



IntelliCulture

Vineyard Management Checklist

1. Frost Protection

- ✓ Monitor weather forecasts for frost risk.
- ✓ Deploy **wind machines or fans** to circulate warmer air.
- ✓ Activate **overhead sprinklers** if using ice-protection methods.
- ✓ Use **smudge pots or propane heaters** on frost-prone nights.
- ✓ Apply **delayed pruning techniques** in frost-prone areas.

2. Disease Prevention

- ✓ Apply **dormant sprays** (lime sulfur or copper) to reduce overwintering spores.
- ✓ Begin **early-season fungicide applications** (sulfur or systemic fungicides).
- ✓ Inspect vines for signs of **powdery mildew, Botrytis, or downy mildew**.
- ✓ Remove excess early shoots to improve **airflow** and reduce humidity.

3. Nutrient & Soil Management

- ✓ Conduct **tissue testing** to check for nutrient deficiencies.
- ✓ Apply **light nitrogen** if needed, avoiding excess to prevent excessive vigor.
- ✓ Apply **zinc and boron** if deficiencies are detected to improve fruit set.
- ✓ Ensure **proper soil moisture** for early vine development.

4. Weed Control

- ✓ Apply **pre-emergent herbicides** before weed emergence.
- ✓ Use **mechanical cultivation** (discing, mowing) to control weeds between rows.

5. Shoot Thinning & Sucker Removal

- ✓ Thin excess shoots early to balance vine vigor.
- ✓ Remove **suckers** from the vine base to direct energy to productive growth.

6. Irrigation Management

- ✓ Check **soil moisture sensors** or tension meters to prevent overwatering.
- ✓ Adjust irrigation to encourage **deep root growth** while avoiding disease risk.
- ✓ Verify **drip irrigation systems** are functioning properly.

7. Pest Monitoring & Control

- ✓ Set **sticky traps** to monitor early-season pests.
- ✓ Inspect vines for **cutworms, thrips, and leafhoppers**.
- ✓ Apply early insecticide treatments if pest thresholds are exceeded.

8. Trellis & Vineyard Infrastructure

- ✓ Inspect and repair **trellis wires, posts, and clips**.
- ✓ Ensure **vine ties** are secure but not too tight to restrict growth.
- ✓ Check for **irrigation leaks or clogged emitters**.

Author

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Jovany Cruz is a seasoned agribusiness and technology specialist with extensive experience in vineyard management, farm operations, and product development. With a strong background in sustainable agriculture, irrigation management, and integrated pest control, he has played a pivotal role in bridging traditional farming practices with cutting-edge technology.

At IntelliCulture, Jovany serves as a Product Integration Lead, where he drives product integration, customer support, and data-driven improvements to enhance farm efficiency. Previously, he led technology and innovation initiatives at Scheid Family Wines, overseeing mechanization, automation, and financial modeling for vineyard sustainability. His hands-on expertise in soil health, pest management, irrigation scheduling, and precision agriculture has helped optimize farm operations for long-term profitability.

Jovany holds an MBA from California State University, Chico, and has advanced studies in engineering and data analytics. Passionate about the future of agtech, he continues to develop solutions that improve farming efficiency, reduce costs, and drive sustainability in modern agriculture.