

# Starting a Home Vineyard



**woods wine**

Backyard Vineyard Consulting

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# Effort vs. Reward

- If you like gardening, you'll love a vineyard
- Why can't tomatoes when you can bottle wine?
- As few as a dozen vines can produce a bottle of wine for every weekend of the year.



# Outline

1. Site Selection
2. Vineyard Layout
3. Cultivar Selection
4. Trellis Selection
5. Cost Estimating
6. Woods Wine
7. Backyard Vineyard  
Q&A

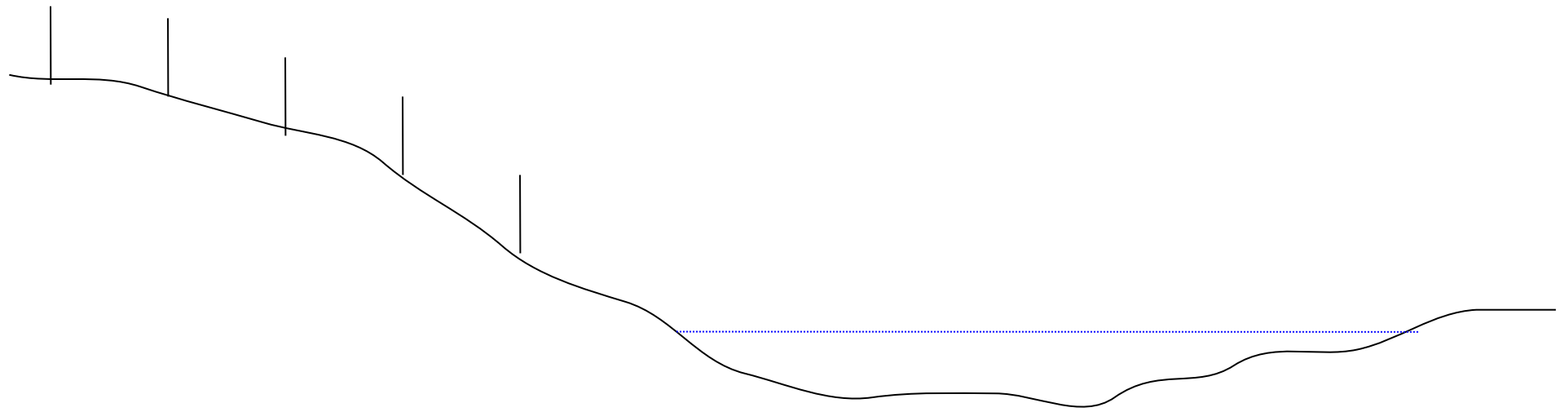
# 1. Site Selection

# Site Selection

- 12 to 150 Vines
- Full Sun
- Avoid Low Area
- Water Available
- Need Room to Work All Around Every Row
- Think About Mower/Tractor Turning Radius

