

**Canadian Grapevine Certification Network**



**Réseau Canadien de Certification de la Vigne**

**CGCN-RCCV “CERTIFIED PLUS” PROGRAM  
(FORMERLY CALLED THE OPTION 1 CERTIFICATION PROGRAM)**

**CANADIAN GRAPEVINE CERTIFICATION NETWORK**

1634 South Service Road  
St. Catharines, Ontario, L2R 6P9  
Tel: 905-688-0990 ext. 222  
info@cgcn-rccv.ca  
www.cgcn-rccv.ca

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TITLE: CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” Program

SUBJECT: This program contains the requirements for the production of *Vitis* spp. nursery stock (grapevines) for domestic use, including ornamental species. This program uses a systems approach in order to produce virus tested grapevines.

**Updates**

The Program will be amended from time to time as new knowledge emerges, and the most recent version will be published on the CGCN-RCCV website, [www.cgcn-rccv.ca](http://www.cgcn-rccv.ca). Users should ensure that they are referring to the most recent version.

**Disclaimers**

While this Program’s objective is to allow certification of plant material that has been produced under a system which aims to minimize the risk of infection being present in grapevines, there remains the possibility that a proportion of plants may contain viruses. CGCN-RCCV accepts no liability for claims regarding virus being present in any plants produced under this program.

As outlined in Canada’s *Plant Protection Act*, any detection of a known or potential plant pest in an area of Canada where the pest has not previously been known to exist must be reported to the [Canadian Food Inspection Agency \(CFIA\)](http://www.cfia.gc.ca). In the event that a new or existing pest is detected through this project, the CFIA will be notified and will put appropriate control measures in place. Typically, this involves the restriction of propagation, although vector control or removal of diseased material may also be encouraged. It is important to note that even when removal of diseased material is the most efficient control strategy, removal decisions will rest with the individual in care and control of the infected material and will not be ordered by the CFIA.

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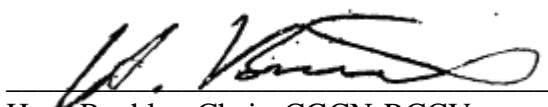
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**Review**

This directive will be reviewed by the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors every five years unless otherwise needed. For further information or clarification, please contact the CGCN-RCCV.

Endorsement

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Buchler', written over a horizontal line.

Hans Buchler, Chair, CGCN-RCCV

Date: March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Introduction

The propagation and shipment of grapevines is considered to be a high-risk pathway for the movement of plant pests. Viruses and virus-like organisms are very common in the production of grapevines. While some viruses are known to have a minor effect on infected grapevines, other viruses can cause very serious diseases and can lead to major crop losses (e.g. Grapevine leafroll disease). Grapevines that have been infected by viruses, and most other virus-like organisms, cannot currently be cured. The only way to remove a virus from a vineyard or a block of nursery grapevines is by destroying the infected host plants and by replanting clean grapevines free of viruses listed in Appendix 5. A virus certification program, like the one described in this document, is based on the propagation of grapevines using nuclear material (called Generation 1 (G1) in this document). The virus certification program described in this document uses a systems approach in order to produce virus tested grapevines. Various independent components such as virus-testing, field inspection, isolation distances, and vector control, all work together to minimize the presence and the spread of viruses.

The CGCN-RCCV Certification Program is an audit-based program which uses testing and integrated pest risk management measures as the basis for the phytosanitary certification of grapevines. The CGCN-RCCV Certification Program is designed to suit the domestic need largely based on the current CFIA export directive.

## Scope

This program is for the use of Canadian grapevine nurseries and breeders wishing to participate in the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program and for CGCN-RCCV staff involved in compliance with this program.

## Definitions

**Buffer zone:** An area free of grapevines, measured from the drip line of the grape canopy to the drip line of the adjacent crop. The drip line is the outermost portion of a canopy from which water would drip to ground.

**Grapevine(s):** Vines, cuttings, grafts, scions, buds, rootstock and other plants and plant products of grapevine for vegetative propagation.

**High Throughput Sequencing (HTS):** test used for grapevine virus detection in order to determine the phytosanitary status of the vine. HTS allows for the simultaneous detection of multiple viruses in a single test by sequencing all the DNA present, whereas traditional methods typically only detect one virus at a time.

**Initiation/Re-initiation:** Initiation is the first step of the tissue culture process, where plants are grown in sterile vessels at ideal light and temperature conditions after they have been confirmed free of the viruses of concern. Re-initiation occurs when material is collected from the nursery’s G1A mother block or other certified sources, for the purposes of re-submitting to the tissue culture initiation process.

**Nursery:** Facility that produces nursery stock.

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**Certified Plus:** A certification system and process starting from G1 (Generation one) tested plant material.

**Certified Plus:** The Certification mark or label identifying grapevines certified under “Certified Plus” program protocols.

**Certified:** A certification system and process based on testing grapevines used for propagation for pathogens listed in Appendix 5.

**Certified:** The Certification mark or label identifying grapevines certified under “Certified” program protocols.

**Pest or pest organism:** Anything that is injurious or potentially injurious, whether directly or indirectly, to plants or to products or by-products of plants, and includes any plant prescribed as a pest, pathogens, vectors insects or others

**Pest control manager (PCM):** A qualified person employed by an approved facility and given overall responsibility and authority for implementing the requirements of a specified program.

**Pest management plan:** A written description of procedures or processes designed to control, suppress, or eradicate pest populations to meet prescribed phytosanitary standards.

**Tested:** Having been subjected to an official examination, other than visual, to determine the presence or absence of a pest.

**Tissue Culture:** propagating grapevine material in-vitro in artificial/controlled conditions.

**Vector:** an organism, that transmits a disease or parasite from one plant to another.

**Verified material:** grapevine propagative material verified to be free of the viruses of concern according to the CGCN-RCCV Interim Verification Program.

**Virus:** Virus and virus-like pathogens including phytoplasmas, viroids, and graft-transmissible agents.

**Virus-certified stock:** Plants for planting and propagation produced under an official virus testing and certification program.

## 1.0 General requirements

To be involved in this program a nursery must be located in Canada and produce propagative grapevines, either own rooted or grafted. Nurseries must have the means to keep adequate records and adhere to outlined protocols.

### 1.1 Fees

The CGCN-RCCV is charging fees in accordance with the CGCN-RCCV Fee Schedule (Appendix 4). For more information regarding fees associated with this program, contact the CGCN-RCCV.

### 1.2 Pests regulated under the CGCN-RCCV CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Movement of propagated grapevine planting material is a pathway for the spread of a number of serious pests; therefore, plants produced under the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program must originate from mother plants that have been tested by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), or other facilities approved in writing by the CFIA, and found to be free from viruses and virus-like pathogens of concern. A list of grapevine pathogens or viruses that are covered under this program can be found in Appendix 5. Virus testing methods used are based on tests reported in the scientific literature. Reference Appendix 5 for a list of virus-testing methods currently authorized and viruses of concern.

### 1.3 Regulated commodities

All propagative plant parts other than seed of the genera *Vitis* spp. intended for propagation and distribution for domestic use.

## 2.0 Specific requirements

Facilities intending to participate in the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program must submit a complete application package to the CGCN-RCCV by March 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year prior to planting. In subsequent years, a participant in good standing is required to renew their participation in the program by March 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year. If the participant withdraws, or is removed from the program, another application will be required for re-entry into the program.

### 2.1 Participation in the program

To become an approved facility, the facility must:

- Complete and sign an Application for authorization under the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program for *Vitis* spp. nursery stock (see Appendix 1) indicating that the applicant is willing and able to comply with the terms and conditions of the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program;
- Develop a written Preventative Control Plan (PCP) (please see Appendix 2 for a checklist of items that must be included in the PCP), that clearly describes the procedures or processes designed to control a pest population to a level that meets the requirements of this program. The plan for the facility must include an internal system to verify compliance with the PCP;
- Designate a qualified individual to be the Pest Control Manager (PCM). The PCM is vested with the authority and responsibility to develop and implement a quality management system that meets the requirements of the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program. The PCM may designate qualified personnel or contractors to assist in developing and implementing different components of the quality management system such as: pest management, record keeping and administration;
- Develop a quality management system to meet the administrative, plant identification, and record-keeping requirements of the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program as described in this program;
- Complete a facility inventory declaration that includes the varieties/clones and rootstocks to be planted, their origin, the class of plantings, the total area to be planted, the field/block history for the past two years and the location of the fields/blocks to be planted, Universal Transverse Mercator grid reference (system of numerical coordinates to identify any point on the earth’s surface) where available range road or lot and concession number, etc. as appropriate. Please see Appendix 3 for the Facility Inventory Declaration.
- Prepare a clear and detailed map of the facility indicating anticipated cultivar locations;
- Submit the completed signed application form and a copy of the facility’s PCP to the CGCN-RCCV; and
- Successfully complete a facility evaluation by a CGCN-RCCV authorized auditor (see Appendix 2 for a facility evaluation checklist).



