gene function
  - Highly specific and thus often safer to other organisms.
    - Use ounces not pounds
  - Other benefits: movement of the chemical into plant tissues
    - In some cases, we can apply chemicals after a rain (typically, you need to apply before the rain)

The target pathogen can develop a resistance to the function = mode of action = how the pesticide kills or inactivates the target pathogen

- Pathogens can become less sensitive to a fungicide because…
  - Some of population (isolates) were not sensitive to begin with
  - Mutation of the target gene (or gene function) happened after exposed to the fungicide.



An example of fungicide resistance development QoI or Strobilurin fungicides



Famoxadone

- The first fungicides in this family were isolated from wood-rotting mushroom fungi, including one called *Strobilurus tenacellus*.
- All QoI fungicides share a common biochemical mode of action:
  - Interfere with energy production in the fungal cell.
  - They block electron transfer at the site of quinol oxidation (the Qo site) in the cytochrome bc_1 complex, thus preventing ATP formation.
- It has curative activity against some of pathogens = you can apply after infection takes place.

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QoI fungicide was introduced in late 1990's, and it was working against multiple pathogens

- However, this entire group was found to be no longer effective against both grape downy and powdery mildew in VA by 2007-09
- Only 10-12 applications were enough for fungal pathogens to develop resistance to the QoI
  - A single mutation site was often associated with the resistant isolates
- Once developed, the resistance highly likely stay for good = you cannot use the same mode of action any longer.

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Once developed, fungicide resistance will stay…

Best way to avoid fungicide resistance are tank mix, limitation of the use, and rotation of mode of action

- Some of fungicides are less prone to the development of resistance because they have multiple modes of action
  - **Sulfur** for powdery mildew, **mancozeb** for downy mildew, black rot, and Phomopsis, **copper** for downy and powdery mildew, and **captan** for downy mildew, Phomopsis and Botrytis bunch rot
  - Mixing them with a newer fungicide has shown some evidence of delaying onset of resistance with some of pathogens

You cannot use the same materials repeatedly

- Often time there is a legal limitation in the number of applications or amount of the chemical you can use per season
  - Example with grape: Mancozeb's PHI (Pre-Harvest Interval) is 66-day, *plus* there is a limitation on the amount (19.2 lb of a.i./ acre/ season)
- Recommendations on new fungicides are to apply no more than two applications per season (listed on the label = legal)
- Rotate with different modes of action!
  - **However, rotating product or chemical name may not result in the rotation of the mode of action!**

skip

I hope things are more straightforward, but it is not…

- **Different products may have the same mode of action**
  - Both 'Elite' and 'Orius' have a tebuconazole as an active ingredient (a.i.), and tebuconazole belong to a mode of action DMI (de-methylation inhibitors, or also called sterol inhibitor or SI)
- **Different chemicals may have the same mode of action**
  - Both 'Elite' (a.i. = tebuconazole) and 'Rally' (a.i. = myclobutanil) belongs to DMI group

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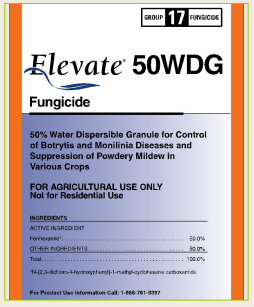
FRAC (Fungicide Resistance Action Committee) code http://www.frac.info/



Sometimes, one product has two modes of action
- Increase efficacy
- May delay the onset of resistance
- Make it more difficult to rotate!

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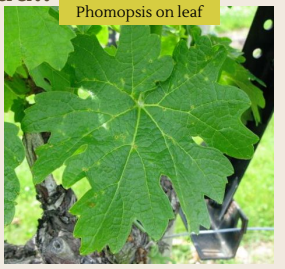
The use of pesticides (fungicides, insecticides, and herbicides) is complicated! Please plan ahead!!



Proper planning will help you to:

- Prepare time and resources
  - Be through and realistic
- Check inventory of your supplies
- Remember what you did last year
  - Lower the risk of making the same mistake
- Recognize which diseases were more prevalent
  - = Adjustment for a challenging season!!

Let's go through common diseases that you probably will see in your vineyards!