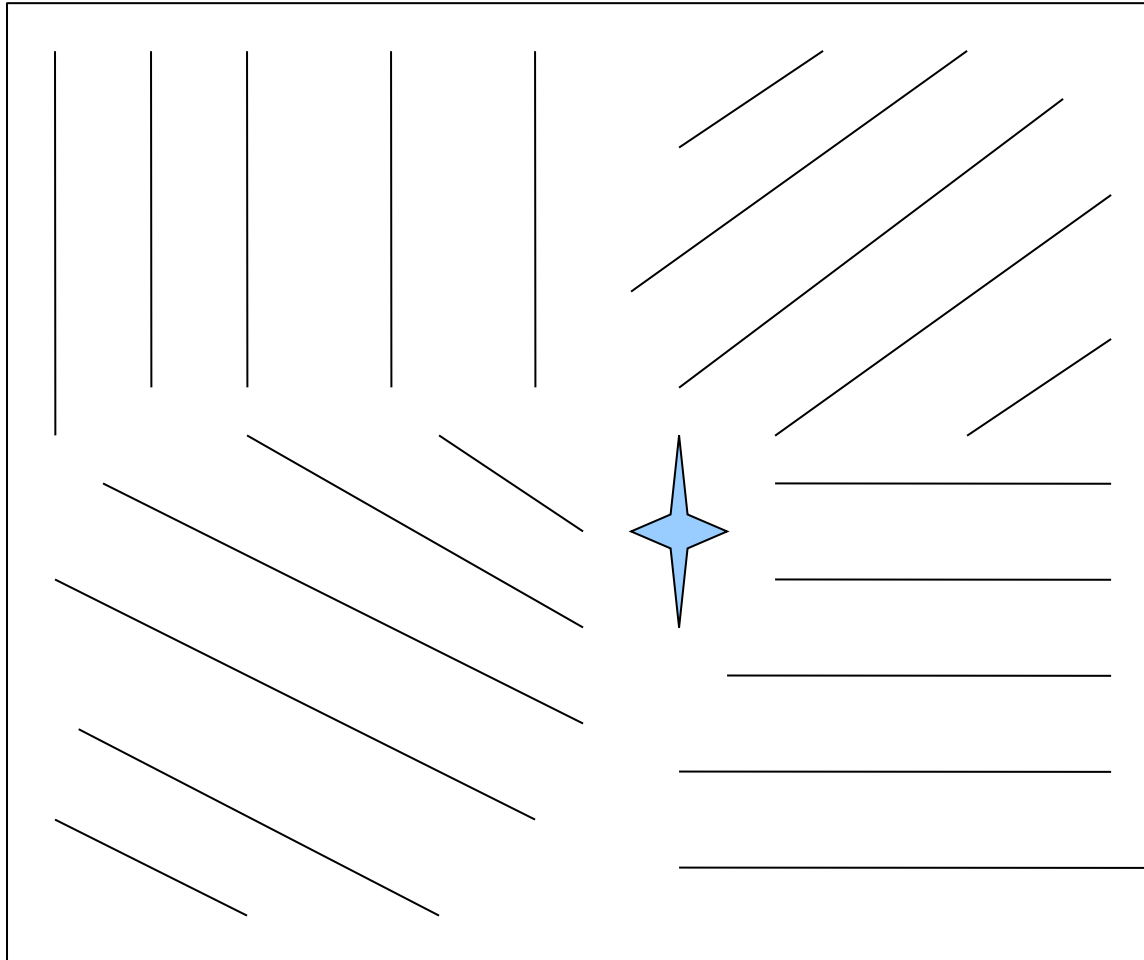


# Cold Air & Frost Settle in Low Areas



# 2. Vineyard Layout

# Row Orientation



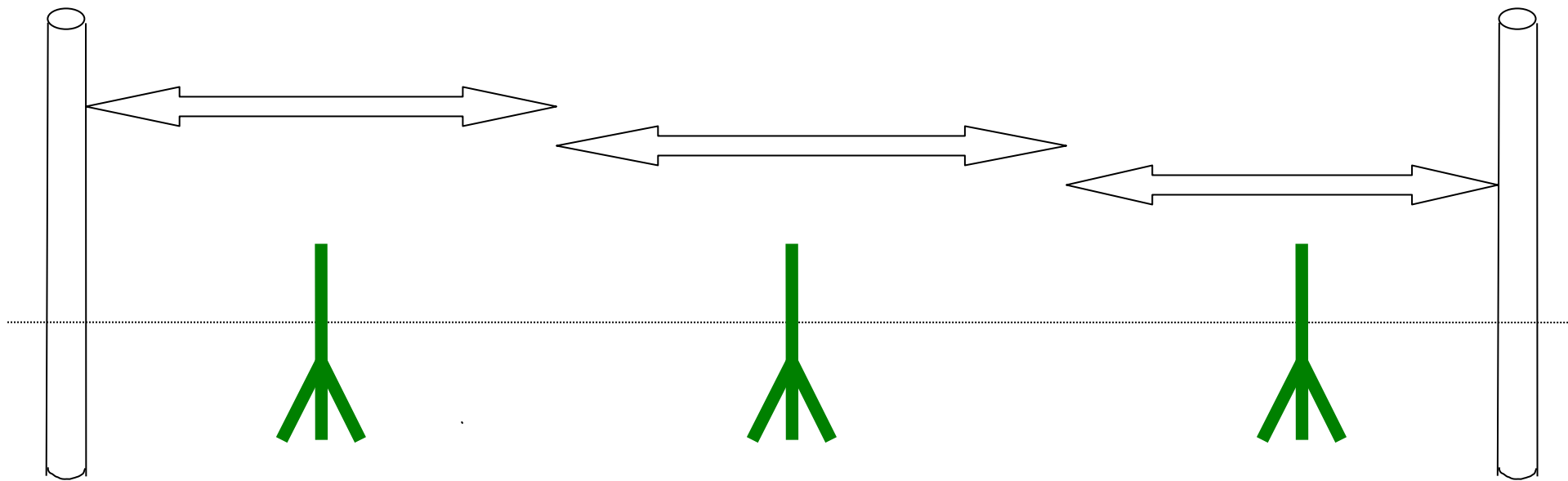
- Study done by Universita di Bologna, Italy, 1990 – 1993 see PWV Sept 1997 Issue
- Conclusion: Minimal Affect
- Wind a factor in drying
- Sun a factors in vigor
- VSP more sensitive, presumably due to flatness of canopy
- Curtain (bushy) not as sensitive

# Vine Spacing

- Recommended space between vines is a function of vine vigor... the larger the annual expected growth of the vine, the farther apart they are planted.
- Typically 6 to 8 feet between vines

