CROPSY
TECHNOLOGIES

Cropsy Facts

Issue #2 · November 2026

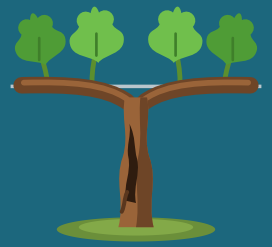
Marlborough vineyards: trunk disease and vine loss

For every severely infected vine, there are about 6 moderately infected vines across the Marlborough blocks scanned.

Trunk disease
114 blocks
948,076 vine scans

Vine loss
689 blocks
10,085,344 vine scans





Trunk disease in Marlborough

The trunk disease scan detects dead vines, and vines with severe or moderate symptoms. Scan window: flowering to mid-December. Each graded vine keeps its row and place, so the next scan reads the same vine again.

How the scan grades a vine



Moderate: signs of trunk disease for some of the canes but not significant enough infection that it affects all the canes.



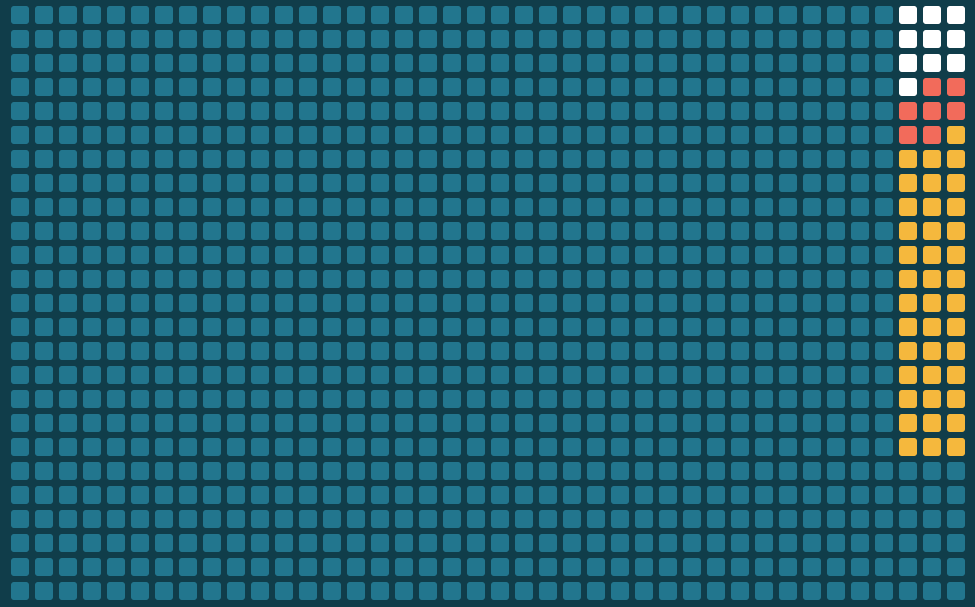
Severe: extreme signs of trunk disease to the extent that productivity is severely hindered. The majority if not all canes show signs of trunk disease and there is little canopy coverage.

Recorded dead: no sign of living material coming from anywhere on the vine.

Vines by trunk disease grade

All varieties · blocks scanned for trunk disease · 26 Nov to 23 Dec 2025

Vines graded, % by grade



- **1.0%** Recorded dead
- **0.7%** Severe
- **4.0%** Moderate
- **94.3%** No symptoms recorded

Of the vines graded, 94.3% have no symptoms recorded, 4.0% are moderate, 0.7% severe and 1.0% recorded dead. Severe and dead together are 1.7%.

