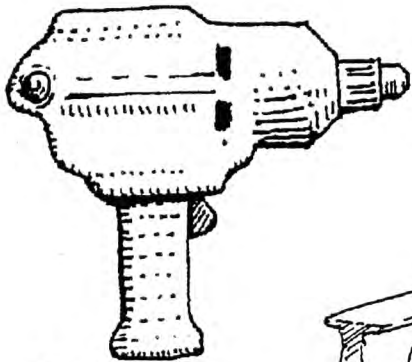


Getting Started on Your Vineyard Trellis

1. Site Selection is very important. During the growing season the vines will need at least 8 hours of direct sunlight.
2. The soil will need to be ripped and/or amended. Some vines will have roots that want to go as deep as 3 feet. Soil tests are recommended in areas with poor soil, or high in alkalinity or acidity.
3. VSP (Vertical Shoot Position) is one of the most common trellis systems and can be used in small backyard vineyards, as well as large production. This system also is very attractive as a landscape.
4. First determine your area of planting and how long and how many rows you will be putting in. Next use marking flags and a straight line to arrange the beginning and end of each row. This will allow you to measure your row length to start your end post and wire guide post (vine post) post locations. All posts should be spaced at or around 16' apart. For small trellises 10' is fine.
5. Dig holes for end posts. Holes need to be deep enough to set the post 2' in the ground. For large runs, it is suggested to set the posts at a 22 degree angle for extra support, and use a earth anchor with cable. Repack and tamp dirt around posts. Use fine gravel as a base if soil is too loose.
6. Measure 14 inches above the ground and drill ¼" hole in the center of each end post. This will be for your drip line
7. Measure 32" above the ground and drill another ¼" hole in the center of the post. This will be your fruiting wire.
8. Measure from the top of the end post down two inches and drill two ¼" diameter holes side by side. This is for the shoot position wires.
9. Measure halfway between the fruiting wire and top wires and drill two more ¼" diameter holes side by side. This is for the lower shoot position wires.
10. Drive in your wire guide posts (vine posts) at 16' spacing. Posts should be driven two feet deep.
11. Running the wire (preferably 12.5 gauge, if you have a small run 14 gauge will be OK) can be a challenge on longer runs, using a payout spinner can help with this. Run the wire through the first hole on the bottom of the end posts, and wrap the wire around the post, and securing it tightly with pliers. Run the wire the length of the row and put the wire through the bottom hole of the other end post. To secure this wire, you can use 2 methods, a wire vise, (which goes in the back of the hole) and the wire stays tight, or securing the wire to itself with a wire gripper.
12. Repeat these steps for the fruiting wire
13. For the shoot position wires, you will need to run the wire through each end post, and secure it to itself using the wire gripper
14. Tighten all wires; start with the fruiting wire as it will be under the most tension. For long runs, a chain wire strainer will be needed to tighten the wire.
15. Run you irrigation on the bottom wire, securing it with a vine curl. Remember to always use pressure compensating drippers.
16. Measure from the end post 2 feet away and place your first grapestake. These will need to driven 6"-12" into the ground, securing them to the drip line and fruiting line with a vine clip. Measure 4 ft. to the next stake and repeat for the whole row.

CONSTRUCTION TOOLS, SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

COMMON TOOLS



Electric Drill for
End Post Wire Holes



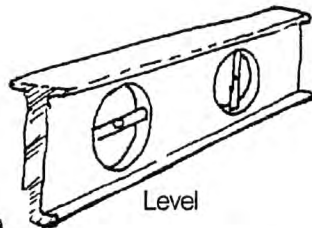
Drill Bits



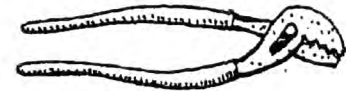
Hammer



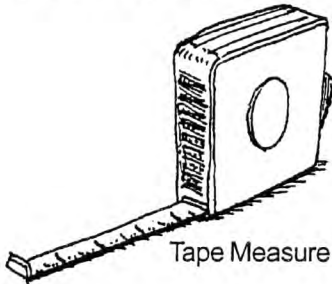
Measuring
Tape



Level



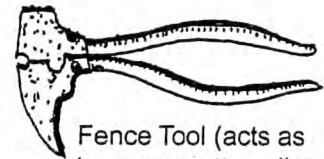
Pliers



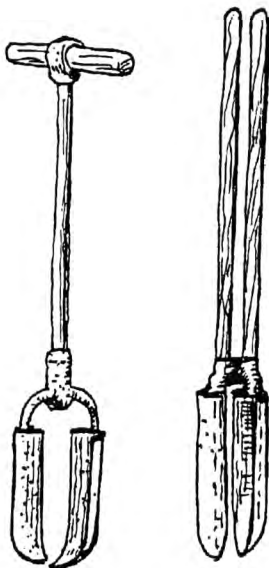
Tape Measure



Screwdriver



Fence Tool (acts as
hammer, cutter, pliers)



