

Case #4: Vineyard Management and Winery

Objective

The technological objective was to further develop our scientific knowledge and increase fruit production through mechanical control of the vine tips for the winemaking industry

Obstacle encountered

- The period during which raising vines to the top trellis needs to take place is relatively short, quick and decisive action is required in order to prevent the canes from weaving, bending or growing abnormally.
- Despite excessive and laborious trimming, these pruned vines will not produce the same volume as a full trunk and they are at risk for fungal rot.
- The client encountered a lack of knowledge and uncertainty of how to produce wine in the wet and humid Canadian climate without active fruit management and pruning.

Advancement that was made

- They were able to reduce the volume of canes that had to be trimmed and consequently increase the total grape production per vine by 15%.
- The augmented exposure to the sun increased the total tannins within the resulting wine, even in a wet and rainy season that plagued other vineyards.
- The increased radiant exposure has improved the wines flavour and complexity.

Example of evidence

- Weekly Notes
- Invoices
- Pictures of Growth
- Yearly wine production values