# Vine Spacing

## Between Line Posts

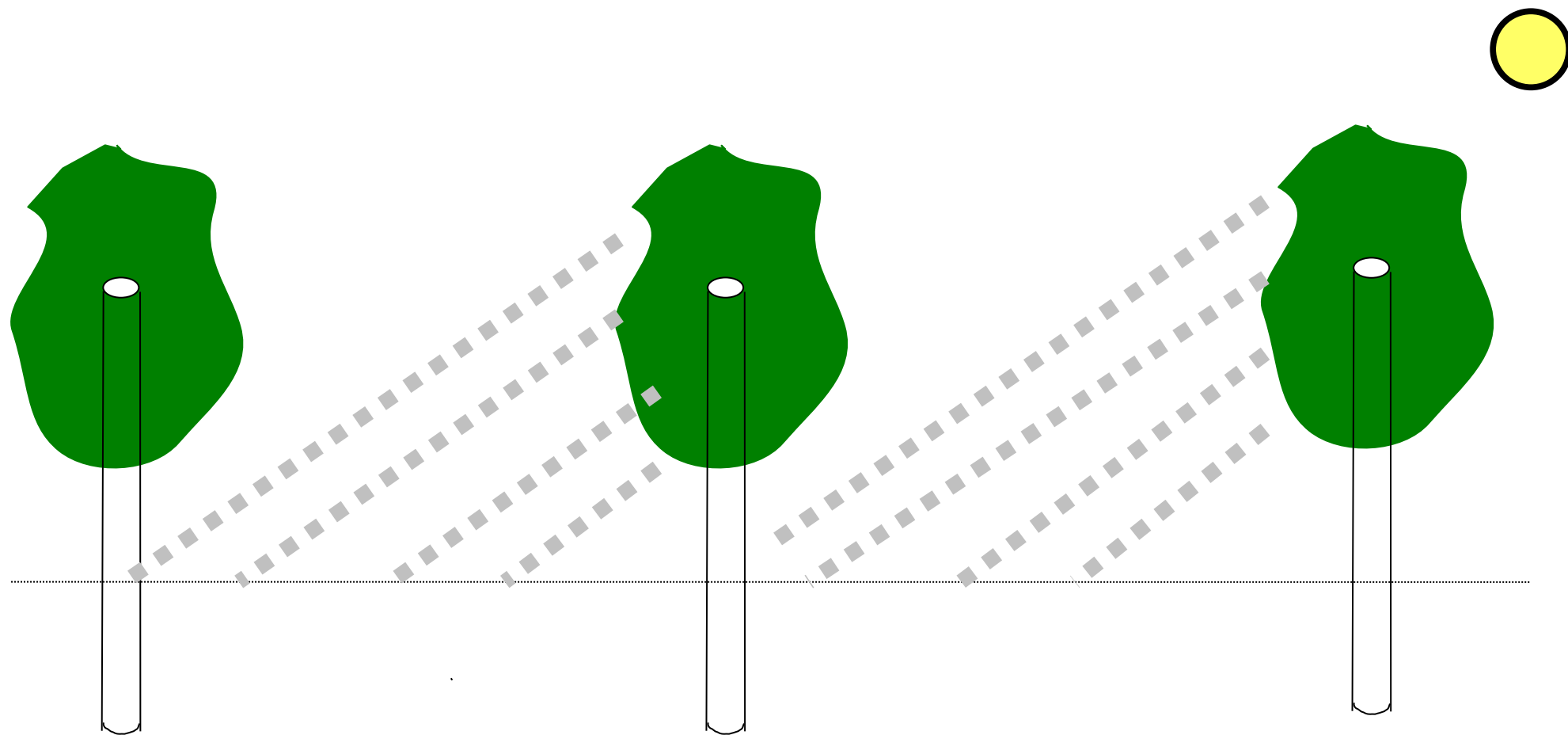


# Row Spacing

- Recommended space between rows is a function of:
  - How tall and wide the trellis will be
  - How large the lawn tractor and sprayer will be
  - Allow enough space at end of rows to turn tractor around
  - Typically 8 – 10 feet between rows