Once a facility is approved under the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program, it will be assigned a unique registration number. The facility will be listed in a central public registry on the CGCN-RCCV website.

#### 2.1.1 Transition from the CFIA Plant Protection Export Certification Program for Grapevine Nursery Stock, *Vitis* spp. to the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program

Facilities currently certified under the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) regulatory directive D-97-06: Plant Protection Export Certification Program for Grapevine Nursery Stock, *Vitis* spp. wishing to be certified under the CGCN-RCCV CERTIFICATION PROGRAM must sign and submit the application in Appendix 1 to the CGCN-RCCV office.

#### 2.1.2 Registration transfer to a new owner

Facilities that are approved under the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program and have been transferred to a new owner must re-apply for participation within the program.

### 2.2 Certification levels

All propagative material produced under this program must be derived from Generation 1 (G1) virus-tested stock grown under conditions that mitigate the risk of infection, or from material tested via High-Throughput Sequencing (HTS) and deemed to be Generation 1A (G1A) equivalent. Generation 1 level material is produced at the CFIA, Sidney Laboratory in North Saanich, BC or other facilities approved in writing by the CGCN-RCCV. The accession numbers relating to the single grapevine source at the Sidney Laboratory or other approved facilities must be retained for tracking purposes. At each stage of propagation, progeny plants drop to a lower certification level.

The four certification levels are:

#### 2.2.1 Generation 1 (G1) - synonym: Nuclear stock (Canada), Foundation (U.S.)

Original mother plants tested for the viruses of concern by the CFIA Sidney Laboratory, or a facility approved by the CFIA. The tests are done according to internationally accepted standards, and the plants are maintained in isolation. Example: by tissue culture or in a sealed screen house (requirements available upon request) or other secure structure approved in writing by the CGCN-RCCV or in an isolated field block and grown in accordance with the requirements of this program. This material must continue to be monitored for symptoms of viruses and tested as required by the CFIA and CGCN-RCCV.

#### 2.2.2 Generation 1A (G1A) - synonym: Pre-elite

Material propagated from G1 mother plants and maintained in a fashion to mitigate the risk of re-infection or contamination (i.e. Maintained as tissue culture or in a CGCN-RCCV approved controlled environment such as a screen house, or some other secure structure approved in writing by the CGCN-RCCV and grown in accordance with the requirements outlined in this program).

##### *2.2.2.1 Generation 1A equivalent*

If material is to be used as mother plants for tissue culture propagation, regardless of origin, and that material has been tested via HTS and found free of all the viruses of concern in Appendix 5 at a CGCN-RCCV approved lab stated in Appendix 8 it will be considered equivalent to G1A

material stated in Section 2.2.2 above.

#### 2.2.3 Generation 2 (G2) - synonyms: Elite (Canada), Primary increase block (U.S.)

Material must be propagated from G1 or G1A mother plants and grown in accordance with the requirements in this program.

#### 2.2.4 Generation 3 (G3) - synonyms: Foundation (Canada), Secondary increase block (U.S.)

Material must be propagated from G1, G1A or G2 mother plants, grown in accordance with the requirements in this program.

#### 2.2.5 Generation 4 (G4) - synonyms: Certified (Canada), Nursery block (U.S.)

Material must be propagated from G1, G1A, G2 or G3 mother plants, grown in accordance with this program. This is material most often grown for retail sale, i.e. wholesale and retail nurseries.

### 2.3 General production requirements

#### 2.3.1 Planting sites

All planting sites, regardless of the level of certification, must be clean cultivated or planted with an approved cover crop as outlined in Appendix 9.

Planting sites should be selected to minimize contamination by virus-vectoring nematodes from surrounding land, through drainage, flooding, irrigation, or other means. Section 2.4 of this program outlines the buffer zone requirements in relation to plantings.

Material that is not regulated under the CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” Program but that may be a host of the pests regulated under the CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” Program should be located as far as possible from plantings of CGCN-RCCV Certification Program approved material. Minimum distances are described in section 2.4.

Expansion of blocks at planting sites is possible upon request. All of the requirements necessary for authorizing a new block must be met. The expanded block must be contiguous with the original block. Unless it is growing in the same block as the variety that is being expanded, rootstock and scion wood used in the expansion must originate from the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program approved material that was produced in the previous generation. For example, expansion of a G3 block requires the use of rootstock and scion wood produced at a G2 level in a different block, e.g. G2 mother blocks. Sampling and virus testing of the expanded section of the block must be conducted on the same schedule as the original part of the block.

For information regarding the detection of a quarantine pest in relation to planting sites, please see section 2.9.1 of this document.

#### 2.3.2 Pest management

Regular treatment schedules, or other pest management strategies, must comply with provincial recommendations and treatments must be applied to control potential virus vectors, e.g. mealy bugs, scale, aphids, mites, treehoppers, leafhoppers, etc. Records of spraying, surveying or other pest management actions must be maintained and made available to the CGCN-

RCCV inspector on request. Treatment and control of known and suspected vectors of grapevine viruses is critical for the maintenance of virus-free status and should be practiced on both the “Certified Plus” area and the surrounding grape plantings if the area is maintained by the operator.

### 2.3.3 Nematode testing

Prior to approval of a new facility, all planting sites, including the buffer zones, should be sampled for nematodes and the presence of *Xiphinema* and *Longidorus* nematodes capable of transmitting nepoviruses documented. Sites with virus-vector nematodes should be fumigated before planting. The presence of nematodes will not disqualify a planting site but will serve as an indicator of the potential for nepovirus contamination. The grower should be aware that the presence of nepovirus vectors increases the risk of nepovirus contamination and the subsequent loss of certification status should the grapevines be found infected by re-testing.

As an alternative to fumigation, implementation of nematode management and control measures may be considered under the condition that there are no established *Xiphinema* or *Longidorus* nematodes populations documented on the planting site prior to certification. The management system and control measures will be assessed by the CGCN-RCCV Board of directors on a case-by-case basis.

Soil sampling must be conducted by a CGCN-RCCV approved person and, any analysis of soil samples for virus-vectoring nematodes must be carried out by a laboratory authorized (Appendix 8) by the CGCN-RCCV.

#### 2.3.3.1 New planting sites

New planting sites for all certification levels should be inspected under the supervision by CGCN-RCCV and soil samples should be collected and analyzed for the presence of virus vectoring nematodes prior to planting according to the requirements applicable to the appropriate certification level. Sites with virus-vector nematodes should be fumigated or subjected to a long-term management program resulting in undetectable *Xiphinema* or *Longidorus* nematodes populations before planting. Registration may be granted only after this has been completed and approved. The presence of virus-vector nematodes will not disqualify a planting site but will serve as an indicator of the potential for nepovirus contamination. The nursery/grower should be aware that the presence of nepovirus vectors increases the risk of nepovirus contamination and the subsequent loss of certification status should the grapevines be found infected by re-testing.

#### 2.3.3.2 Established CGCN-RCCV Certification Program blocks

If blocks are initially fumigated or tested and found free of virus-vectoring nematodes, follow-up nematode testing of established blocks will be at five (5) year intervals or as determined by the CGCN-RCCV.

#### 2.3.4 Virus testing

If blocks are initially fumigated or tested and found free of virus-vectoring nematodes, follow-up nepovirus testing is not required unless subsequent soil sampling reveals the presence of virus vectoring nematodes. If the presence of virus vectoring nematodes is determined, the grapevines must be sampled and analyzed for nepoviruses at least once every five (5) years except for G4 material.

### 2.3.5 Sanitation and cultural practices

Operators must take steps to ensure that tractors and other equipment used in the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program approved block are free of soil and other matter potentially harbouring vectors prior to entering the block. Suitable precautions must be taken to prevent the introduction of pathogen virus-vectoring nematodes, which may be associated with soil and could be moved into the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program blocks with cultivation or spray equipment. Records of equipment cleaning must be maintained and made available upon request.