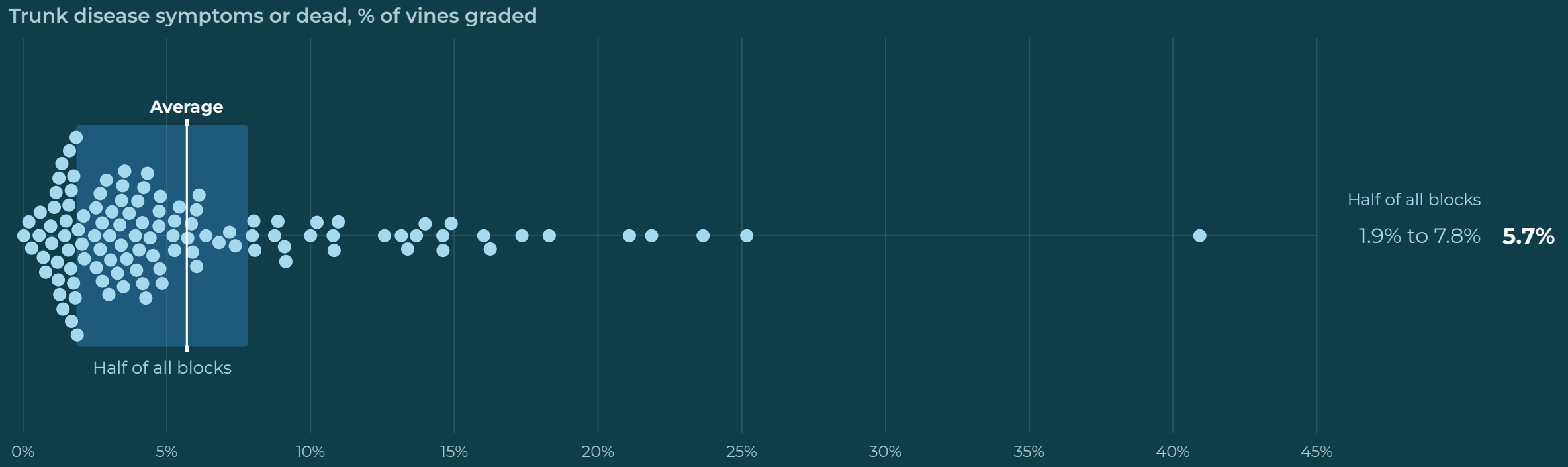
At average Sauvignon Blanc crop and price, that is up to $510 of grapes lost per hectare a year. Each 1% of vines severe or dead is up to $300 of grapes per hectare a year.

Severe and dead vines are the rework or replace list. A scan gives it by vine, by row and by block.

Crop and price: Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, the average of 2023 to 2025, from the MPI and NZ Winegrowers vineyard monitoring reports.

Trunk disease symptoms or dead, block by block

All varieties · blocks scanned for trunk disease · 26 Nov to 23 Dec 2025



Half of all blocks have 1.9% to 7.8% of vines with trunk disease symptoms or recorded dead. The average is 5.7%, and 98.2% of blocks have at least one severe vine.

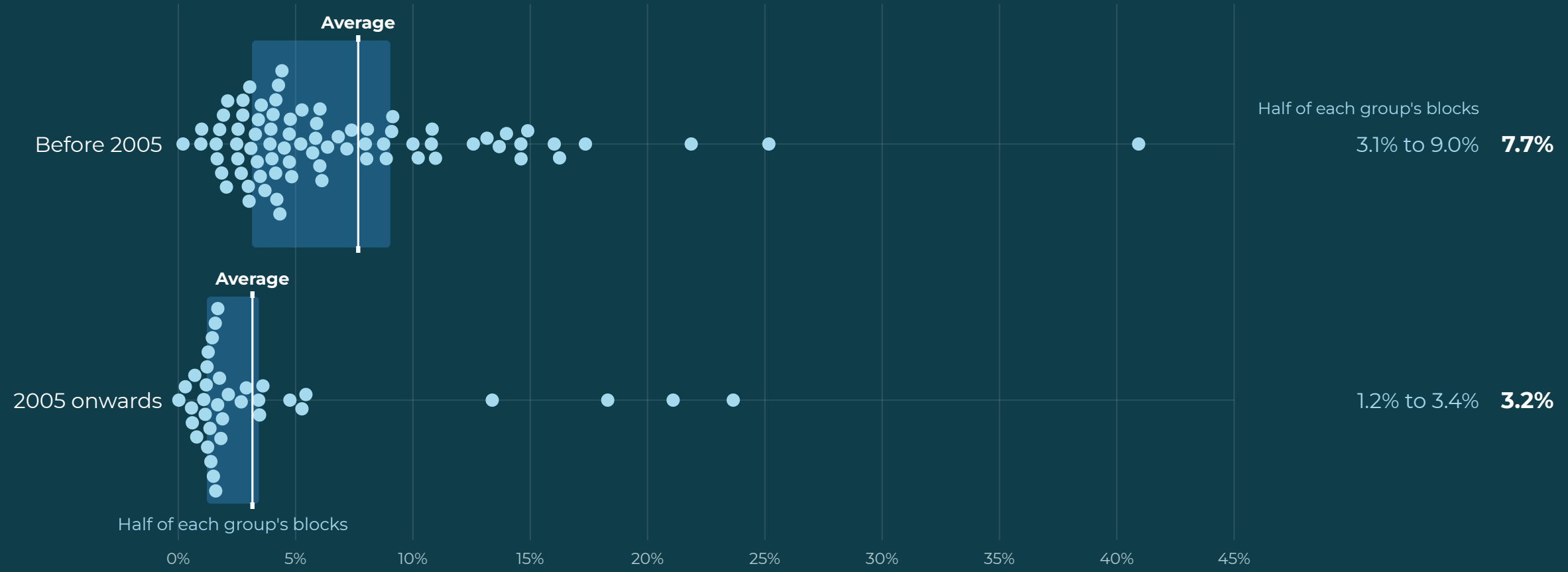
A scan ranks your own blocks, so the rework budget goes to the worst first.

