

MUNCKHOF



PRE PRUNERS

DESIGN THEORY

Application of a late season double pruning technique allows growers to take advantage of a grapevine's apical dominance.

Because the buds furthest away from the plant stem will burst first, leaving the canes long will delay budbreak at the buds closest to the stem.

Also energy allotted for green growth is then redirected to repair pruning wounds, further delaying budbreak in remaining wood.

Proper application of this technique can delay budbreak by up to two weeks.

When the grapevine is pruned, an opening is made for entry of virus and fungal spores. This is especially evident during wet conditions.

Pre Pruning allows the operator to work later in the season. If an infection occurs after pre pruning, it is cut away during final pruning under drier spring conditions.

The Pre Pruner not only cuts the vast majority of unwanted wood, it also breaks the wood down and strips it from the canopy. There is no need for pulling out of canes, and it eliminates the tangled mass on the vineyard floor.

The reduced workload allows crews to work later in the season, giving time to assess winter damage before final pruning.

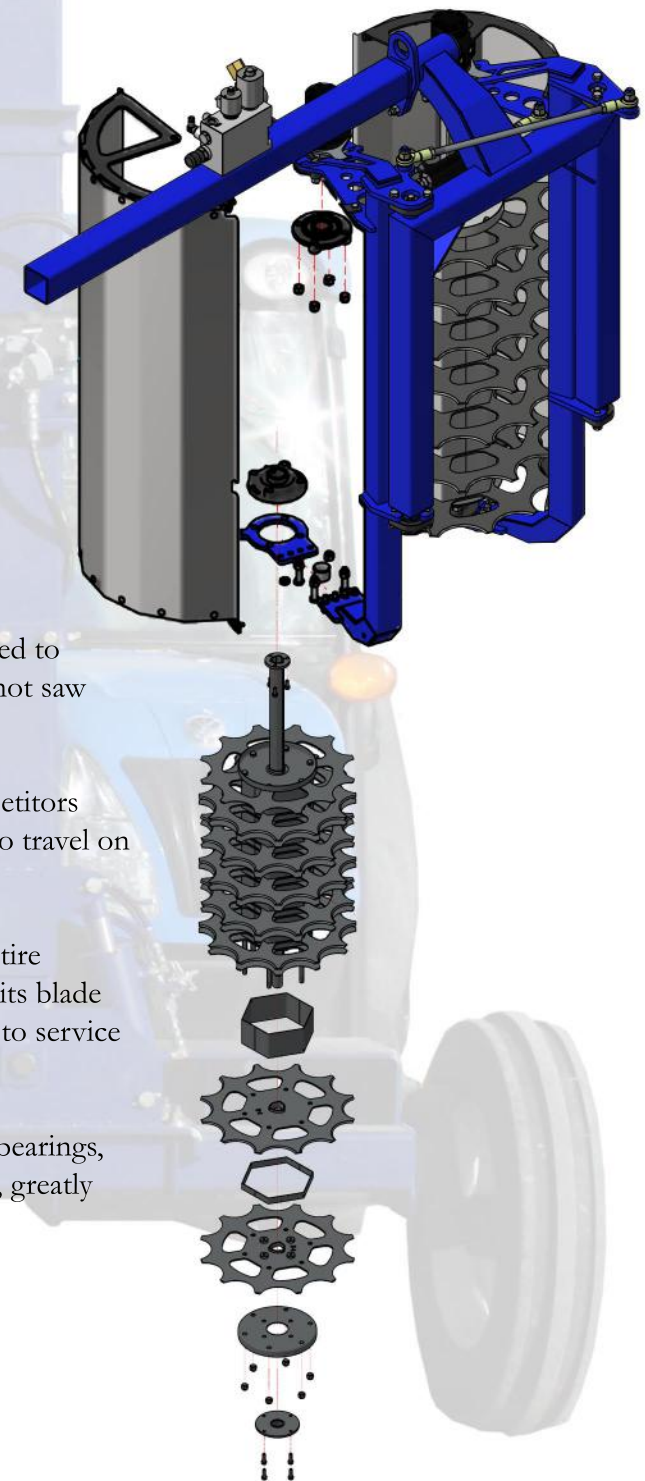
The pruning crew is then sent out later and being un-hindered by excess material, they are able to move faster, have a clearer view of their job and make better cutting decisions.

Pre Pruning reduces hand labour inputs by 50% or more, and produces better results.

DESIGN FEATURES

All the implements in the Munckhof line of vineyard equipment are designed, tested and manufactured at our facility in Oliver British Columbia. Because we are a North American manufacturer we deliver equipment that is designed to work in North American plantations.

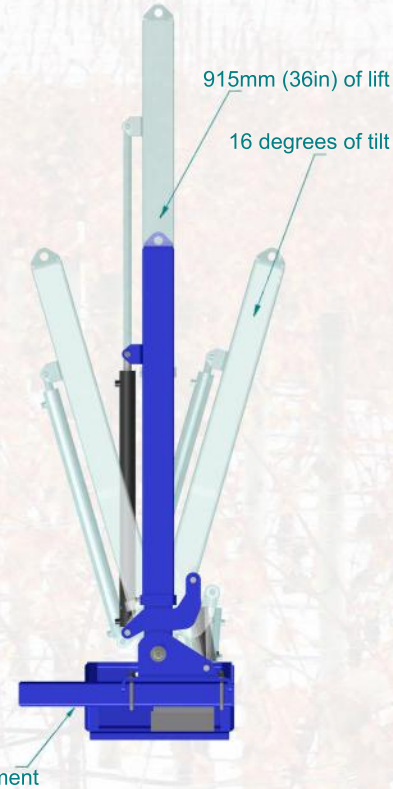
- The blades are manufactured of a high strength steel and plated to ensure long life. The blade design pinches the cane and does not saw through. This alleviates radiator clogging due to sawdust.
- The pre pruner head is inherently lighter in weight than competitors using blade-in-carriage style machines, allowing the operator to travel on steeper terrain and reducing soil compaction.
- The blade columns are designed to be modular, so that the entire column can be removed and serviced in minutes, or can have its blade arrangement altered simply. The entire head is extremely easy to service and maintain.
- These machines are built to the SAE standard for hydraulics, bearings, and components. Parts can be obtained through local sources, greatly reducing downtime.