- For the sake of time, I will focus major fungal diseases; however, there are diseases caused by
- Viruses
  - leafroll viruses, red blotch, etc. (60+)
- Bacteria
  - Pierce's Disease, crown gall
- Phytoplasma
  - grapevine yellows

The collect identification is critical because different management tools will be needed for seemingly similar diseases

Downy Mildew

Powdery Mildew

The infection conditions and chemical to be used are different!

Downy Mildew

- Caused by Oomycete pathogen, *Plasmopara viticola*, which can infect leaves and berries, berry infection can cause serious damage
- Heavy leaf infection can cause a defoliation

Oily spot appearance on upper surface

Downy Mildew

Powdery Mildew

- Caused by a fungal pathogen, Erysiphe necator (= *Uncinula necator*)
- It can infect leaves and berries, berry infection can cause serious damage
- Infection of berries during early season can increase the risk of other diseases

Pictures taken from Organic grape production guide: OSU, Ellis and Nita 2004

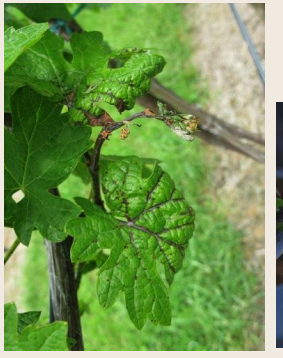
Powdery Mildew

It can be found on the both upper and lower surface, but more commonly found on the upper surface

Phomopsis Cane and Leaf Spot

- Caused by a fungus, *Phomopsis viticola*.
- It can infect leaves, canes, rachis, and berries (up to 30% loss of yield has been reported), it can cause premature drop of berries
- Even though it does not cause immediate damage, it can cause a slow decline of vines


Phomopsis cane and leaf spot




Black Rot

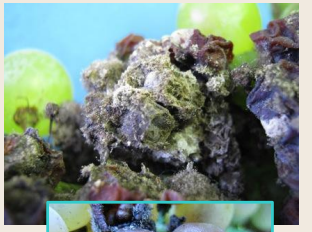
- It is caused by a fungus, *Guignardia bidwellii* that can infect leaves and berries, berry infection can cause serious damage
- Infected berries will produce spores next year


Black Rot

Botrytis bunch rot, or gray mold

- It is caused by a fungus *Botrytis cinerea.*
- It can cause damage to berries, and can be very significant
- The gray moldy appearance is due to mass of conidia
- It has wide range of hosts, strawberry and other small fruits, crop debris, etc…

Botrytis Bunch Rot



How do we manage these diseases?

- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Disease triangle matters!
  - You will see more warm season disease such as ripe rot and Pierce's Disease in southeastern part of the state
  - Grape changes its susceptibility to disease over the course of the season too!

- Powdery mildew
- Downy mildew
- Black rot
- Botrytis
- Ripe rot
- Bitter rot

Bloom

Up to 5-6 weeks after bloom

- Powdery mildew
- Downy mildew
- Black rot

Pre-bloom

- Powdery mildew
- Downy mildew
- Black rot

Berry touch

Botrytis

Critical period timeline

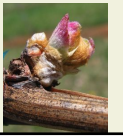
Veraison

- Ripe rot
- Bitter rot
- Sour rot
- Botrytis

Harvest

Phomopsis

Bud break

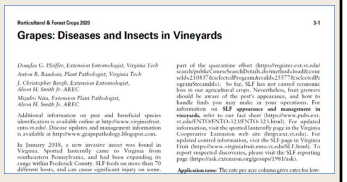


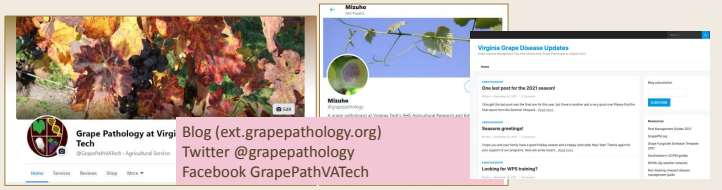
"Ideal" IPM depends on so many factors

Grape disease management resources

- VCE Pest Management Guide (PMG)
- Southeastern IPM guide (bunch grapes)
- My blog (Virginia Grape Disease Updates)
  - http://ext.grapepathology.org
- My pesticide management tool
  - http://grapeIPM.org
- Wilcox, W. et al. (2015) Compendium of Grape Diseases, 2nd edition

