

**Subject:** Potted vines  
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**Date:** 11/9/16, 8:14 PM  
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Hi

I discussed potted vine tips with a colleague who currently has some very successful potted vines at the moment.

Some food for thought:

1. He has always used 20 L pots (5 gallon) if he wants to do any work with inflorescences and bunches. Reasons are preventing the vines being root bound, to have better nutrient control (not a problem for us), and to avoid water stress.
2. The cuttings are always started on a heat pad pre budburst to get good rooting. Was this done? Or was rooting ok regardless?
3. Establishing the vine in the first and second season. The advice was to let the first season grow with 8-10 nodes indicating a good growth and structure. Cut back 4-6 nodes and let all shoots grow from these. Then select the best two shoots in the next season (2<sup>nd</sup> season) once you see flowers appear (i.e. the most fruitful nodes are selected). All going well these should have good growth. Cut back to 1-2 buds and grow for season 3.
4. Light quality. One aspect we did not discuss – what was the light intensity and was the PAR optimised? From his experience putting the vines outside (not just glass house and growth chambers) at 'non-experimental' times (i.e. not at BB-FL) assists in better PAR interception from sunlight rather than diffuse glasshouse light or growth chamber light...it will of course depend on your glasshouses and growth chambers (i.e. the glasshouses at Lincoln apparently reduce the light interception a lot compared to field conditions). This is observational/ from experience but any tips may help! Anyway, insufficient lighting at Inflorescence primordia initiation would be problematic but I am not sure what the conditions were when the first season vines were established so this point may or may not be relevant.
5. Shortening the growing season. My thought on this is that it would only be detrimental if water/temperature stress was induced by the warmer conditions used to speed things up (and consequently lead to nutrient and CHO stress which would influence the inflorescence development). If these stresses are avoided then there should be no issue.

I hope that provides some points to consider for the next attempt, happy to discuss further and assist with decisions if needed.

Amber

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