Production maintenance activities must be planned so that workers start with the highest certification level block and proceed downwards through the lower levels, e.g. G2 to G3 to G4 to non-CGCN-RCCV Certification Program plants in order to minimize the movement of potentially virus infected, nematodes, mealybug and scale insect populations from lower level blocks with less stringent isolation and control measures to higher level blocks.

### 2.3.6 Block/field monitoring

The PCM must monitor the approved block for visual symptoms of viruses and other diseases at least once a month during the growing season. Records of these inspections must be kept, including the name of the person who performed them, the dates inspected, area monitored and the results of the monitoring. If signs or symptoms of a virus or other pests of significance are found during these visual inspections, the CGCN-RCCV must be contacted immediately for further testing and confirmation.

### 2.3.7 Identifying marks

Please refer to the “Permitted CGCN-RCCV Certification Claims Policy” for complete details. The CGCN-RCCV and the facility PCM (Pest Control Manager) must agree upon appropriate labels for the facility. The PCM must notify the CGCN-RCCV in advance if the facility wishes to modify the labelling system.

Plants that are produced according to the “Certified Plus” protocols must be tagged/labelled using weather-resistant material, attached to every bundle and include the following distinction:

- If both the rootstock and scion wood have been “Certified Plus” by CGCN-RCCV, or the plant is own-rooted and propagated from CGCN-RCCV certified material, the product must be tagged/labelled as “*CGCN-RCCV certified plus*” (or the words “*certified plus by*” followed by the CGCN-RCCV logo).

Labels/tags must distinguish material grown under CGCN-RCCV’s “Certified Plus” Program from other CGCN-RCCV material and non-CGCN-RCCV material.

#### 2.3.7.1 Invoicing & Shipment Documentation

Plants sold under the Certification Protocols must be accompanied by an invoice that:

- Distinguishes CGCN-RCCV plants from non-CGCN-RCCV plants;
- Lists detected and allowable viruses (Appendix 5);
- States the CGCN-RCCV per-plant levy (\$CAD) amount; and
- Must include the following:
  - If both the rootstock and scion wood have been “Certified Plus” by CGCN-RCCV, or the plant is own-rooted and propagated from CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” material,

the invoice must list the variety/clone name and quantity of each plant, and designate it sold as “*CGCN-RCCV Certified Plus.*”

#### *2.3.7.2 Grapevines planted in the ground*

In a row of grapevines in which every plant consists of the same cultivar/rootstock combination, the grapevines at both ends of the row must be labelled to identify the cultivar/rootstock combination of that row. When more than one combination is planted in a row, each cultivar/rootstock combination must be clearly labelled within the row. Additionally, the tag/label must clearly identify what Generation level it is, and location (i.e., blocks/rows/vines).

#### *2.3.7.3 Grapevines in pots or pot-in-pot systems (containerized material)*

Each potted grapevine or container must be clearly identified to reflect its “Certified Plus” status, Generation level, and the cultivar/rootstock combination. A typical weather-resistant label attached directly to the grapevine and bearing that information is recommended however any weather-resistant identification method (stickers, paint, pot colour, rubber tape, etc.) approved by CGCN-RCCV may be used. If another identification method other than labels is used, then the facility's records must include the required information and link it to the chosen identification method.

#### *2.3.7.4 Harvested stock*

Harvests of individual grapevines, bundles or crates must be labelled and processed in separate facilities or on separate days from material not in the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program. If processing happens in the same facility where non-certified material is handled, the facility needs to be thoroughly cleaned and any non-certified propagating material has to be removed from the premises in order to avoid any accidental co-mingling of product. A record of the cleaning procedure must be kept.

### 2.4 Specific production requirements

#### 2.4.1 Generation 1A (G1A) requirements

G1A material must be maintained in a fashion to mitigate the risk of re-infection or contamination (i.e., Maintained as tissue culture or in a CGCN-RCCV approved controlled environment such as a screen house, or some other secure structure approved in writing by the CGCN-RCCV and grown in accordance with the requirements outlined in this program).

##### *2.4.1.1 Virus Testing*

Refer to Appendix 6 for frequency of testing requirements. Once material has been confirmed negative for the viruses of concern, the nursery is permitted to initiate propagation via tissue culture or traditional practices.

If any G1A material tests positive for any one or more of the viruses of concern in Appendix 5, then follow-up action will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. The original source of material must be notified of the infection. The nursery may have the option to submit the material for virus elimination or choose to destroy it.

#### 2.4.2 G2 and G3 requirements

Re-grafting (repeating a graft or bud that has failed on a rootstock or young grapevine) or top working (the process of converting an established grapevine to a new variety by

grafting multiple scions /buds onto the main scaffold limbs of the grapevine) of plants in G2 and G3 mother blocks is only permitted when the propagative material being used is from a higher certification level.

G2 and G3 blocks cannot be established on land on which non-certified grapevines have been grown within the last 10 years, non-certified fruit trees within the last two years, and other Rosaceous plants not tested within the last two years for nepoviruses of grapevines known to occur in Canada. Documented proof or an affidavit should be provided to the CGCN-RCCV inspector prior to the block assessment.

#### *2.4.2.1 Buffer zone*

Buffer zones are necessary to reduce the chance of infection by naturally transmitted viruses. G2 and G3 blocks must be separated from other non-certified material, including CGCN-RCCV Verified material, by a minimum of 6 metres from the drip line of the canopy on all sides. For more information on cover crops, please reference Appendix 9.

#### *2.4.2.2 Virus testing*

Refer to Appendix 6 for frequency of testing requirements. If blocks are initially fumigated or tested and found free of virus-vectoring nematodes, follow-up nepovirus testing is not required unless subsequent soil sampling reveals the presence of virus vectoring nematodes. If the presence of virus vectoring nematodes is determined, the grapevines must be sampled and analyzed for nepoviruses at least once every three (3) years except for G4 material.

Follow-up virus testing of G2 and G3 material is not required for containerized grapevines maintained according to the requirements of this program, unless virus-like symptoms are detected.

#### *2.4.2.3 Tissue culture produced material for resale*

Material produced in G2 and/or G3 increase propagation blocks may be sold to other nursery facilities or growers for further propagation and eventual sale if the receiving nursery or grower is also a participant in CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” and/or “Certified” protocols. Please contact CGCN-RCCV staff for more information or to request an application.

#### *2.4.3 G4 requirements*

Planting sites on which grapevines or other Rosaceae originating outside this certification program, or grapevines were previously grown, cannot be used for planting G4 blocks for two years after removal of these crops. Alternatively, these plants can be treated with a systemic herbicide, followed by removal of the treated host plants. This must be followed by a clean fallow period or growth of a uniform, weed-free grass cover crop (non-host for nepoviruses) for one growing season. For more information, please refer to appendix 9.

#### *2.4.3.1 Buffer zone*

Approved planting sites must have a minimum of 4 metre buffer zone separating CGCN-RCCV Certification Program grapevines from grapevines not in the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program, including CGCN-RCCV Verified material. The buffer zones must be clean cultivated or planted with a uniform, weed-free grass cover crop (non-host for nepoviruses) approved cover crop. For more information, please refer to appendix 9.



#### 2.4.3.2 Identifying Marks

Please refer to “Permitted CGCN-RCCV Certification Claims” policy for labelling details.

G4 plants of the same rootstock/scion combination in nursery rows must be clearly labeled at the beginning and end of the rows. If more than one rootstock/scion combination is planted in a row, they must be separated by a one metre gap and clearly labeled at the beginning and end of each combination.

#### 2.4.3.3 Virus testing

Refer to Appendix 6 for frequency of testing requirements.

Follow-up virus testing of G4 material is not required for containerized grapevines maintained according to the requirements of this program, unless virus-like symptoms are detected.

#### 2.4.4 Specific requirements for the production of containerized grapevines

Containerized grapevines must meet all the requirements of this program as outlined in this document, and the specific containerized requirements outlined below must also be followed.

##### 2.4.4.1 Soil and growing media

###### 2.4.4.1.1 Soil-free growing media

The growing media to be used in containers must consist of soil-free material, including but not limited to: expanded or baked clay pellets; ground coconut husks, coffee hulls, cocoa pods or rice husks; peat; perlite, pumice, sawdust, sphagnum, vermiculite, bark, agar, or growth media. The components of the growing media must not have been previously used for growing plants or for other agricultural purposes. The components of the growing media must be mixed and maintained under conditions which preclude soil contamination or contamination by water runoff. At the inspector’s discretion, samples of the media may be taken to verify the absence of soil and/or nematodes. The above list of growing media is not exhaustive. Other growing media may be used if approved by the CGCN-RCCV.