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Trunk disease symptoms or dead by planting year

All varieties · blocks scanned for trunk disease · 26 Nov to 23 Dec 2025

Trunk disease symptoms or dead, % of vines graded, by the block's planting year



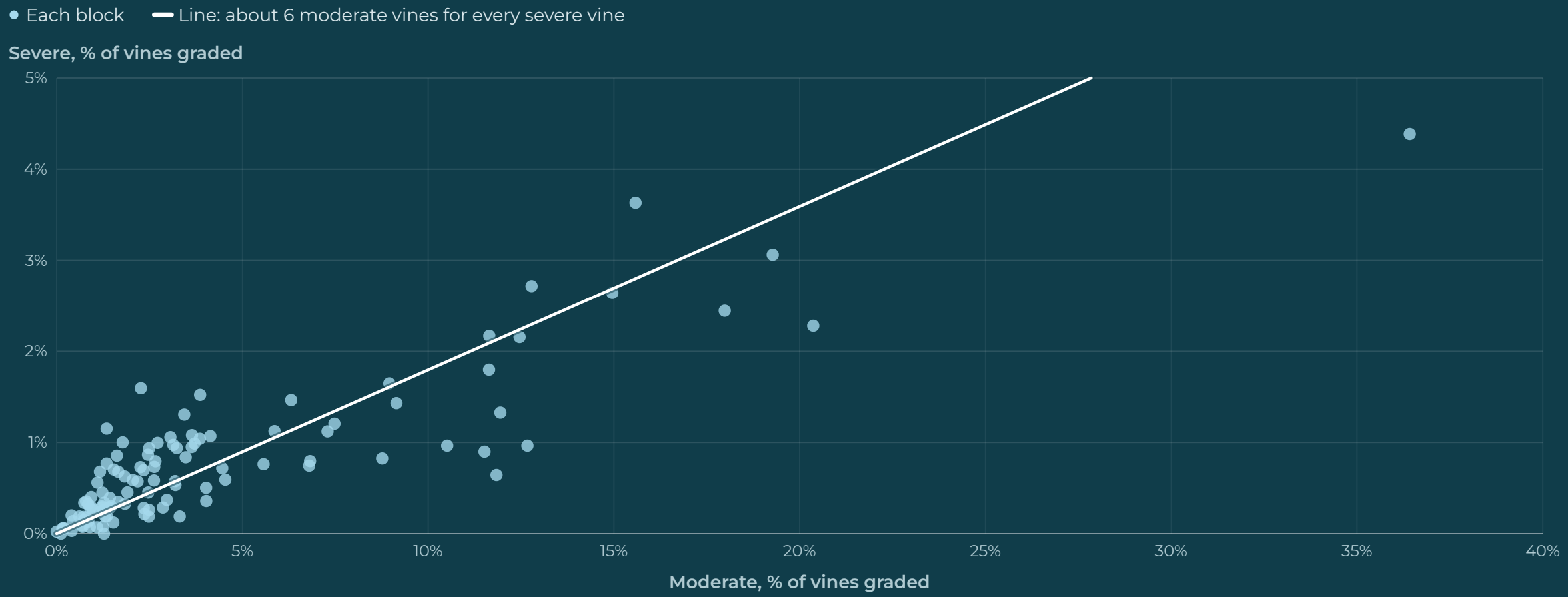
The average is 7.7% on blocks planted before 2005 and 3.2% on blocks planted from 2005 onwards.

Blocks planted before 2005 average more than twice the share of younger blocks. Scan your older blocks first.

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Moderate and severe vines, block by block

All varieties · blocks scanned for trunk disease · 26 Nov to 23 Dec 2025



There are about 6 moderately infected vines for every severely infected vine across the Marlborough blocks scanned.

