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## The Influence of Sunlight on Grape Berry Growth and Composition Varies During Fruit Development

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Cabernet Sauvignon and Pinot noir grapevines (*Vitis vinifera* L.) grown in a sunlit phytotron were used to study the influence of sunlight exposure during specific stages of fruit development on berry growth and composition. Fruit clusters excluded from sunlight during berry development stages I and II, stage III, or stages I, II, and III, were compared to fruits exposed to 20% of ambient sunlight throughout berry development (control). The fruits of both cultivars responded similarly to the treatments in this experiment. Berries grown in the absence of sunlight during stages I and II were similar in both diameter and weight to berries excluded from sunlight throughout their development (stages I, II, and III). The berry diameter and weight of these treatments were significantly lower than those of the control. Berries excluded from sunlight during stage III were similar in diameter and weight to berries of the control. The composition of berries excluded from sunlight during stages I and II was similar to the composition of berries grown in the absence of sunlight throughout their development. The fruits of these treatments contained greater malate concentrations prior to veraison, exhibited reduced rates of post-veraison sugar accumulation and malate degradation, and had lower anthocyanin and total phenolic concentrations in their skins compared fruits of the control. Fruits excluded from sunlight during stage III exhibited only slight reductions in the rates of post-veraison sugar accumulation and malate degradation compared to the control. Sunlight exclusion during stage III significantly reduced skin anthocyanin and total phenolic concentrations compared to the control. Sunlight exposure had no significant effect on the tartrate content or juice pH of fruits in this experiment.

## Influence of Basal Leaf Removal on Grapevine Growth, Yield, and Bud Fertility in Seyval

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Basal leaf removal effects on grapevine growth, hardiness and fruitfulness of the grapevine were studied in different grapevines, whether young potted or field-grown. Basal leaf removal had no significant effect on bud differentiation and primary bud fertility. Results from vines suggested that an eventual cold injury was more effective following treatment with basal leaf removal. The net CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation rate per unit leaf area by leaf removal at pea size, unlike a control, was increased A, especially on potted vines. Net photosynthesis was lower on fruiting than on non-fruiting vines, basal leaf removal improved cluster yield per node with no significant effect on cluster weight. In 1990, when canopies were reduced the percentage of rotten clusters per node retained (1.5), but not in 1991 (NT) vines. Carbohydrate storage increased due to an early leaf killing frost and cold injury. Field cold injury was greater in dormant seasons, as evidenced by lower yields per node in 1990 than in 1991. This was not affected by leaf removal, and was lower in 1990 than in 1991. In 1990 the number of clusters per node was lower on 0 than on NT vines. Differences in cluster yield and primary bud fertility between treatments were not significant in any trial year.