###### 2.4.4.1.2 Soil

Soil may be used for containerized plants but the soil shall be tested and found free of *Xiphinema* and *Longidorus* nematodes capable of transmitting nepoviruses, or fumigated prior to planting. Other treatments may also be used if approved by CGCN-RCCV. The soil must also be sieved to remove any significant root debris.

Note: Further restrictions for other soil pests (ex.: Japanese Beetle or Grape Phylloxera in regulated areas) may apply regarding the use of soil for containerized plants, for domestic movement.

###### 2.4.4.1.3 Barriers to prevent soil contamination

For containerized plants grown in nursery blocks, the containers must be set on a barrier which prevents direct soil contact, such as plastic, hard packed clay, pavement, or a minimum of five centimeters of coarse gravel. The site must be located to preclude soil contamination, either directly or through water runoff from drainage, flooding, irrigation or other means e.g. raised, or protected by dams or drainage ditches.

#### 2.4.4.1.4 Buffer zones

Buffer zones are not required for containerized grapevines.

### 2.5 Record keeping requirements

A participating facility must maintain records on its premises. All records must be maintained and retained in a manner so as to prevent accidental loss. These records must be kept on site for seven years and made available to CGCN-RCCV staff upon request. Failure to produce these records in a timely manner may jeopardize certification status. These records include:

- Records indicating the quantity, Latin (botanical) name, variety /clone, rootstock, origin, date of introduction of grapevine stock to the facility, date of propagation, field, nursery row planting and accession number. These records must be kept at the nursery for seven years after the grapevines have been sold or removed. The use of Appendix 3, facility inventory declaration, for these records is suggested. Growers inventory records can be used instead of Appendix 3 provided they contain the same information. Records must be updated to include material planted since the last systems audit inspection;
- The facility inventory declaration must be updated whenever new material is planted, or new blocks are established;
- Records of sale or plant movement, invoices. The records must list all grapevines (grafted or own rooted) planted and sold under the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program;
- Data collected from monitoring, control or eradication and surveillance activities;
- Any cultural and treatment records including planting dates, spray records, cultivation, virus monitoring, bud collecting, grafting and re-grafting, quantities, etc.; and,
- Maps of the facility indicating planting blocks.

### 2.6 Promotion of CGCN-RCCV Material

For complete details in using the CGCN-RCCV name and/or logo, please refer to CGCN-RCCV’s “Marketing, Communication, and Graphic Standards” policy.

#### 2.6.1 CGCN-RCCV Marketing Badges



A nursery participating in the “Certified Plus” Protocols is eligible to use the CGCN-RCCV marketing badge before material is being sold under this program, following a successful remote



audit and official approval from the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors. The marketing badge is eligible to be displayed in the nursery’s facility, and within communications and promotions. CGCN-RCCV staff will send a customized marketing badge (as seen in the above template) via email upon confirmation of “Certified Plus” status following the remote audit.

### 2.6.2 Website

A nursery is only eligible to make CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” claims on their website following a successful remote audit where “Certified Plus” status is granted. Only nurseries that have been approved by the Board will be listed on CGCN-RCCV’s website on the Certification webpages.

A nursery participating in CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” protocols may list the CGCN-RCCV varieties and rootstocks available for order on their website. Material is only to be listed once it is readily available for customers to order or purchase. If a nursery has stock available in more than one CGCN-RCCV program, then the list of plants available for order must be distinguished under each applicable program. If the nursery has non-CGCN-RCCV stock available, then the list of plants must be easily distinguishable from available CGCN-RCCV certified plants. The nursery has the option to list in both French and English.

The CGCN-RCCV website homepage ([www.cgcn-rccv.ca/](http://www.cgcn-rccv.ca/)) and/or relevant protocol webpage must be hyperlinked within the participating nursery’s website. It is strongly recommended that the relevant CGCN-RCCV protocols are also available on the nursery’s website.

Nurseries are expected to keep their websites up to date on an ongoing basis, including variety availability, marketing badge, and status of Certification. Any nursery that was once a participant in CGCN-RCCV programming and has chosen to withdraw status or has had their status revoked, may still make CGCN-RCCV claims on plants that were previously “Certified Plus” until they are sold or otherwise disposed of. All other CGCN-RCCV claims must be removed from the website and other forms of communication.

## 2.7 Required CGCN-RCCV inspections

The CGCN-RCCV will conduct one systems audit inspection per year and a minimum of one surveillance audit inspection during the production season at a time when disease expression can be observed in the plant material. Audit inspections will take place at a time agreed to by CGCN-RCCV and the approved facility. CGCN-RCCV reserves the right to hire an independent inspector to conduct one or both audit inspections. Facility management representation during the audit is recommended. All costs associated with performing the inspections (including travel) will be the responsibility of the inspected nursery.

The systems audit inspection is a review of the organizational structure, procedures, processes and resources used in implementing the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program in the designated facility. This inspection will assess all system elements of this policy using the checklists in Appendix 2 and may include a hands-on product and/or block/field inspection for viral symptoms or other regulated pests.

The surveillance audit inspection involves an inspection of the plant material, culture of plant material, and a review of documents in the facility to ensure that these conform to the

requirements of the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program.

All G1A, G2, G3, and G4 blocks must be inspected by a CGCN-RCCV approved inspector at least once during each growing season, and at other times as deemed necessary by a person designated by the CGCN-RCCV to ensure that the program requirements are met. The inspection includes the stock, the land, and any associated documentation.

If it is suspected that material may be infested with a listed pest (refer to Appendix 5), samples of plant parts or the soil surrounding the plants may be taken and tested, at the facility’s expense, in order to ensure that the “Certified Plus” block continues to meet the requirements of this program.

### 2.8 Testing

Any testing for viruses, virus-like diseases, phytoplasmas or viroids must be carried out by an approved lab in Appendix 8. All testing will be at the expense of the nursery facility.

### 2.9 Non-conformances

The CGCN-RCCV reserves the right to suspend a facility from the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program if any non-compliance is found that threatens the integrity of the program. Elements of the program of a non-critical nature which are evaluated as not in compliance during the facility surveillance or systems audit inspection must be corrected within a timely fashion, as determined in consultation with an Approved Laboratory (Appendix 8). The PCM must attend the facility evaluation and annual systems audit inspection. The PCM is also responsible for ensuring appropriate corrective actions are undertaken.

If the CGCN-RCCV determines that a facility shall be suspended from the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program, the CGCN-RCCV must notify the facility, in writing, that it is no longer eligible to market plants under the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program. In addition, the facility must be informed in writing of the corrective actions required for compliance. Non-compliance with any requirements in this program may result in the cancellation or suspension of registered status of the block or facility until corrective action has been undertaken and approved by the CGCN-RCCV. If corrective action is feasible, and is undertaken within one growing season, registration of a block or facility may be reinstated. Any infected material and its progeny or parents will cease to be eligible for sale under this program until pest freedom can be re-established and confirmed.

If corrective action is not feasible or is not undertaken within the growing season, CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” Program authorization of a block or facility will be cancelled and it will be prohibited from producing plants under the CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” Program.

### Appeal Process - CGCN-RCCV Board decisions/recommendations

If the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors has granted a certificate of Certification on a conditional basis that the nursery disagrees with, the nursery has 30 days upon notice of conditions to appeal the decision. Throughout the whole appeal process, the nursery is always provided with the option of withdrawing from the CGCN-RCCV Certification program. If the nursery chooses to withdraw from the program, the nursery must provide CGCN-RCCV with a formal letter of notice.

Upon notice of rejection, the nursery can initiate an appeal process by submitting a formal appeal letter to the CGCN-RCCV Project Manager. The letter must provide justification for taking appeal action, explain why the nursery believes the decision of the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors is wrong or unjust, and present a potential solution. Once CGCN-RCCV staff receives this letter, they will pass along the request to the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors.

The appeal will be reviewed and managed by an ad hoc appeal committee agreed upon by the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors and the nursery. The ad hoc appeal committee may be chaired by the CGCN-RCCV Vice-Chair or other Board representative; however, this Board member will not be given any vote within the appeal committee. The other 2-3 members of the appeal committee may not include members from the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors. Upon review of the appeal, the appeal committee will work closely with the CGCN-RCCV Audit Committee (and CGCN-RCCV Approved Inspector, if needed) to either 1) agree with the appeal, 2) recommend alternate acceptable solution(s), or 3) reject the appeal all together.