Links will be available


Grapes: Diseases and Insects in Vineyards



Blog (ext.grapepathology.org)
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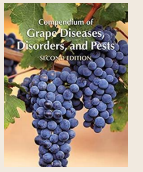
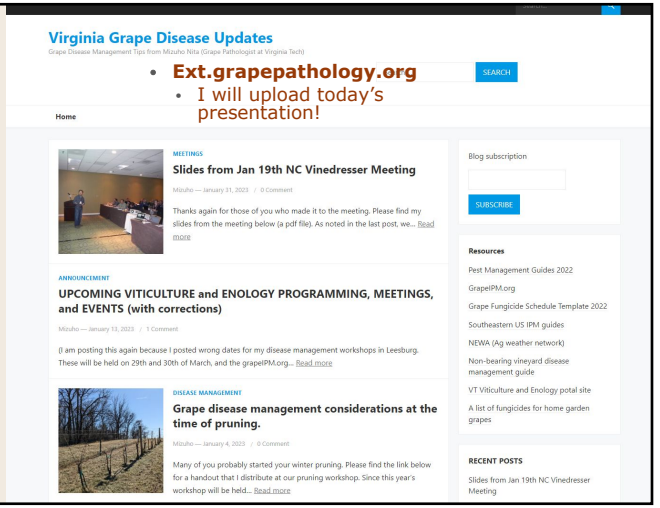


Picture is taken from publisher's websites

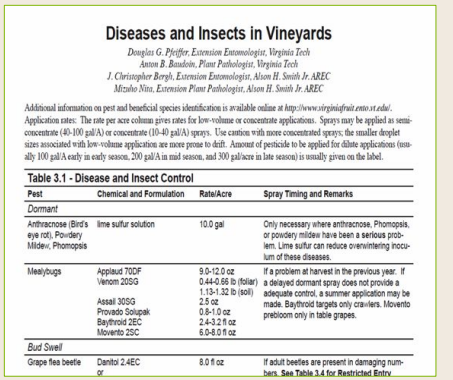
My blog



- **Ext.grapepathology.org**
  - I will upload today's presentation!

VCE's Pest Management Guide (PMG)

- It covers not only diseases, but also insect and weeds
- Updated every year



Diseases and Insects in Vineyards

Douglas G. Pfeiffer, Extension Entomologist, Virginia Tech
Anton B. Baudoin, Plant Pathologist, Virginia Tech
J. Christopher Bergh, Extension Entomologist, Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC
Mizuho Nita, Extension Plant Pathologist, Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC

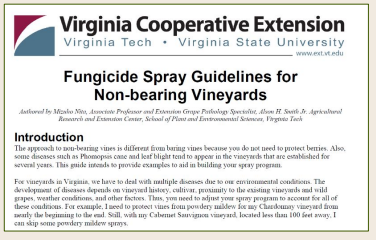
Additional information on pest and beneficial species identification is available online at http://www.virginiafruit.ento.vt.edu/. Application rates: The rate per acre column gives rates for low-volume or concentrate applications. Sprays may be applied as semi-concentrate (40-100 gal/A) or concentrate (10-40 gal/A) sprays. Use caution with more concentrated sprays; the smaller droplet sizes associated with low-volume application are more prone to drift. Amount of pesticide to be applied for dilute applications (usually 100 gal/A early in early season, 200 gal/A in mid season, and 300 gal/acre in late season) is usually given on the label.