MOUNTING



The Pre Pruner is designed to be fitted seamlessly with both the Munckhof Universal post mount and the Munckhof vertical bin lift using the attachment brackets pictured. Installation is made simple by the use of our attachment system that allow the pruner head to slide off its attachment bracket with ease.



The Munckhof Universal post is an excellent tool for mounting not only the Pre Pruner head, but any front mounted tool in the Munckhof line. This gives the operator better versatility and saves costs.

The post has a hydraulic adjustment of 36 inches in height, and can tilt 16 degrees side to side. It also allows for 17 inches of static side placement to ensure proper positioning in the field.



Supplemental hydraulic options are also available to further ease the use of our machines, we offer two types;

The 12VDC electric/hydraulic power pack is a self-contained pump and reservoir. It utilizes the tractors electric power system to generate hydraulic flow capable of operating the lifting and tilting operations of the post.



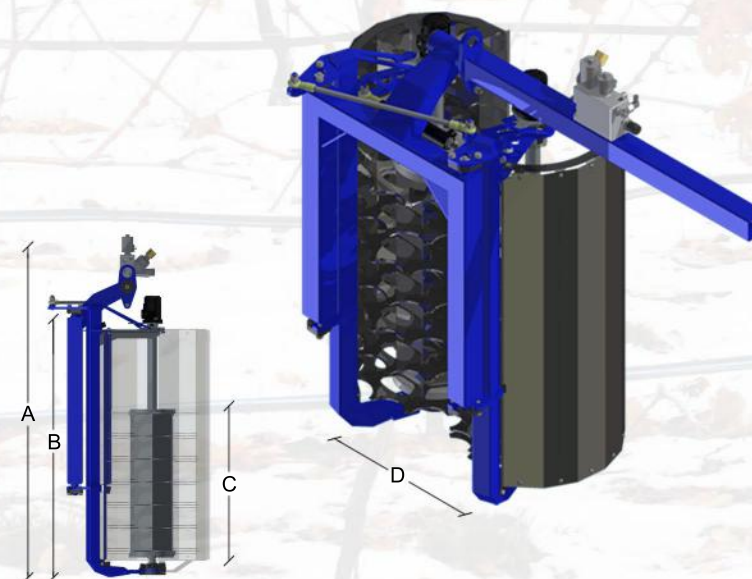
The hydraulic splitter block is a valve system. Utilizing the tractors hydraulic power, it can split a single hydraulic inlet into multiple outlets capable of operating all the functions of the post including the pruner head (presuming a sufficient hydraulic supply)

PRUNER OPTIONS

The full length pre pruner is designed for use in VSP plantings, and works best with spur pruned training styles. The total pre pruner height is 66" (A). The column has 30" of cutting depth (C), and a 47" tall opening (B). This gives ample space for overhead irrigation. A 21" wide mouth (D) makes this machine capable of handling small T-bars.

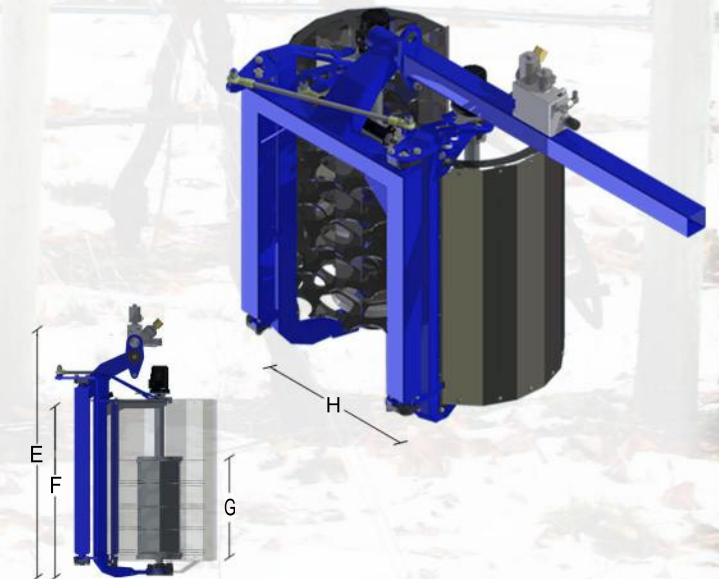
The blade stack is available with 14 or 20 blades and custom configurations are also available.

A standard 20 blade head weighs aprox. 525lbs and runs on 8-16GPM hydraulic flow at 2200PSI



The short stack pre pruner is designed for use in VSP plantings, and works best with cane pruned training styles. The total pre pruner height is 51" (E). The column has 20" of cutting depth (G), and a 32" tall opening (F). This gives ample space for overhead irrigation. A 21" wide mouth (H) makes this machine capable of handling small T-bars.

The blade stack is available with 14 blades and can be configured multiple ways.



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