#### Appeal Process Upon Rejection of Certification

If the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors has voted against providing a nursery with a certificate of Certification, the nursery has 30 days upon notice of rejection to appeal that decision. Throughout the whole appeal process, the nursery is always provided with the option of withdrawing from the CGCN-RCCV Certification program. If the nursery chooses to withdraw from the program, the nursery must provide CGCN-RCCV with a formal letter of notice.

Upon notice of rejection, the nursery can initiate an appeal process by submitting a formal appeal letter to the CGCN-RCCV Project Manager. The letter must provide justification for taking appeal action, explain why the nursery believes the decision of the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors is wrong or unjust, and present a potential solution. Once CGCN-RCCV staff receives this letter, they will pass along the request to the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors.

The appeal will be reviewed and managed by an ad hoc appeal committee agreed upon by the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors and the nursery. The ad hoc appeal committee may be chaired by the CGCN-RCCV Vice-Chair or other Board representative; however, this Board member will not be given any vote within the appeal committee. The other 2-3 members of the appeal committee may not include members from the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors. Upon review of the appeal, the appeal committee will work closely with the CGCN-RCCV Audit Committee (and CGCN-RCCV Approved Inspector, if needed) to either 1) agree with the appeal, 2) recommend alternate acceptable solution(s), or 3) reject the appeal all together.

#### 2.9.1 Detection of a quarantine pest

If a quarantine pest and/or disease to Canada is detected in an approved facility, the CFIA will be notified immediately by the CGCN-RCCV. Further action will be the responsibility of the CFIA. Depending on the severity of the pest infestation, the facility may be suspended from the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program.

#### 2.9.2 Re-approval following suspension from the CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” program

When a facility wishes to re-register a block with lapsed registration, the CGCN-RCCV will evaluate the block on a case-by-case basis. The CGCN-RCCV will only re-register such a block if it is satisfied that the block meets the criteria for the requested level of authorization. Significant

sampling and testing over a period of time may be required before the CGCN-RCCV is confident that the block meets the criteria.

#### 2.10 Corrective measures

When appropriate corrective actions have been taken and the facility meets all the requirements of a facility evaluation and all other conditions of this program, the CGCN-RCCV may authorize reinstatement in the program.

### 3.0 Appendices

#### Appendix 1: Application for authorization under the CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” Program for grapevines

Name of facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address of facility (if different from location):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name, contact phone and email of owner/person having the possession, care or control of the facility:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name and contact phone and email of Pest Control Manager:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Intended Canadian provinces for sales of produced grapevines:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ the owner/person in possession, care, or control of the above-named nursery have read and understood all the conditions and obligations stated herein by which I may sell grapevine nursery stock, *Vitis* spp., in accordance with the CGCN-RCCV “CERTIFIED PLUS” PROGRAM.

I agree to immediately suspend shipment of regulated commodities if notified by the CGCN-RCCV that the designated facility is in non-compliance with the CGCN-RCCV “CERTIFIED PLUS” PROGRAM. I will immediately notify the CGCN-RCCV if viruses or any other regulated pests are found in the facility. I will allow the name and location of my facility to be included on a publicly accessible website list of nurseries approved under the CGCN-RCCV CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_,

Province of \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Facility and Preventative Control Plan evaluation completed and facility recommended for participation by:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Authorized CGCN-RCCV Official: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility registration number: \_\_\_\_\_

Application approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized CGCN-RCCV Official Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Appendix 2: Critical elements for the evaluation of the application, facility declaration and the facility preventative control plan.

ITEM CHECK

ITEM	CHECK
1. Has the facility developed and implemented a Preventative Control Plan (PCP) that meets the requirements of the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program.	
2. Does the PCP describe, specify all details (when, where, by whom, how, what is done if pests are found) the procedures for:	
2.1 examination of plant material entering an approved facility	
2.2 examination of production areas (Is there a map of the facility provided in the PCP?)	
2.3 examination of shipping areas	
2.4 pest controls	
2.5 handling, storage and delivery areas	
2.6 ensuring that all pest finds are entered into a Pest Log and that the PCM and the CGCN-RCCV are notified immediately of any pest finds of significance. Refer to Appendix 5	
2.7 ensuring that the persons designated to carry out particular components of the PCP are qualified to do so.	
3. Are the buffer zones owned or under appropriate management control by the applicant? Please provide detail.	
4. Does the facility have a system in place to ensure that only eligible grapevines that comply with the requirements described in this program are marketed under the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program.	
4.1 Clear separation in location or time of non-certified material processing.	
5. Records management:	
5.1 Are they kept for 7 years	
5.2 Is there a responsible person named and contact information provided?	
5.3 Do the records adequately record tracking of material on-site, how material is stored and propagated, records of propagation, procedures or instructions for working with certified material, organizational structure and responsibilities, corrective or preventive actions ordered, record of distribution, list of all suppliers providing plants and products including certification documentation, copies of Phytosanitary Certificates issued, data collected from monitoring, treatment, control or eradication and verification activities.	

Appendix 3: Facility inventory declaration – G1A, G2 and G3

Facility name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pest Control Manager: \_\_\_\_\_  
CGCN-RCCV Registration number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Facility mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Block /Field No.: _____
Variety /Clone: _____
Variety/Clone Source: _____
Rootstock: _____
Rootstock Source: _____
No. of ha: _____
Generation: _____
Quantity Planted: _____
Date of Planting/Proposed Date of Planting: _____
Block/Field History: _____
Location of Field: _____
Previous Year: _____
2nd Year Previous: _____

*\*repeat as needed for each block/field/clone at the G1A, G2, and G3 level*

Appendix 3B: Facility inventory declaration – G4

Facility name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pest Control Manager: \_\_\_\_\_  
CGCN-RCCV Registration number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Facility mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Block /Field No.: _____
Variety /Clone: _____
Variety/Clone Source: _____
Rootstock: _____
Rootstock Source: _____
No. of ha: _____
Generation: _____
Quantity Planted: _____
Date of Planting/Proposed Date of Planting: _____
Block/Field History: _____
Location of Field: _____
Previous Year: _____
2nd Year Previous: _____

*\*repeat as needed for each block/field/clone at the G4*



**Appendix 4: Fee Schedule**

Administrative fee

Nurseries applying to the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program will be required to submit a \$500 non-refundable administration fee along with their application. This will go towards the administration costs involved in reviewing the application, as well as setting up the applicant nursery for testing.

HTS testing

Please contact CGCN-RCCV staff for pricing details as this is available on a case-by-case basis.

PCR testing (as of December 2023 & subject to change)

<b>Number of Viruses</b>	<b>Cost per sample</b>	<b>Cost per sample</b>
	LEAF with petiole samples from a single vine OR five-vine composite	INDIVIDUAL CANE samples from a single vine or COMPOSITE CANE samples (2-VINE COMPOSITES)
1	\$30	\$35
2	\$44	\$48
3	\$56	\$60
4	\$68	\$72
5	\$84	\$90
6	\$96	\$100
7	\$110	\$114

Please note that sample collection and applicable travel costs are not included in the above prices.

CGCN-RCCV Levy

Nurseries participating in the Program will be required to collect a \$0.25 levy per vine sold under the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program. This amount will be remitted back annually to CGCN-RCCV on January 30th, for the 12 months prior (January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>). CGCN-RCCV reserves the right to audit invoices and nursery procedures to ensure the amount remitted is correct.

The price of a vine produced through this program is up to the discretion of the nursery.

The levy will be subject to a yearly review by CGCN-RCCV.

Audit/Inspection

All costs associated with performing the systems and surveillance inspections (including travel) will be the responsibility of the inspected nursery. CGCN-RCCV will work with nurseries to agree upon local qualified individuals that meet CGCN-RCCV’s criteria to conduct audits/inspections.

**Appendix 5: Approved virus-testing methods and viruses of concern**

The CGCN-RCCV Certification Program has identified the viruses of concern for testing at each Generation level. This is subject to revision as necessary.

