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www.farwestlandscape.net

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Care Guidelines

GRAPES

Cultural Requirements:

Grapes prefer a light soil with good drainage and moderate to high fertility. Soil should be kept moist the first year after planting, but the grapes will stand short dry periods in following years.

Planting Instructions:

Grapes should be planted one inch deeper than when at the nursery, and spaced eight feet apart for maximum performance. Most grapes need 6 or more hours per day of direct sun. Be sure to dig your hole deep enough that roots do not get wadded up.

Fertility:

A spring application of fertilizer (a balanced blend) is recommended. Plant grapes in early spring or winter, pruning back top growth to two or three buds at planting time.

Pruning and training:

Prune grapes at anytime from December through February. The first growing season should produce one main trunk from the two or three buds left at planting time. Select the strongest vine for this purpose at pruning time.

The second growing season should produce four lateral branches. Fewer or more may be utilized to meet individual requirements, such as arbors, trellises, etc.

When pruning back vines, always leave a finger or stub with three or four buds. Some light summer pruning may hasten fruit development.

Grapes may produce an occasional fruit bunch the first year, and a good crop the second year if full sun is supplied. A southern exposure is to your advantage.