Table 3.1 - Disease and Insect Control

Pest	Chemical and Formulation	Rate/Acre	Spray Timing and Remarks
Dormant			
Anthracnose (Bird's eye rot), Powdery Mildew, Phomopsis	lime sulfur solution	10.0 gal	Only necessary where anthracnose, Phomopsis, or powdery mildew have been a serious problem. Lime sulfur can reduce overwintering inoculum of these diseases.
Mealybugs	Applaud 70DF Venom 20SG Assail 30SG Provado Solupak Baythroid 2EC Movento 2SC	9.0-12.0 oz 0.44-0.66 lb (foliar) 1.13-1.32 lb (soil) 2.5 oz 0.8-1.0 oz 2.4-3.2 fl oz 6.0-8.0 fl oz	If a problem at harvest in the previous year. If a delayed dormant spray does not provide a adequate control, a summer application may be made. Baythroid targets only crawlers. Movento preboom only in table grapes.
Bud Swell			
Grape flea beetle	Danitol 2.4EC or	8.0 fl oz	If adult beetles are present in damaging numbers. See Table 3.4 for Restricted Entry

Grape disease management guide for non-bearing grapes

- Aiming for first- and second-year vines which should not bear fruits.



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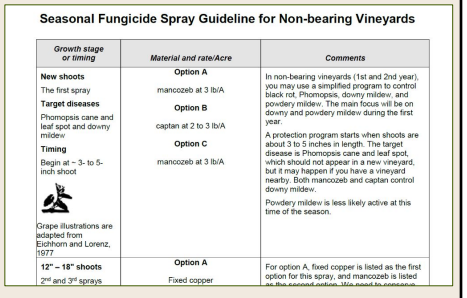
Fungicide Spray Guidelines for Non-bearing Vineyards

Authored by Mizuho Nita, Associate Professor and Extension Grape Pathology Specialist, Alson H. Smith Jr. Agricultural Research and Extension Center, School of Plant and Environmental Sciences, Virginia Tech

Introduction

The approach to non-bearing vines is different from baring vines because you do not need to protect berries. Also, some diseases such as Phomopsis cane and leaf blight tend to appear in the vineyards that are established for several years. This guide intends to provide examples to aid in building your spray program.

For vineyards in Virginia, we have to deal with multiple diseases due to our environmental conditions. The development of diseases depends on vineyard history, cultivar, proximity to the existing vineyards and wild grapes, weather conditions, and other factors. Thus, you need to adjust your spray program to account for all of these conditions. For example, I need to protect vines from powdery mildew for my Chardonnay vineyard from nearly the beginning to the end. Still, with my Cabernet Sauvignon vineyard, located less than 100 feet away, I can skip some powdery mildew sprays.

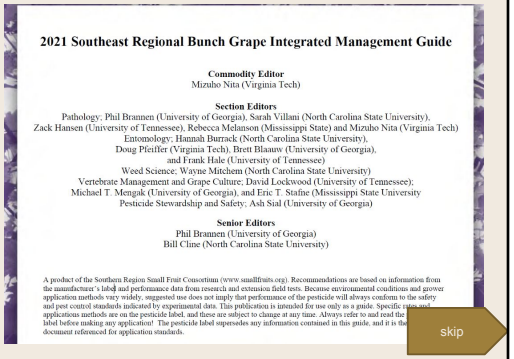


Seasonal Fungicide Spray Guideline for Non-bearing Vineyards

Growth stage or timing	*Material and rate/Acre*	*Comments*
New shoots The first spray **Target diseases** Phomopsis cane and leaf spot and downy mildew **Timing** Begin at ~ 3- to 5-inch shoot Grape illustrations are adapted from Eichhorn and Lorenz, 1977	**Option A** mancozeb at 3 lb/A **Option B** captan at 2 to 3 lb/A **Option C** mancozeb at 3 lb/A	In non-bearing vineyards (1st and 2nd year), you may use a simplified program to control black rot, Phomopsis, downy mildew, and powdery mildew. The main focus will be on downy and powdery mildew during the first year. A protection program starts when shoots are about 3 to 5 inches in length. The target disease is Phomopsis cane and leaf spot, which should not appear in a new vineyard, but it may happen if you have a vineyard nearby. Both mancozeb and captan control downy mildew. Powdery mildew is less likely active at this time of the season.
12" – 18" shoots 2nd and 3rd sprays	**Option A** Fixed copper	For option A, fixed copper is listed as the first option for this spray, and mancozeb is listed as the second option. We need to organize

Southeastern Regional IPM guide http://www.smallfruits.org/SmallFruitsRegGuide/

- Another version of the management guide
- Why so many? - there are many ways to look at pest management



2021 Southeast Regional Bunch Grape Integrated Management Guide

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Acknowledgement

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