



*L'innovazione in viticoltura*

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## TIPS FOR IMPLANTING GRAFTED VINES

- The most suitable period for planting, so to benefit from the best weather conditions, is during fall or spring, but not later than the end of May. In case of re-planting it is a good practice to avoid rootstocks that are sensitive to soil fatigue such as 3309, 101.14, 41B and 420A. It is always recommended to operate in optimal soil conditions to avoid compaction. A good ground fertilization is desirable in the pre-planting phase and mandatory in particularly poor lands.
  - Before planting it is necessary to soak the grafted vines in water for at least 24-48 hours, in order to rehydrate tissues. Should it not be possible to plant the vines shortly after purchase, it is possible to store them at controlled temperature (+3/+4°C), keeping them in the original packaging. Once unpacked, do not expose the roots to the sun, otherwise they will dehydrate and will be irreversibly damaged.
  - After rehydration it is possible to trim the roots, making sure the final length won't exceed 8-10cm in case of machine planting (Wagner machine), or 3cm if transplanting forks are used.
  - Make sure that the callused point stays about 5cm above the ground level in hilly areas where erosion is more likely to take place, and about 10cm in lowlands. It is not advisable to plant using a drilling system, especially in compact and humid soils.
  - Once planting operations are finished, it is crucial for the roots to stick perfectly to the soil to allow a prompt vegetative restart and avoid "empty areas" in the ground where water stagnation may occur.
  - In case of late planting, at a stage when rainfall is poor, irrigation with an appropriate amount of water is essential and it has to be done immediately after planting and, as much as needed, during the following period to avoid any water stress and poor development of the plants. If sprinkler irrigation is carried out, it is necessary to supply not less than 35/45mm of water, whereas, in case of direct localized irrigation, at least 7 liters of water/plant must be provided every other 3/5 days until bud burst is completed.
  - As soon as the first shoots have reached a proper development level (2-3 leaves), it is necessary to start the phytosanitary defense in order to protect the young plants from harmful organisms that can undermine the vegetative growth, such as downy mildew, powdery mildew, thrips and leafhoppers.
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