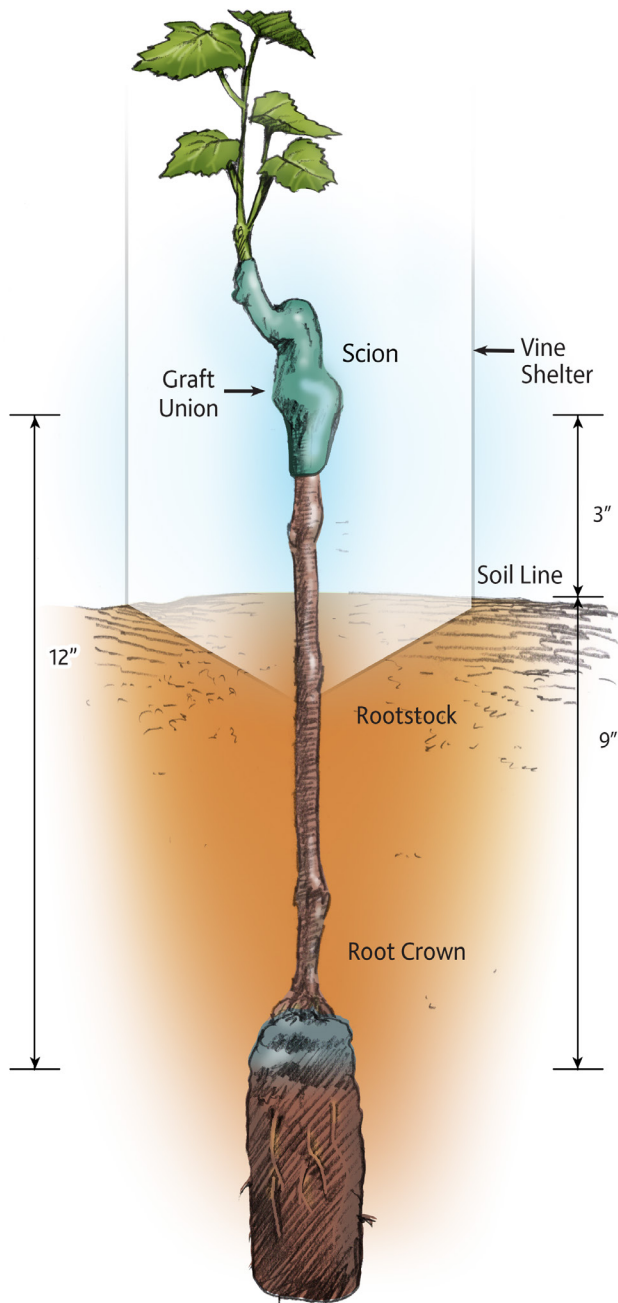
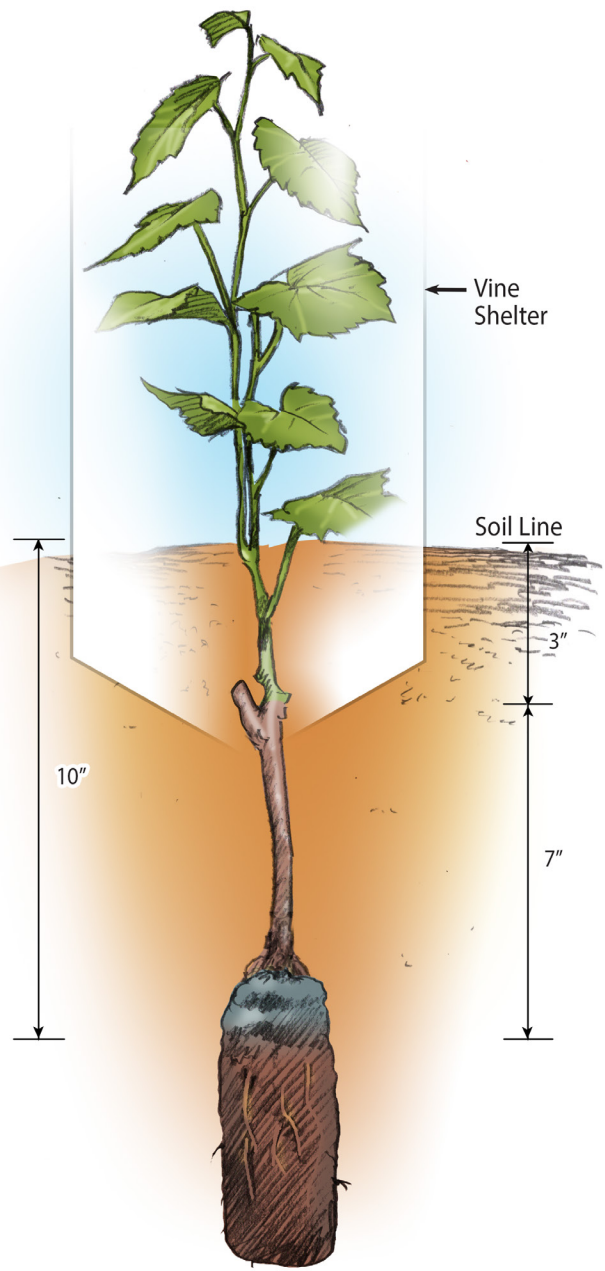


PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS GREEN-POTTED (GP) VINES

GRAFTED VINE



SELF-ROOTED VINE



Root Ball

PLANTING GUIDELINES

GREEN POTTED VINES (GPs)

The best time of year for green-potted vines to be planted is Early May to Late June. Planting in July can be successful too if the weather is not extremely hot. Potted vines should be planted as soon as possible after receiving them for best results.