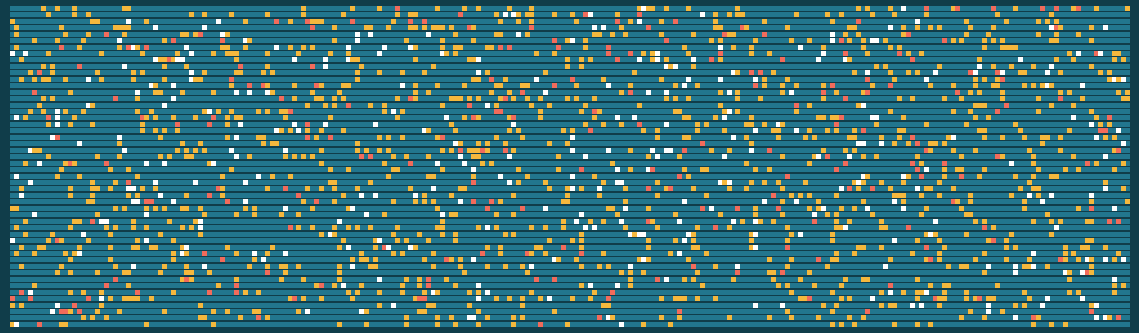
A scan shows where the moderate vines are, by vine, by row and by block, for early rework.

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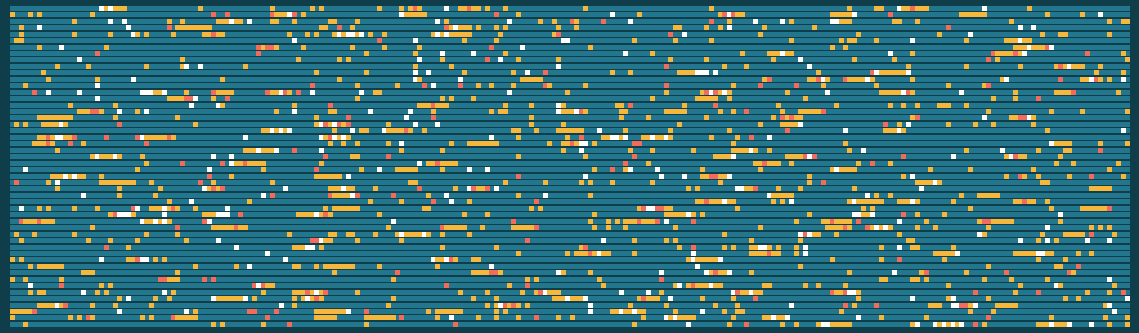
How trunk disease sits inside a block

Example blocks · one mark per vine · 15% of vines with symptoms or dead in each

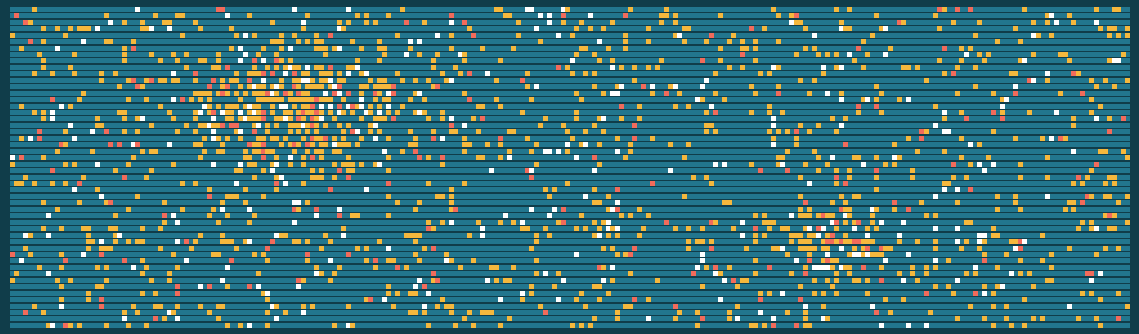
Scattered



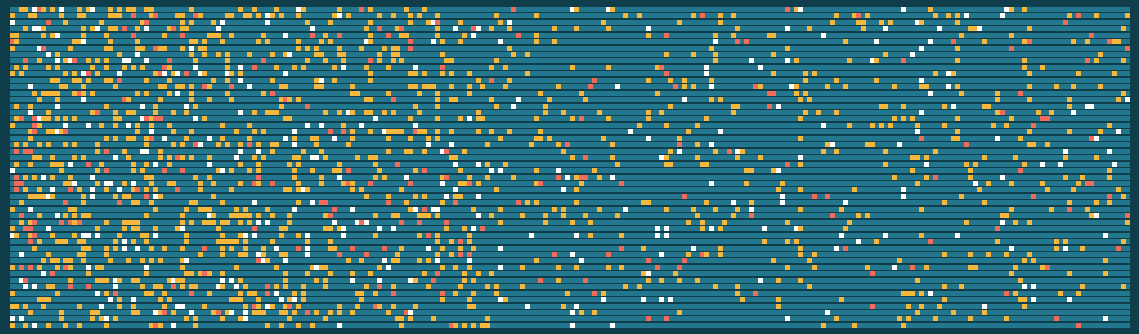
Along the rows



Patches



One part worse



No symptoms recorded · Moderate · Severe · Recorded dead

In seven of the most infected blocks scanned, the worst quarter of the block holds 38.9% to 48.6% of all the block's vines with symptoms or dead.