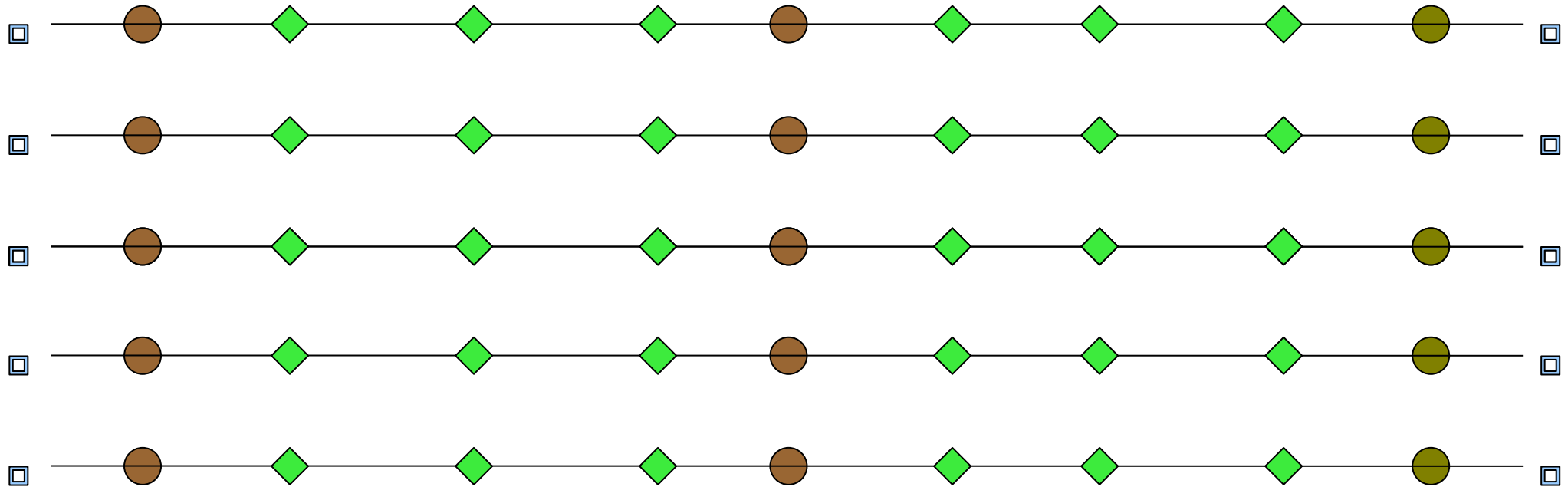
# Row Spacing

Avoid Shade on Canopy



# 30 Vine Vineyard Layout

Earth Anchors, Posts, and Vines



# 3. Cultivar Selection

# Cultivar