**Grapevine Viruses of Concern:**

<b>Virus of Concern</b>	<b>G1</b>	<b>G2</b>	<b>G3</b>
Arabis Mosaic Virus	X	O	O
Grapevine Fanleaf virus	X	X	X
Grapevine Leafroll Associated Virus 1	X	X	X
Grapevine Leafroll Associated Virus 3	X	X	X
Grapevine Leafroll Associated Virus 4 strains	X	O	O
Grapevine Leafroll Associated Virus 7	X	O	O
Strawberry latent ringspot virus	X	O	O
Raspberry ringspot virus	X	O	O
Tomato Ringspot virus	X	<del>OX</del>	<del>OX</del>
**Grapevine Fleck Virus	X	O	O
Grapevine Leafroll Associated Virus 2	X	O	O
Grapevine Leafroll Associated Virus 2 Red Globe Strain	X	O	O
Grapevine Virus A (associated with grapevine Kober stem grooving disease)	X	O	O
Grapevine virus B (associated with grapevine corky bark disease)	X	O	O
Grapevine Virus D (associated with rugose wood disease)	X	O	O
*Grapevine Virus E	X	O	O
*Grapevine Virus F	X	O	O
Grapevine red blotch virus	X	X	X
Grapevine Pinot gris virus	X	X	X
Grapevine asteroid mosaic-associated virus	X	O	O
**Grapevine rupestris stem pitting associated virus and its strains	X	O	O
Raspberry ringspot virus	X	O	O
Tomato black ring virus	X	O	O
Phytoplasmas: Flavescence dorée, Bois noir, Australian grapevine yellows, Palatinate Yellow, Aster Yellows, X Disease	X	O	O
*Crown Gall (ongoing)***	X	O	O

**X: testing mandatory at generation level**

**O: option based on field agent recommendations**

**\*not on G1 testing under CFIA protocol**

**\*\* allowed under “Certified Plus” protocols under the condition that it is denoted on listings**

**\*\*\*CGCN-RCCV does not certify for absence of Crown Gall (*A. Vitis*), but allows for a statement, if prescribed protocols are followed (refer to Appendix 7)**

**Approved testing methods:**

- 1) Nucleic acid detection by PCR (polymerase chain reaction), Quantitative PCR, ddPCR and MCHqPCR
- 2) High Throughput Sequencing (HTS)
- 3) Any other diagnostic method approved by CGCN-RCCV

Appendix 6: Frequency of testing at each generation

**G1 (including G1A)**

For nurseries conducting traditional bench grafting propagation, the frequency of testing of G1A material is the same as G1 material. G1A material will be retested via HTS every 3 years or as needs arise if virus-like symptoms are detected. For nurseries conducting tissue culture propagation, they are required to test G1A and/or G1A equivalent material via HTS before initiation or re-initiation from a mother plant is scheduled to occur.

**G2 and G3**

**Every vine** in the CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” **G2 and G3 increase blocks** shall be re-tested by a CGCN-RCCV authorized laboratory at least **once in every 5 years** (not including the year the block is established). In year one of the G2 or G3 established block, no testing will be done. Starting the year after the G2 or G3 block has been established, testing will be done at 20% of total vines each year cumulating to 100% in every five-year period. Sampling and testing methods are found in Appendix 10 and Appendix 5 respectively, as **composites of five vines per sample if PCR is used**. In the sixth year, random sampling and HTS testing of 20% of the block will be required to maintain “Certified Plus” status and restart the five-year annual audit testing cycle. CGCN-RCCV reserves the right to expand the list of viruses being tested in G2-G3 plantings, based on past presence in the field and prevalence in surrounding areas.

**G4**

CGCN-RCCV may conduct random sampling of the G4 “Certified Plus” block for program development purposes, but this is not mandatory according to these protocols.

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 If any positives found below the acceptable level of 0.1%, all vines in the composite plus one vine from each side in the same row must be removed or the individual vines within the composite should be re-tested for the above-mentioned viruses and identify the vines infected and removed along with ones on either side of the positively tested vine.

In the case of percent positives equals or exceeds the acceptable level of 0.1%, the sample size for subsequent years shall be calculated based on the Table 1 listed below.

In case of the percent positives records higher than the previous year testing which indicates the spread of virus within the vineyard block, then the sample size for subsequent years shall be calculated based on the Table 1 listed below. This applies to viruses that need to be tested at G3 level according to Appendix 5

**Table 1**

<b>Virus Infection in Year 2, % of total vines tested</b>	<b>Virus testing for blocks exceeding allowable limit of 0.1% in 3<sup>rd</sup> or Subsequent Years</b>
<b>0.1-1%</b>	30%
<b>1-2 %</b>	40%
<b>2-5 %</b>	60%
<b>&gt;5 %</b>	100%

\*Virus testing in 3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent years may be limited to viruses known to be present.

## Appendix 7: Program and protocols regarding *Allorhizobium vitis* (crown gall)-tested propagating material for grapevines

*Allorhizobium vitis* (previously known as *Agrobacterium vitis*) (crown gall) is a bacterial disease that can weaken or kill a grapevine. It is spread mostly by infected propagating material. Another mode of infection is through soil that has previously been planted with grapevines infected with crown gall. Grapevine roots left in the soil can harbour *A. vitis* for years after the crop has been removed.

### **Source of propagating material:**

All material used to propagate plants that claim that they have been produced from rootstock and scion wood found free of *A. vitis* must be sourced from G1, G1a, G2 or G3 material that has been tested at the G1 level by dd PCR and found to be free of *A. vitis*. G1a and G4 material will qualify to make the claim: *Produced from material found to be free of A. vitis*. G2 and G3 plantings will need to be re-sampled and tested on an ongoing basis to qualify for the claim. Initially we recommend random sampling of 10% of plants annually.

Sites used for G2 and G3 plantings will conform to the CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” standard.

Following are two protocols; one for grapevines propagated in growing medium and another for grapevines propagated in soil.

### **Growing medium:**

Any medium suitable for the production of grapevines that does not contain any trace of soil and has not been contaminated by soil during handling and has not been previously used for nursery production is allowed. (Reference CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” Program, Section 2.4.4.1.1). Containers filled with growing medium used in the production of grapevines cannot be directly placed on soil but must be either on concrete, impermeable plastic sheets or other material that excludes the risk of contamination with soil.

### **Propagation in field soil:**

Because *A. vitis* can survive in soil on grape roots and possibly other organic material, grapevine nurseries producing plants from material tested to be free from *A. vitis* cannot be grown on a plot of land that has been used for grapevine nursery or vineyard in at least the previous seven years. Land use history must be available and verifiable for a minimum of ten years. Propagating blocks must be mapped with GPS. A buffer of 3 metres on all sides must separate the *A. vitis*-tested propagating material from any other crop. If the neighbouring crop is grape, the buffer will be 8 metres.

Equipment used for planting, cultivating, spraying and harvesting must be thoroughly cleaned of any soil or other potential contaminants by pressure washing before it is used in the production of grapevines from *A. vitis*-free propagating material. Grafting and cutting tools must be cleaned with bleach or alcohol before use with crown gall free propagating material. Also see CFIA bio security protocol guidelines for tree fruit and nuts (<https://www.cgcnrccv.ca/site/blog/2019/10/28/managing-biosecurity>)

### **Processing, handling and record keeping:**

*Allorhizobium vitis*-free propagating material used for the production of grapevines making the claim that they were produced from crown gall-free material must be clearly identified and stored

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separately from untested material. Processing of the material must be done in a manner to ensure that any risk of contamination by and co-mingling with untested material is eliminated.

If propagating material must be hydrated, the water used must be clean and cannot have been used previously for hydrating material that has not been tested to be free from *A. vitis*.

Records must be maintained that detail amount of wood harvested and source and location of crown gall-free G2 or G3 blocks. Records of cleaning procedures of facilities and equipment prior to use with tested material must be maintained and made available upon request. In the case of grafted plants, both rootstock and scion material must be sourced from blocks tested and maintained under this program.

Nurseries participating in CGCN-RCCV “Certified Plus” protocols may distinguish their material as sourced from Crown Gall free plants and propagated under the conditions as described in this section.

## Appendix 8: Approved labs

The CGCN-RCCV has approved the following labs for testing of grapevine material in the CGCN-RCCV Certification Program. Lab choice for testing is based on location, and lab availability. Other labs will be considered as needed.