A scan maps every vine, so you can work vine by vine, row by row or block by block.

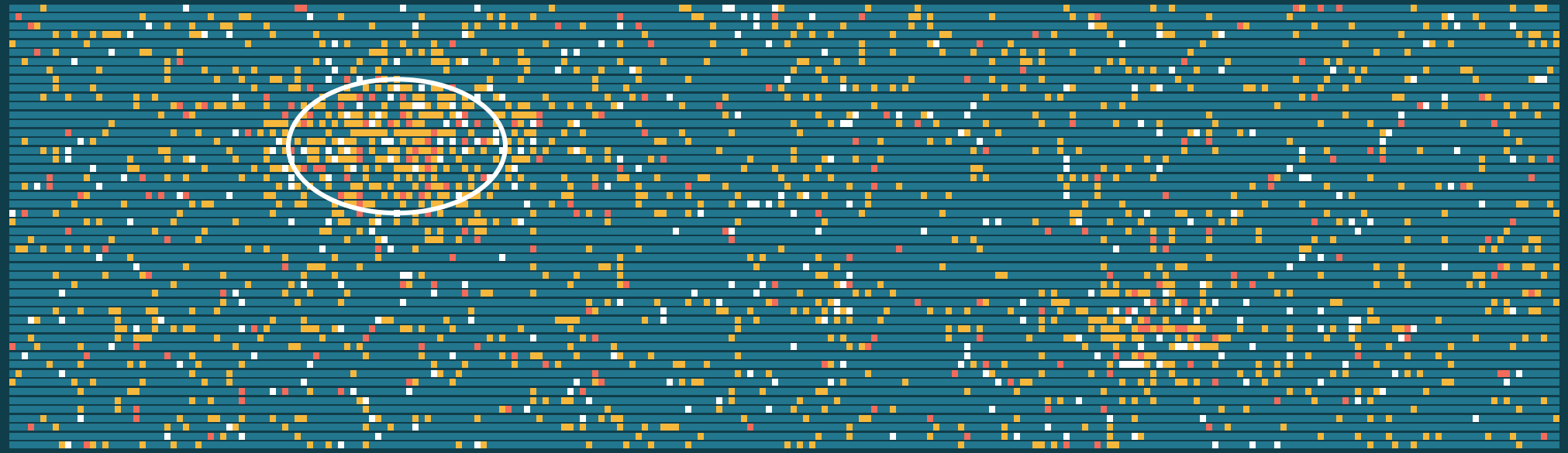
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What a trunk disease scan lets you do

Example block · one mark per vine

Rework or replant here first

Is it spreading? Scan again at the same stage next spring.



No symptoms recorded · Moderate · Severe · Recorded dead

Follow it scan to scan

Each graded vine is recorded with its row and place, so vines, rows and blocks can be set beside the next scan.

Wound protection

A scan each spring on the same vines shows, over the seasons, what wound protection is doing.

Rank your blocks

Put the rework budget on the worst blocks first.