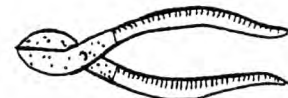
Post Hole Diggers



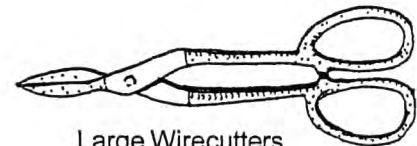
Shovel



Crowbar

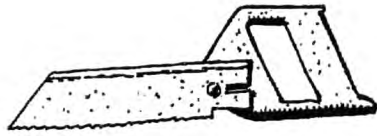


Small Wirecutters

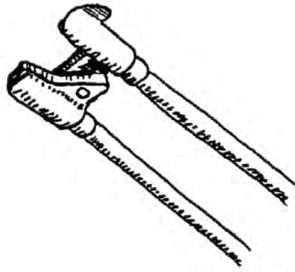


Large Wirecutters

SPECIALTY CONSTRUCTION TOOLS



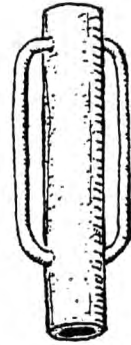
Saw (for cutting PVC or other small pipe)



Gripler tool (for tightening wires)



Pipe cutter (for PVC pipe)



Metal post driver

CONSTRUCTION SUPPLIES

Wire



End Post (from 3 to 6 inch diameter depending on length of row)

"T"



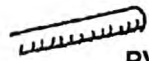
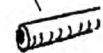
Connector

Hose Clamp (secures hose to drip wire)



Wire Clamp (secures wires to grapestake)

PVC pipe



PVC parts (for underground manifold)



Wire vices for securing wires through end posts



Zip-tie (to tie the hose to the end post)



Gravel (1/4 x dust to firmly set end posts)



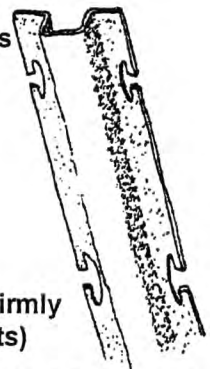
Dripper (1 Gallon Per Hour)



Hose Clamp for end of hose



PVC glue



Metal mid-post

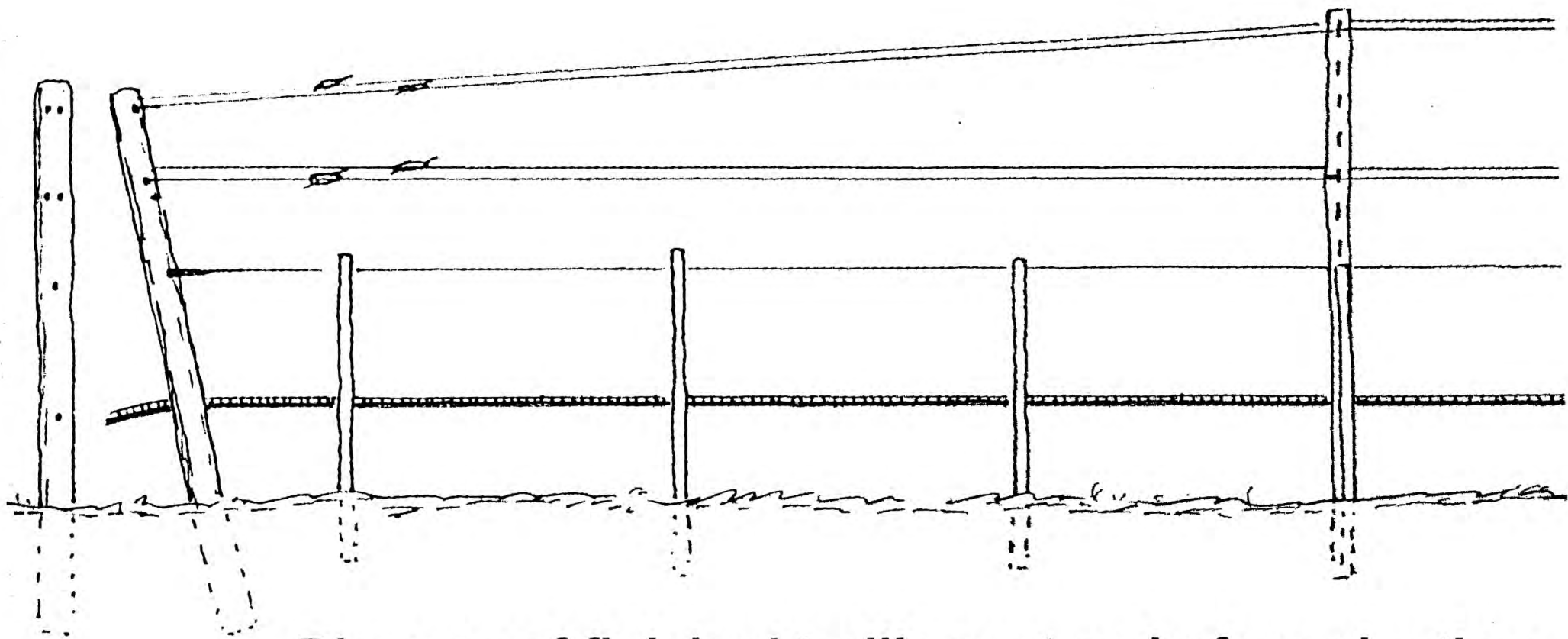


Diagram of finished trellis system before planting.