Selection

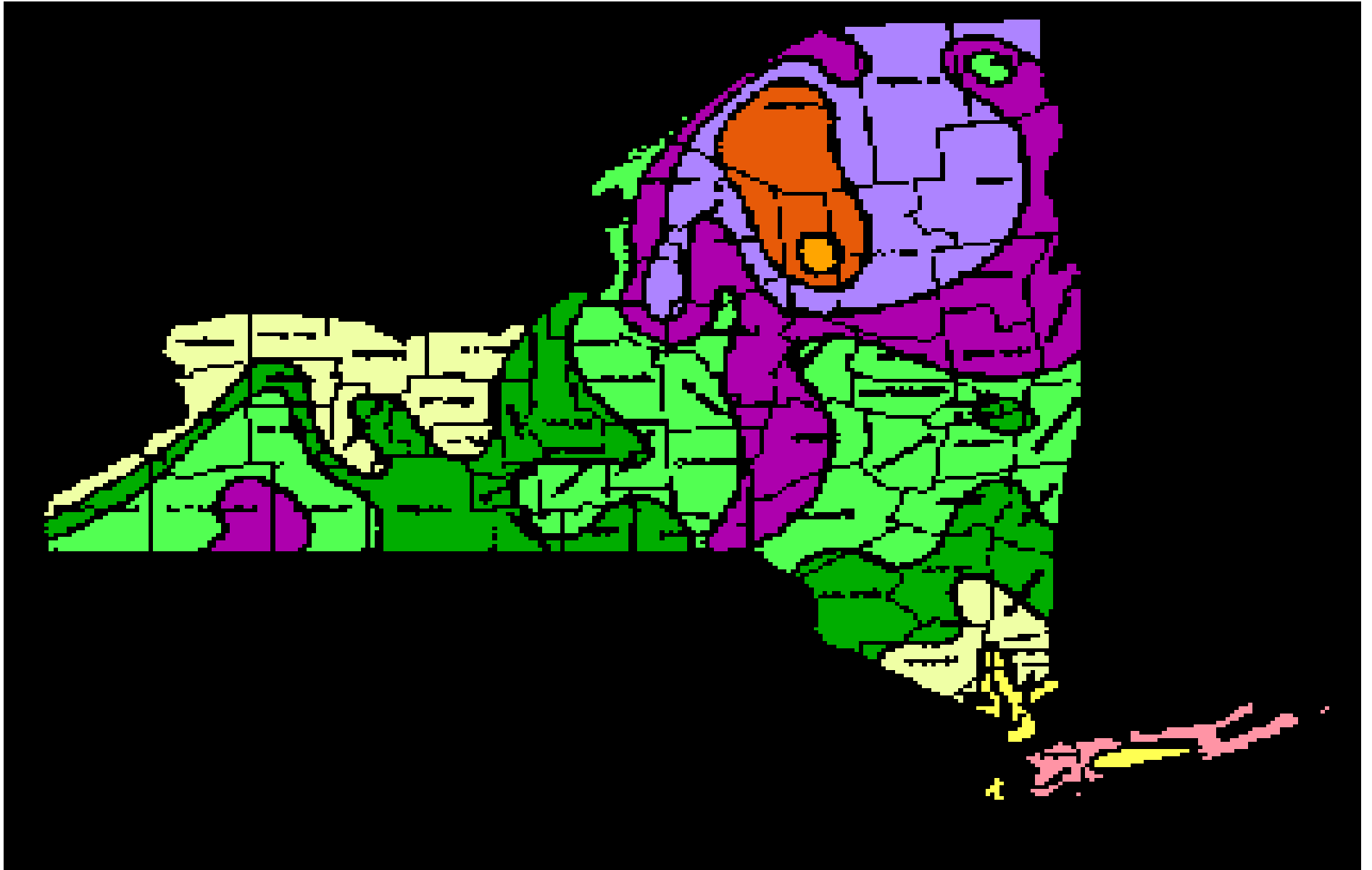
- Are there any vineyards nearby?
- What are they growing there?
- What is the cold heartiness zone for your zip code? Check:

<http://www.garden.org/zipzone/index.php>

# Cultivar selection

- How many different cultivars?
- Red or White?
- Desired Taste?
- Grafted or Own Rooted?
- Cold Hardiness?
- Loose or Tight Clusters?
- Disease Resistance?
- Reputable Nursery?
- Recommended Vine Spacing?
- Recommended Trellis and Training Method?
- Early or Late Bud Burst, Harvest?
- Expected Yield?
- Vine Availability?

# NEW YORK USDA Hardiness Zone Map



# Double A Vineyard Catalog as a Resource

- [rakgrape.com](http://rakgrape.com)
- First determine vine candidate list by cold heartiness zone
- Cultivar Description can be used as a preliminary idea of the grape and wine characteristics
- Google the specific cultivar to research further

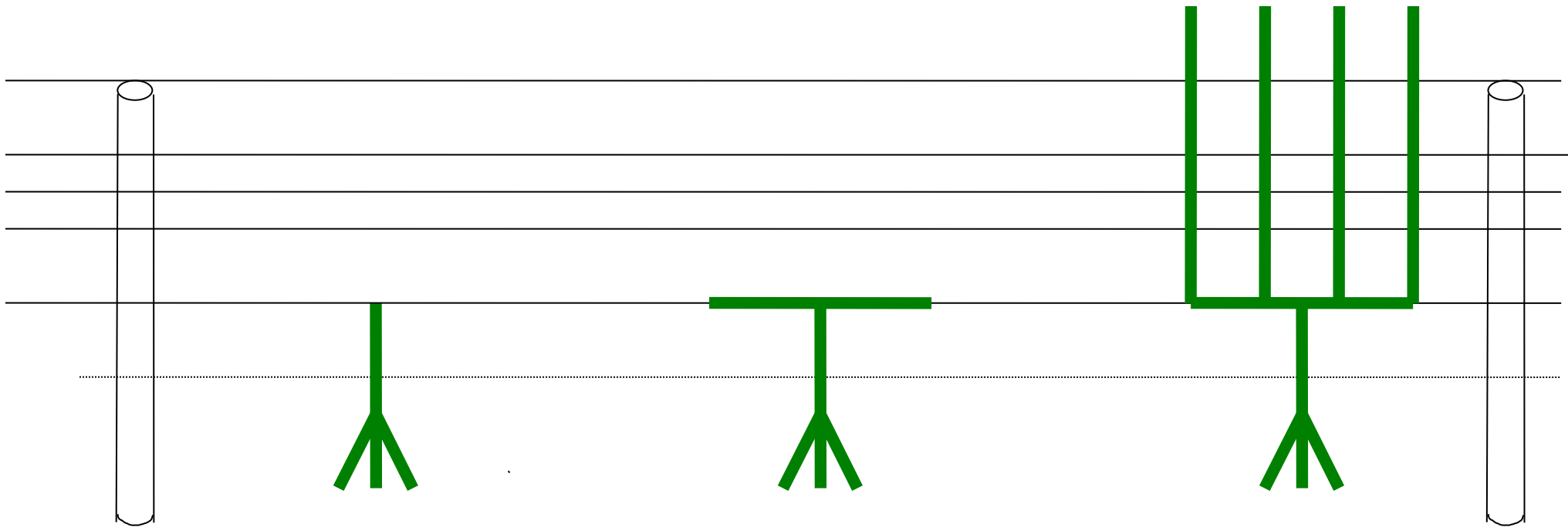
# 4. Trellis Selection

# Trellis Style Selection

- GDC
- VSP
- Four Arm Kniffin
- Umbrella Kniffin
- Top Wire Cordon
- Mid Wire Cordon
- Bottom Wire Cordon

# VSP Trellis

1 Cordon Wire  
2 Catch Wire Pairs  
Good for "Upright Vines"

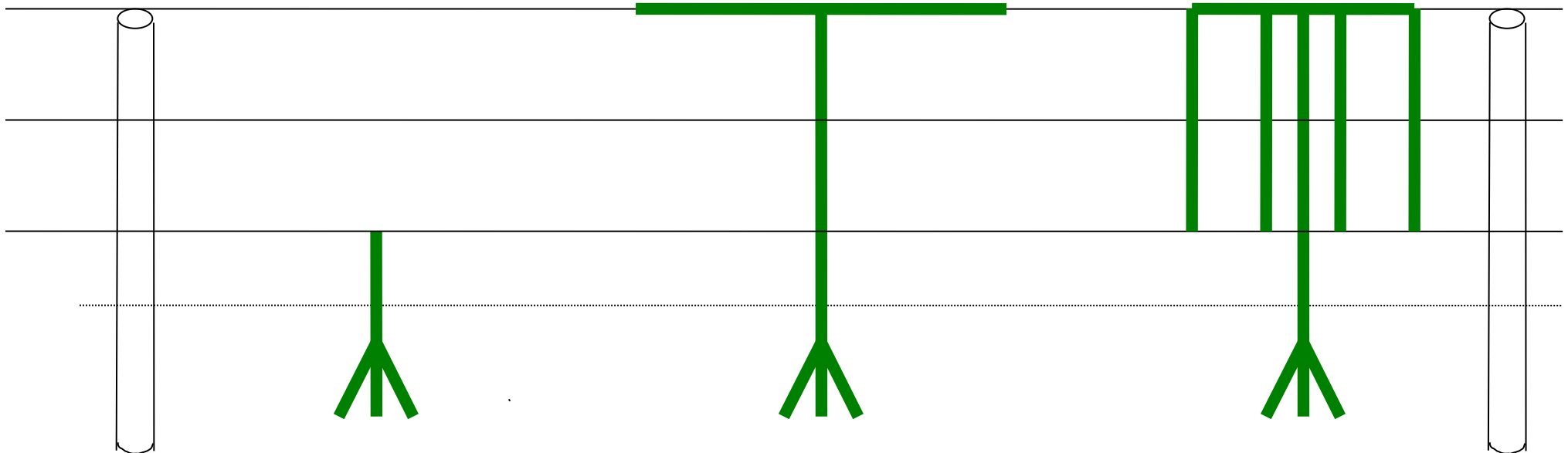


# High Wire Cordon Trellis

One Cordon Wire

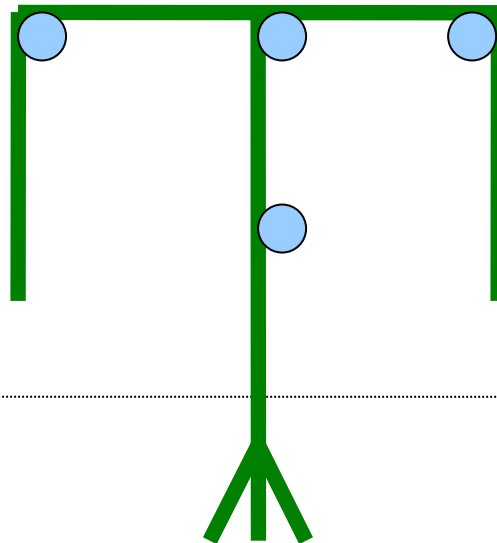
Optionally Tie Canes to Lower wire(s)