### Approved labs for grapevine virus testing:

CCOVI Virus Diagnostic Lab at Brock University  
1812 Sir Isaac Brock Way  
St. Catharines, Ontario  
Contact: Sudarsana Poojari

Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
Sidney Laboratory, Centre for Plant Health  
8801 East Saanich Road  
North Saanich, British Columbia  
Contact: ~~Anna-mary Schmidt~~ [Kenji Hara](#)

(Inactive for Crown Gall testing), University of British Columbia-Okanagan  
3333 University Way  
Kelowna, British Columbia  
Contact: Tanja Voegel

(for Crown Gall testing) CCOVI Virus Diagnostic Lab at Brock University  
1812 Sir Isaac Brock Way  
St. Catharines, Ontario  
Contact: Sudarsana Poojari

### Approved labs for nematode testing:

*To be determined based on approval criteria developed by the CGCN-RCCV Board of Directors.*

## Appendix 9: Approved woody plants/cover crops

### **1. Buffer Zones and Ground Covers**

- 1.1. The soil must be tested for *Xiphinema* and *Longidorus* nematodes at the onset of establishing the block for certification and once every five years thereafter as stipulated for the block as described in section 2.3.3.2. If tests are positive, broadleaf weeds growing in the buffer zone and grapevines in the “Certified Plus” block will be tested for nepovirus. Nematode testing is to be conducted at a CGCN-RCCV approved facility (reference Appendix 8).
- 1.2. To reduce potential spread of nepoviruses through buffer zones via *Xiphinema* and/or *Longidorus* nematode populations, **the groundcover of the 6-metre buffer zone for G2-G3 plantings, 4-metre buffer zone for G4 plantings, and the “Certified Plus” block** must be one of the following:
  - maintained as a homogeneous stand of perennial turf grass established by intentionally seeding with varieties of perennial ryegrass or fescue (non-hosts for nepo-viruses) selected for use as perennial ground covers with minimal contamination by broadleaf weeds (which may be alternate hosts for nepoviruses).
  - planted to an annual Sudangrass or mustard species with biofumigant properties, such as white (*Sinapis alba*) or brown (*Brassica juncea*) mustards, and cultivated under in mid-season to optimize green manure biofumigant effects.
  - clean cultivated or tilled at least twice a season to disrupt cycles of broadleaf weed growth.
- 1.3. In addition to the above options, **the groundcover of the “Certified Plus” block** may be planted as a green manure cover crop to an annual or short-lived perennial legume species, such as white or berseem clover, with cultivation and re-seeding every 1-3 years, as appropriate to the legume species, in order to control perennial weeds.

## Appendix 10: Sample Collection Protocol

Instructions for the collection of grape leaves with petioles for virus testing. Vines will be individually tracked by GPS. All vines will be collected by an Approved Lab from Appendix 2 or Agent.

### 1) Label the sample collection bag

Label each sample collection bag (typically, medium size freezer Ziploc bag or any other bag with a closure) using a permanent marker with the following information

- a. Name of the Vineyard
- b. Name or Number of the Block
- c. Name of the Variety/Cultivar
- d. Number of the Row
- e. Number of the Panel or Post
- f. Number of the Vine

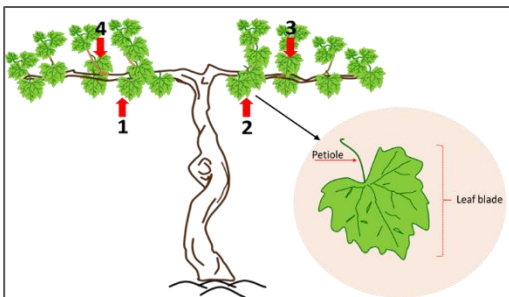
*Example: AA/B10/CH/R1/P2/V3 (Vineyard name short form / Block number / Varietal name / Row number / Panel (post) number / Vine number)*

### 2) Collect the Sample – either leaves with petioles or cane cuttings, dependent on season.

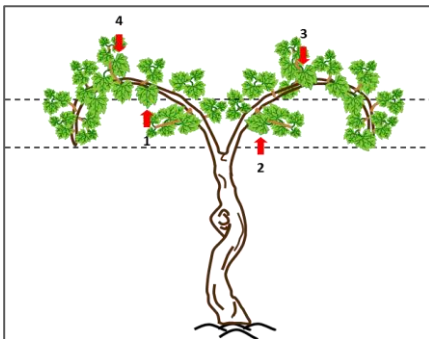
#### Leaves with Petioles (Late season sampling)

As shown in the cartoon, collect mature leaves with petioles attached from the bottom portion of the canopy. The petiole is the slender stem that connects the leaf blade to the shoot.

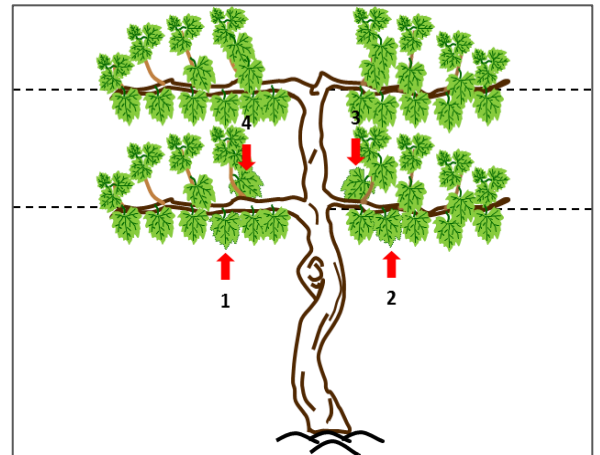
Included are examples of how to sample from common grapevine training systems within Ontario. **Leaf sample collection should always be from the bottom canopy covering both the front and back of the vine.**



Double-cordon sampling



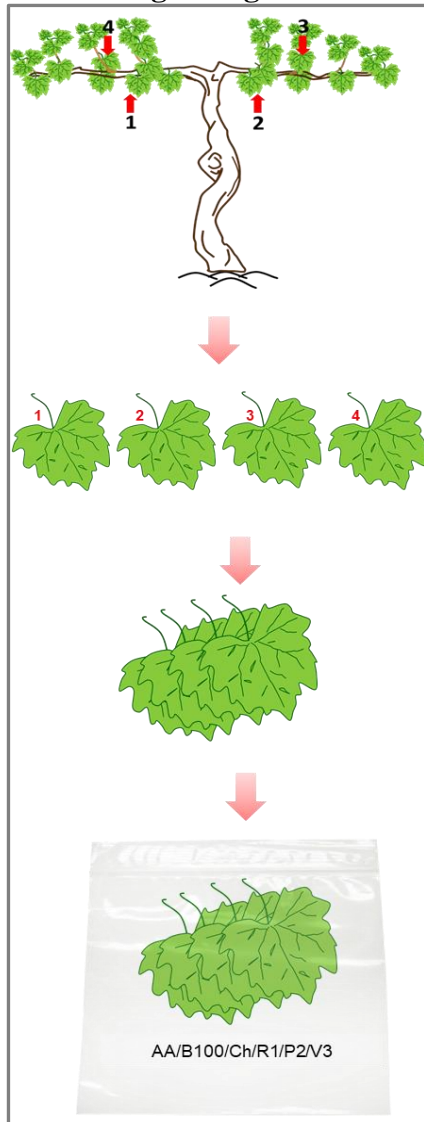
Pendlebogen sampling



Four-arm Kniffin sampling



### For Testing a Single Vine



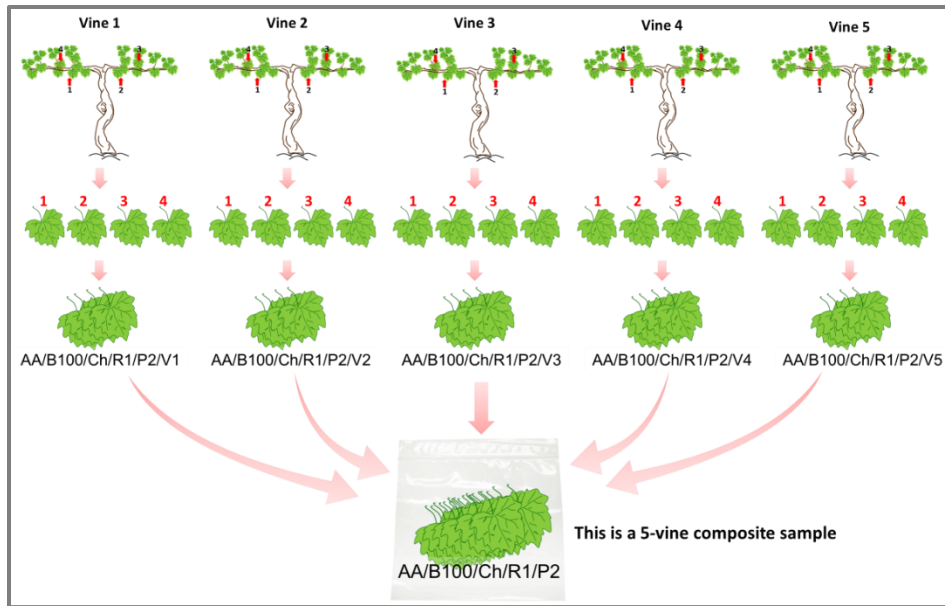
1. As shown in the cartoon, please collect **FOUR** mature leaves with petioles covering **FRONT** and **BACK** portion of the vine from all **FOUR** directions (a total of **4 leaves per vine**)
2. Place all **FOUR** mature leaves with petioles on top of each other and place them inside the pre-labeled sample collection bag
3. Seal the bag before sending the sample to the laboratory