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Vine loss

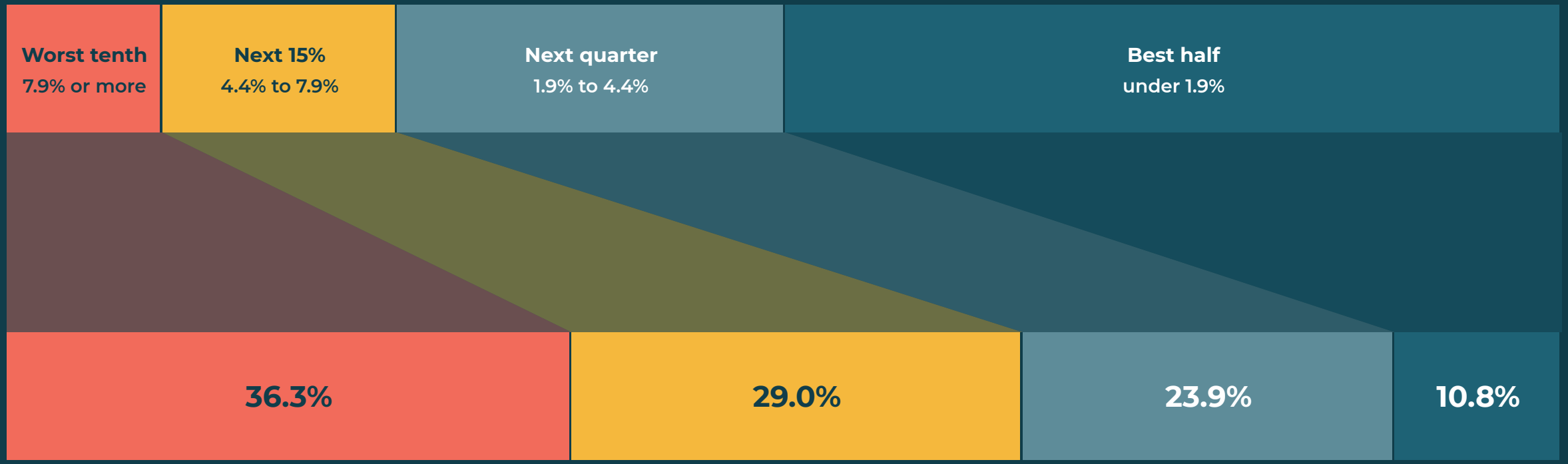
The winter scan is a different scan from the trunk disease scan. It runs after pruning, on more blocks. A missing vine is an empty spot in a planted row. A vine with no canes or cordons is recorded dead.

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Where the missing or dead vines are

All varieties · blocks ranked by their own share missing or dead · Winter 2026

Every block, ranked by its share of vines missing or dead, in four groups from worst to best



All vines recorded missing or dead, split by the group of blocks they are on

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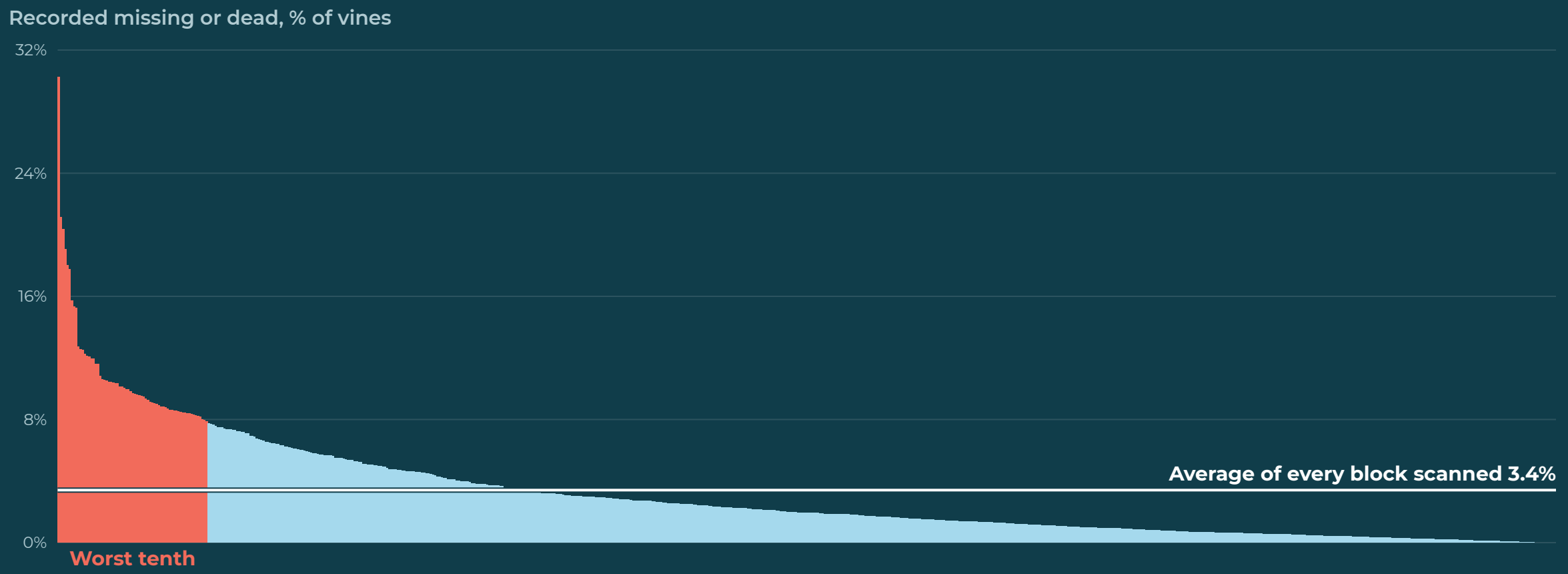
The worst tenth of blocks hold 36.3% of all missing or dead vines, and the worst quarter 65.3%.