1. Planting site should be **pre-irrigated** prior to receiving green-potted plants. It is important that the location of where each plant will be planted has **plenty of soil moisture** at the time of planting. Soil should be moist at the time of planting, not wet.
2. Upon **receiving your vines**, open the container immediately and inspect the vines. Report any initial concerns to an Inland Desert representative right away. If vines need to be stored for any length of time until planting, they can be stored in the boxes (tops open) in an area protected from extreme heat, direct sunlight and wind such as in a shop, under a lean-to or on the shady side of a large tree. Make sure the vines do not dry out. They may need to be irrigated 2-3 times daily until planted. Vines being stored on the outer edges tend to dry out quicker and may need to be irrigated more frequently.
3. **Dig planting holes** slightly wider and deeper than the root ball of the plants.
4. **Place the potted vine in the hole.** The mesh fabric around the root ball should not be removed. Partially backfill the hole with loose soil (free of herbicide residue). Check to make sure the plant is at **proper height** and adjust if necessary. For grafted vines the graft union should be 3-4" above the soil line. For standard length self-rooted vines (10-12" cutting) the lower green shoot should be about 1-2" above the soil line. Firm the soil around the root ball to hold the plant upright. Fill the remainder of the hole, leaving a small reservoir for water, and firm the soil again around the base of the plant. Do not compact the soil too excessively around the root ball or damage to the roots may occur. For shorter length self-rooted vines (6-8" cutting) the root crown should be about 10" below the soil line so the roots are deep enough to be better protected from cold winter temperatures. At this planting depth, the lower green shoots will be about 3-4" below the soil line. Firm the soil around the root ball to hold the plant upright. Continue filling in the hole with soil up to about 1" below the lower green shoot. Do not cover the green shoots with soil. Later in the season after the green shoots have lignified (turned to brown woody tissue) the remainder of the planting hole should be filled in with soil up to the soil line.
5. Place a **vine shelter** over the plant. The bottom 1-2" of the vine shelter can be buried in the soil to help secure it in place.
6. **Irrigate immediately after** the block is planted. If using drip tubing it is very helpful to have a drip emitter directly at the plant. If drip emitters are positioned to where they are not dripping water directly at each plant location, longer and more frequent irrigation sets will be needed to allow the water to move laterally into the rootzone.
7. **Irrigate as needed** to keep the soil in the root zone moist at all times. It is very important that soil is moist; it should not be too wet, and not allowed to dry out. Depending on the weather and the soil type, irrigation may be needed 1-3 times per week.
8. After the initial irrigation after planting, **fertilizer** applications can be started. Injecting low to moderate Nitrogen levels into the irrigation water should keep the young vines growing vigorously. Fertilizer applications should always be made according to soil sample data, and amending soil mineral levels to an adequate range should always be done using frequent applications of low fertilizer rates.
9. Growth should be **trained** up a stake to eventually meet the cordon wire as it emerges from the vine shelter. Selection of your trunk(s) and cordons is usually made during the dormant season following the growing season. Choose moderately vigorous canes to train. Avoid training large diameter "bull canes" as they are not as cold hardy as moderate sized canes.
10. If farming in a cool-climate region where hard frosts and winter freezes are likely to occur, it is important to **prepare the vines for winter**.
 - a. Start limiting vine growth in early August by backing off on the amount of irrigation. Limit irrigation to induce mild to moderate water stress. This is crucial to promote the development of lignin (brown woody tissue) in order to prevent serious fall frost damage.
 - b. Vine shelter removal is recommended once summer temperatures begin to cool and day length shortens (early September). This step will assist the vines' acclimation and readiness for the first frost events.
 - c. As the growing season is coming to an end, and prior to the first frost event, It is also recommended to "hill up" or mound soil around the base of the vine for additional protection from the cold. This is especially important with grafted vines during the first few years of establishment. The goal is for the graft union and at least two buds of the scion to be completely covered by soil. The hill/mound of soil will need to be removed around the base of the vine the following spring before the vines break dormancy. If soil is left in contact with the graft union, jump rooting of the scion is likely to happen, defeating the purpose of growing grafted vines on a rootstock which has desirable characteristics.
 - d. A long irrigation set at the end of the season to saturate the soil profile will also help prevent the young vines from desiccating during winter.