

KVH Best Practice—Grafting

Key principles: Ensure tools are sterilised between vines, avoid risk of scion and stump contamination, work from least infected to most infected blocks and protect young growth



	1. Prior to grafting	2. Preparing graft	3. Post-grafting	4. Protecting new growth	Reminders
What to do	Remove infected material and apply a protectant spray	Sanitise tools used to prepare scions and stump. Protect scions.	Cover placed scions (and stump) with a protectant sealant.	Protect scions and new growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grafting hygiene practices are required in all regions.
Purpose	Reduce inoculum level in the block. Protect stumps from environmental inoculum.	Avoid the risk of scion and stump contamination and/or disease transfer.	To protect scion/stump from exposure to environmental inoculum.	Minimise the risk of new growth becoming infected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The KVH Psa-V Risk Model is a tool for growers to identify infection risk periods associated with weather events.
How	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply copper sprays. Refer to KVH Best Practice – Spray Programmes on pages 5–7 of this document. Paint stumps and wounds from removed suckers with a wound sealant that includes a bactericide/sterilant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanitise all grafting tools prior to and following cutting scions or splitting stumps. Envirosan, Citrox, Bleach, Virkon, Meths are examples of suitable sanitisers. Avoid placing tools on the ground. Ensure scions remain protected prior to placement i.e. don't leave cut scions in open air environment or on the orchard floor. Graft in dry weather when infection risk is low. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover all exposed surfaces with a persistent sealant containing a bactericide. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure sealant is reapplied if washed off. Maintain a protective cover on new growth. For product choices refer to KVH 'Seasonal management advice' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure a physical barrier is maintained on stump and scion wounds as these are entry points for Psa-V. Grafts close to the ground may be at higher risk to contamination from the orchard floor i.e. Psa-V has been found in mulched plant material up to 15 weeks later. Aim to complete grafting in the appropriate grafting windows. Failure to do so may result in sap build up and consequently stumps may need to be bled – creating additional wounds. Consider keeping suckers as a plan B in case new growth succumbs to infection. Maintain records on grafting i.e. Where grafters have come from, what tools they have brought with them, and their intended grafting work plan. Grafting video demonstration
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Refer to [KVH Protocol: Nursery Stock](#) for more information on the movement of budwood and nursery stock to orchards and between regions.