Check which group each of your own blocks falls in.

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Missing or dead in the worst tenth of blocks

All varieties · blocks ranked by their own share missing or dead · Winter 2026



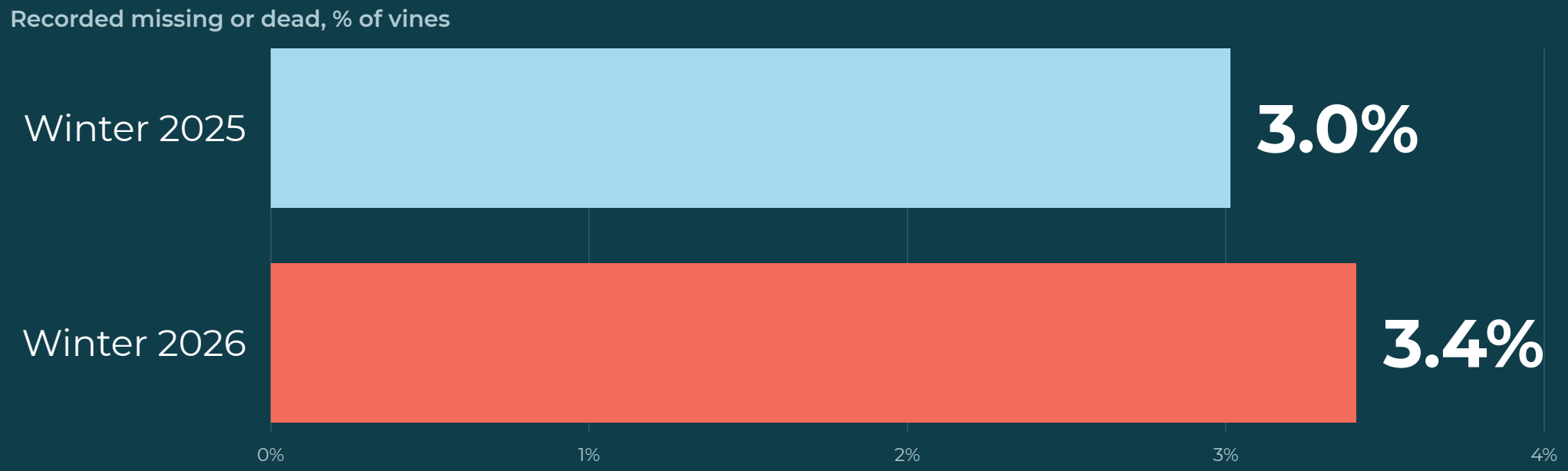
In the worst tenth of blocks, 11.1% of vines are recorded missing or dead, against 3.4% over every block scanned.

Find which of your own blocks have the highest share of vines missing or dead.

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Missing or dead on the same rows, a year apart

All varieties · rows scanned in both winters · Winter 2025 to Winter 2026



On the rows scanned in both winters, 3.4% of vines were recorded missing or dead in Winter 2026, up from 3.0% in Winter 2025. About three in four blocks read higher.

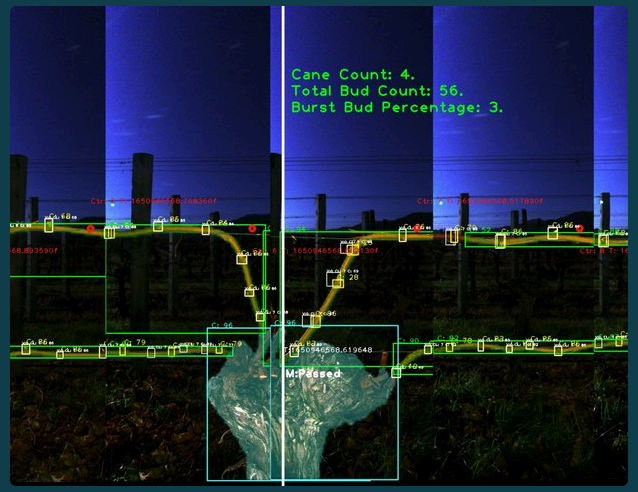
A winter scan each year shows which blocks read higher than the year before.

