



UNIVERSITY OF
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University of Nebraska Viticulture Program

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SAVE THE DATE! – JUNE 23, 2018: GREAT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY WITH RICHARD SMART!

Richard Smart, a.k.a. “The Flying Vine Doctor” will be in Nebraska on June 23 for an educational program sponsored by the University of Nebraska Viticulture Program and the Nebraska Winery and Grape Growers Association (NWGGA). Consulting opportunities will be available and details of the educational program (topics, location and time of day) will be announced in the Nebraska VineLines and on the UNL Viticulture Program’s web site <http://viticulture.unl.edu>.

LATE WINTER AND SPRING TASKS ARE IMPORTANT!

- Pruning should be finishing up soon.
- Assess winter damage, if any. Using a razor blade or other sharp instrument, slice across the base of buds to determine bud loss. This is best accomplished by bringing a large number of canes inside for a day to allow bud damage to fully show up. If primary buds are brown or black, check secondary buds and the cambium between nodes (slice just under the bark to look for green tissue).
- Prune the most tender (frost-sensitive) cultivars last – prune the most cold-hardy cultivars first.
- Be aware of potential problems with cultivars that break bud early (Marquette, Marechal Foch, Edelweiss) and consider long-pruning for these and other early breaking cultivars.
- Consider using pruning weight as a guide to pruning level. Retain 9 to 14 buds per pound of prunings.
- After the last frost (if any) prune to two to three buds per spur. The goal is to have 4 to 5 shoots per foot of canopy.

- Consider spraying with Amigo oil to delay bud break.
- Make sure all vineyard equipment has been serviced, is clean and ready to go.
- If bud break has not yet occurred, it is timely to spray for Anthracnose. Consult the Midwest Fruit Pest Management Guide for advisories for this and all requisite spray treatments.
- Wait until the soil has warmed up to apply any pre-emergent herbicides, if used in your vineyard operation. Soils are definitely too cold at this time.
- Consider mulches and/or cover crops for established vineyards, but maintain a weed – free zone under newly planted vines.
- Vineyard Clean-up is an important task because mummified berries and prunings can harbor disease inoculum and insects, especially Apple Twig Borer (Grape Cane Borer).
- For further tips on pruning and vine balance, see Richard Smart’s article in the March-April issue of The Grapevine magazine or the YouTube video from the Ohio State University “Buckeye Appellation” <http://ohiograpeweb.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/video>

REGIONAL SUMMER TAILGATES

Additional stand-alone regional tailgates will take place in different parts of the state during the growing season in order to address other vineyard management topics and issues that may emerge. Dates, topics and locations will be announced in future issues of the Nebraska VineLines and posted on our UNL viticulture web site [<http://viticulture.unl.edu>](http://viticulture.unl.edu)

Reminder Calendar:

April 21, 2018 Grapevine Pruning and Vineyard Prep Workshop, 10500 310th Street Way, Cannon Falls, MN 55009, Cost \$10, to register, contact Lisa Smiley (winegrowweralliance@gmail.com or 651-492-5393). You can register at the event starting at 9:30 a.m., [Link to Google map](#)

May 20-23, 2018, National Viticulture & Enology Leadership Conference – Prosser, WA.

Details: <http://wine.wsu.edu/event/nveelc2018/>

June 2, 2018 Recipe to Reality seminar, UNL, Registration deadline May 20. Contact Jill Gifford 402-472-2819 or jgifford1@unl.edu.

June 2-9, 2018 Winefest Des Moines: <https://www.winefestdesmoines.com/>

June 5-6, 2018 Distillation Basics Workshop – Mountain Grove, MO. Details:

<https://ag.missouristate.edu/mtngrv/distillation-basics-workshop.htm>

June 14-16, 2018 Comprehensive Elderberry Workshop & Field Tour – Central Missouri. Details later: <https://www.riverhillsharvest.com>

June 20-22, 2018 The GrapeVine Magazine Midwest Viniculture Expo 2018 - The RiverCenter, Davenport, IA. Complete Details: <http://thegrapevineexpo.com/>

June 23, 2018 Workshop with Richard Smart, Save the Date! Details to follow.

July 30 to August 2, 2018 VitiNord 2018 in Sweden & Denmark. Details & Registration:

<http://www.vitinord2018.org/>

June 20-22, 2018 The GrapeVine Magazine Midwest Viniculture Expo 2018 – The RiverCenter, Davenport, IA. Sponsored by The GrapeVine Magazine, information at <http://thegrapevinemagazine.net/>

July 30-Aug 2, 2018 VitiNord 2018 in Sweden and Denmark. Details And Registration:

<http://www.vitinord2018.org/>

November 4-6, Vindemia, Nebraska City, NE (details later).



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