Good for "Trailing Vines"



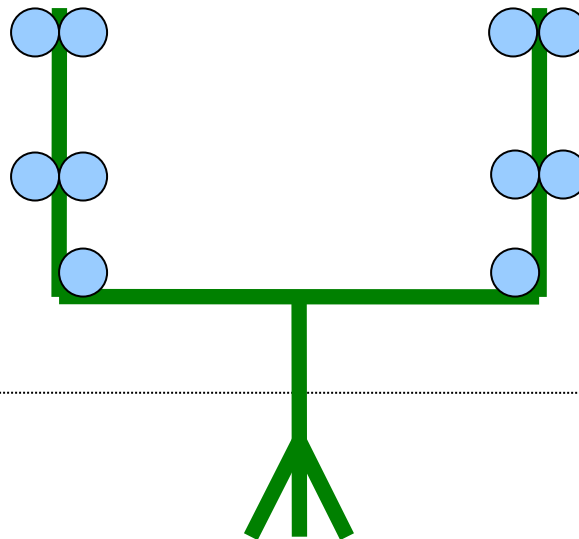
# Divided Canopy Geneva Double Curtain Trellis

Two Cordon Wires  
Optionally Tie Trunks to Lower Wire(s)  
Good for “Trailing Vines”



# Divided Canopy Lyre Trellis

Two Cordon Wires  
Tuck Shoots in Catch Wire(s)  
Good for “Upright Vines”



# Post Hole Diggers



# 5. Cost Estimating

# Vine Cost Elements

- Cost Per Vine
- Shipping
- Stakes
- Grow Tubes

# Site Prep Cost Elements

- Measuring Tape
- Twine
- Stakes
- Soil Analysis Test Kit
- Fertilizer
- Rototiller Rental

# Trellis Cost Elements

- End Posts
- Line Posts
- Earth Anchor Installation Kit
- Earth Anchors
- Wire Tighteners
- Wire Tightener Tool
- Rolls of Wire
- Staples (10 lb box)
- Post Hole Digger Rental

# 99 Vine Vineyard

## Vine & Trellis Material Estimate

- # of Same Length Rows = 11
- # Vines per row = 9
- Vine Spacing (ft.) = 7
- Row Spacing (ft.) = 10
- # Wires On Trellis = 5
- Feet Per Roll of Wire = 2000
- Distance (ft.) of Earth Anchor from End Post = 5
- Approximate Cost w/o Tax or Shipping = **\$2000**

# 54 Vine Vineyard

## Vine & Trellis Material Estimate

- # of Same Length Rows = 6
- # Vines per row = 9
- Vine Spacing (ft.) = 7
- Row Spacing (ft.) = 10
- # Wires On Trellis = 5
- Feet Per Roll of Wire = 2000
- Distance (ft.) of Earth Anchor from End Post = 5
- Approximate Cost w/o Tax or Shipping = **\$1270**

# 12 Vine Vineyard

## Vine & Trellis Material Estimate

- # of Same Length Rows = 6
- # Vines per row = 9
- Vine Spacing (ft.) = 7
- Row Spacing (ft.) = 10
- # Wires On Trellis = 5
- Feet Per Roll of Wire = 2000
- Distance (ft.) of Earth Anchor from End Post = 5
- Approximate Cost w/o Tax or Shipping = **\$450**

# 6. Woods Wine

Review of Folder Contents

# 7. Backyard Vineyard Q&A

# Thank You!

- Please consider Woods Wine classes to obtain a deeper understanding:
  - Introduction to Backyard Vineyards
  - Planning and Cost Estimating
  - Cultivar and Trellis Selection, Pruning, and Training
  - Harvest, Crush, Fermentation, and Press