#### **PLEASE AVOID:**

- a) Collecting when raining (for virus testing moisture free leaves are expected) and avoid adding additional moisture to samples
- b) Young leaves or leaves from the upper canopy
- c) Dead or senescing leaves
- d) Leaves covered with soil/dirt
- e) Leaves that are heavily damaged by insects feeding or damaged by animals, agriculture equipment, etc.
- f) Touching end of petiole where it is attached to the shoot

### For Testing Composite of Five Vines

1. As shown in the cartoon, please collect FOUR mature leaves with petioles covering FRONT and BACK portion of the vine from all FOUR directions (a total of 4 leaves with petioles per vine)
2. Collect accordingly for all 5 vines.
3. Place the four leaves of each vine on top of each other and stack all the 20 leaves with petioles (four leaves with petioles from each vine) on top of each other and place them into a pre-labeled sample collection bag as shown in the cartoon below.
4. Seal sample bag before sending to the laboratory.



**Note: In composite samples all 5 vines are tested as one combined sample**

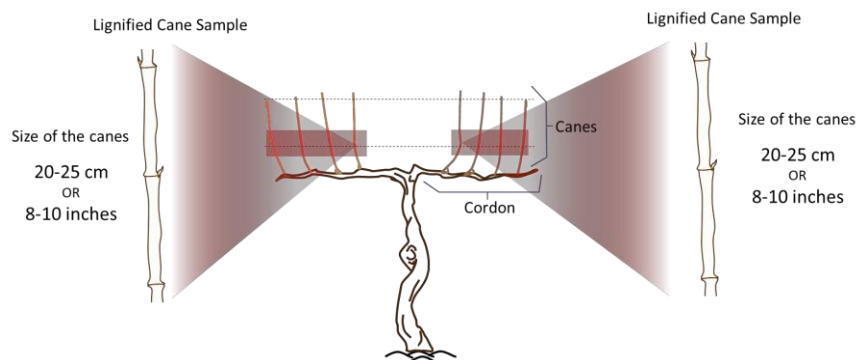
### When collecting leaf samples, PLEASE AVOID:

- a) Collecting when raining (for virus testing moisture free leaves are expected) and avoid adding additional moisture to samples
- b) Young leaves or leaves from the upper canopy
- c) Dead or senescing leaves
- d) Leaves covered with soil/dirt
- e) Leaves that are heavily damaged by insects feeding or damaged by animals, agriculture equipment, etc.
- f) Touching end of petiole where it is attached to the shoot

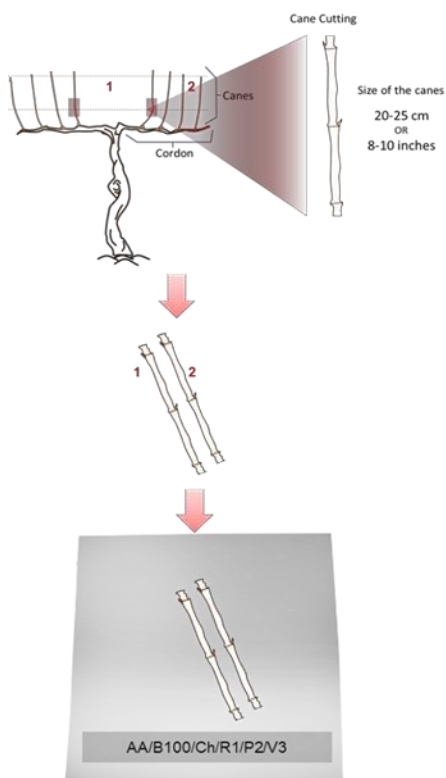
## 2) Collect the Sample

### Cane Cuttings (dormant season sampling)

As shown in the cartoon, collect mature canes from bottom portion of the canopy. The cane cuttings should be 8-10 inches long.

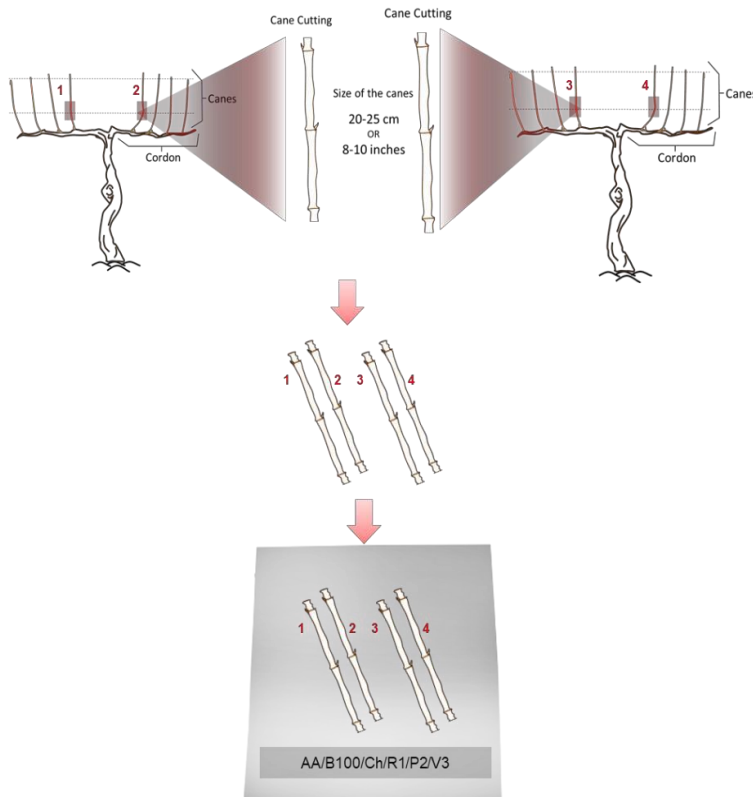


### Sampling from a single vine



1. As shown in the cartoon, please collect TWO mature cane cuttings one from each side of the cordon/arm
2. Select any cane that is mature from each side of the cordon
3. Place both cane cuttings inside the pre-labelled sample collection bag
4. Seal the bag before sending the sample to the laboratory

Sampling from a composite of two vines



1. As shown in the cartoon from the first vine, please collect TWO mature cane cuttings one from each side of the cordon/arm
2. Collect the cane cuttings from the second vine accordingly
3. Place cane cuttings from both vines (total of FOUR cuttings) inside the pre-labelled sample collection bag
4. Seal the bag before sending the sample to the laboratory

**When collecting cane samples, PLEASE AVOID:**

- a) Collecting when raining (for virus testing moisture free canes are expected) and avoid adding additional moisture to samples
- b) Young cuttings or cuttings from the upper canopy
- c) Canes from dead vines
- d) Canes covered with soil/dirt
- e) Canes that are heavily damaged by insects feeding or by agriculture equipment, etc.
- f) Canes heavily covered with fungal growth
- g) Touching the ends of freshly cut canes

### **C. Sample Transport**

Please submit the samples to the laboratory on the day of collection. If sending by mail, please store leaf samples in a Styrofoam cooler box with ice packs, seal them before shipping overnight.

Transport the samples, in a sampling box (typically, a cooler with ice packs), to the laboratory as soon as possible with sample submittal form and/or store short-term (up to 48 hours) at 4°C. If storing make sure sample bags also contain sampling date.

Samples along with submission form should be addressed to the following address.

### **Shipping Label**

Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute  
Grapevine Virology Lab IH210  
Brock University  
1812 Sir Isaac Brock Way  
St. Catharines, ON  
L2S 3A1 Canada  
Phone: +1 905-688-5550  
Web: [www.brocku.ca/ccovi/](http://www.brocku.ca/ccovi/)