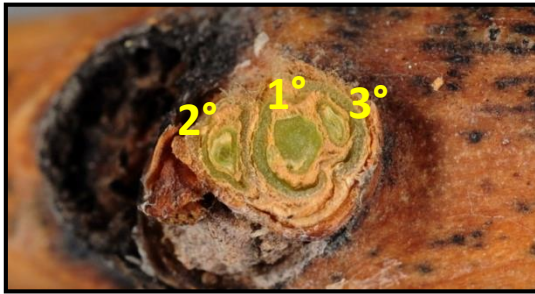


Assessing Winter Injury



Healthy undamaged bud



Dead primary bud, 2° and 3° buds are OK



Completely dead bud

1. Allow 3 or more days after an extreme cold weather event before sampling buds.
2. You may want to preferentially sample blocks with less hardy cultivars or sites with cold spots as these areas are the most likely to be affected.
3. Sample 1 cane per vine (buds 3 thru 7) from several vines and then store these in a plastic bag at room temperature for 24 hours to allow damaged buds to turn brown.
4. Assess buds by cutting off the top 1/3 -1/2 to expose bud primordias. Damaged bud primordias will be brown, where as healthy bud primordias will be green.
5. Calculate percent primary bud damage. Green secondary and tertiary buds are still viable.

Prune vines according to levels of bud injury

If **< 25%** primary bud death – prune normally

If **25 – 75%** primary bud death – prune lightly (leave 3 to 4 bud spurs or double up on canes)

If **> 75%** primary bud death – prune lightly and keep all spurs. Expect phloem damage & focus on vine recovery.

