Midwest Grape
Production Decisions
During a Drought Year

Outcome Observed
Drought Concerns
Management Decisions
Crop Phenology

**January**
- Bud break
- Plant new grapevines.
- Begin to spray fungicides & control weeds.
- Young plants are most sensitive to dry weather.
- Drought can weaken trunks & cases & increase susceptibility to disease.

**February**
- Prune.
- Dry conditions during winter increases likelihood of winter injury.
- Soil health.
- Root death.
- Winter injury.
- Dry weather decreases severity of fungal disease.

**March**
- Bud break
- Begin to spray fungicides & control weeds.
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**April**
- Prune.
- Dry weather decreases severity of fungal disease.
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**May**
- Flower formation & fruit set
- During drought plants may support fewer fruit clusters.
- Thin grape clusters.
- Dry conditions may pressure may be greater.
- Disease: Burn on grapes.
- Insect damage: Yield.

**June**
- Flower formation & fruit set
- Continue to spray insecticides.
- Thin grape clusters.
- Dry conditions may pressure may be greater.
- Disease: Burn on grapes.
- Insect damage: Yield.

**July**
- Fruit buds for next year’s crop are developing
- Insect damage & growth of plants.
- Continue to spray insecticides.
- Thin grape clusters.
- Dry conditions may pressure may be greater.
- Disease: Burn on grapes.
- Insect damage: Yield.

**August**
- Continue to spray fungicides.
- Thin grape clusters.
- Dry conditions may pressure may be greater.
- Disease: Burn on grapes.
- Insect damage: Yield.

**September**
- Continue to spray fungicides.
- Thin grape clusters.
- Dry conditions may pressure may be greater.
- Disease: Burn on grapes.
- Insect damage: Yield.

**October**
- Continue to spray fungicides.
- Thin grape clusters.
- Dry conditions may pressure may be greater.
- Disease: Burn on grapes.
- Insect damage: Yield.

**November**
- Mulch plants.
- Weed control. Plant cover crops. Irrigation as needed.
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**December**
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