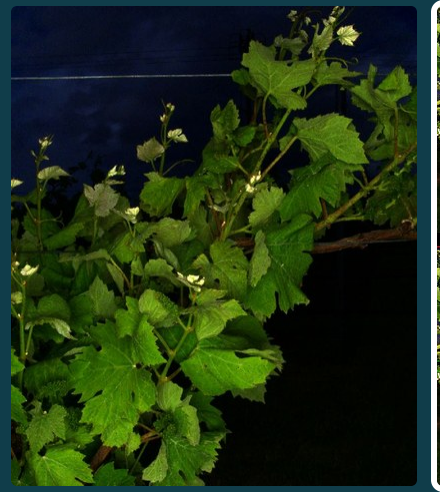
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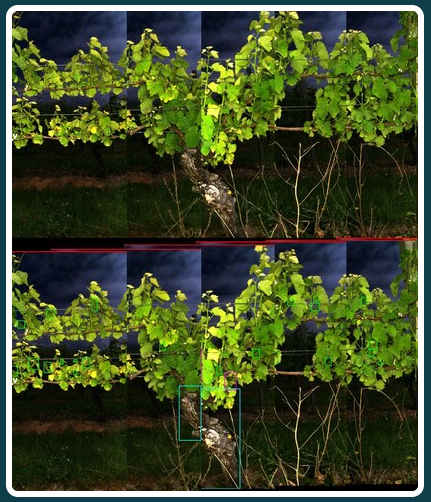
Cropsy's scans through the season

One scanner grades every vine the same way, on any number of blocks.

Post-pruning	Budburst	Inflorescences	Flowering	Fruit set	Ripening	Harvest ▶















Winter scan **100% of vines**	**Inflorescence scan** **25% of vines**	**Trunk disease scan** **100% of vines**	**5 disease scans** **25% of vines each**
Drive every 2nd row	Drive every 8th row	Drive every 2nd row	Drive every 8th row
Canes, buds, and missing or dead vines	Inflorescences per vine, for an early crop estimate A second yield scan is possible after a defoliation or trimming pass.	Moderate, severe and dead vines, each with its row and place. Missing and young vines too. **Flowering to mid-December**	Disease on leaves and bunches as the season runs

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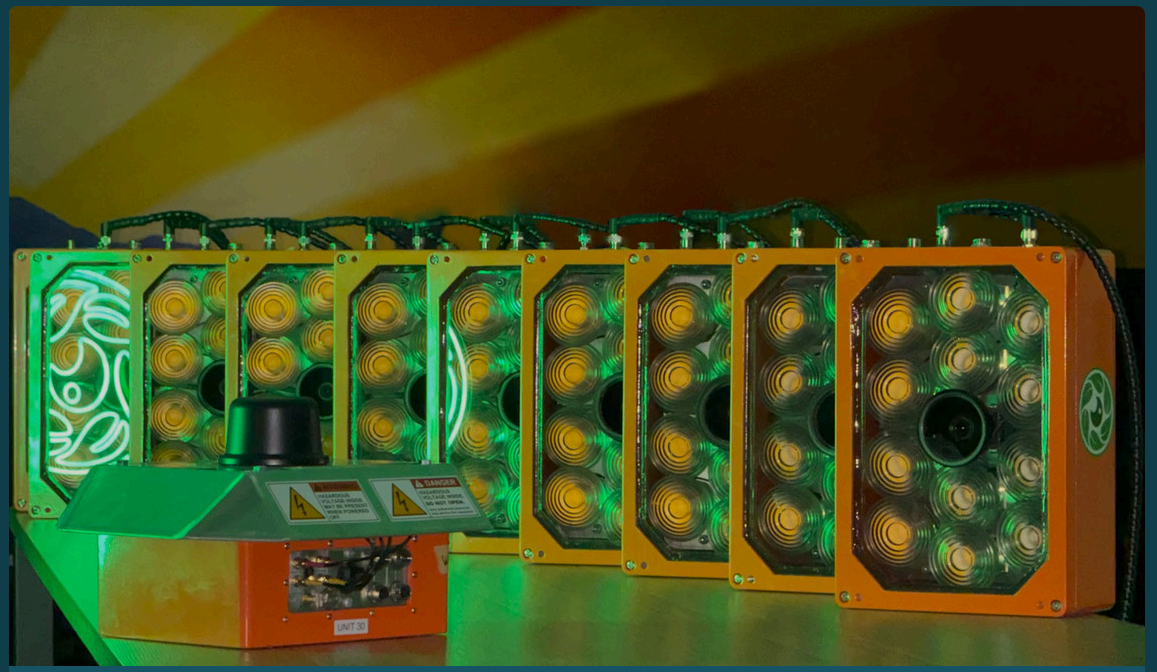
Get a trunk disease scan for your own blocks



Scans done for you

Best scanned from flowering to mid-December. Later is possible on some blocks. Book your scan now.
Ross does the season's other scans year-round.

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Your own scanner

Run Cropsy's scanner on your own vehicle.
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