

NETLINE NETTING MACHINE MANUAL

Congratulations on purchasing the Netline Netting Machine!

This machine applies netting to the fruiting zone of the vine and can apply various grades of netting depending on your budget. The netting is clipped to a top foliage wire above the fruit zone and to the dripper wire, below, or in cases where the wire is incorporated into the tubing of the dripper pipe, it can be clipped to a light dedicated wire or to the netting on the other side of the vine. The clipping device is usually Klip Lok J series closures, which come in boxes of 40,000.

Placement requires a Vehicle Driver and Workers to clip the netting to the wires, the number of clippers dictating the speed of application, or if only a couple of clippers are available, a second pass later will finish the process.

Retrieval can be performed by driver alone. The rapid retrieval allows the driver to remove enough netting for the days picking, thus keeping the birds from the rest of the crop.

Netting Placement

- VSP is recommended.
- Retrieval discs are not required for placement.
- Run net through the guide, placing the guide about 30 cm from the vine.
- Start at a row end by clipping to the other side of the post/wire to allow extra grip for the tension of the roll/machine.
- Clip the netting to the top wire at reasonably close intervals as dictated by the foliage. Clip more closely near trees as birds tend to attack from these vantage points.
- The bottom of the netting can be clipped once or twice between vines. Birds rarely approach the grapes from below.
- When one side of the row is complete, swing in a slightly wide arc and continue down the other side of the row. There will be a slight drop in tension of the net until under way
- When the second side of the row is finished, a decision can be made to leave a length of net inter row before starting the next row, or cutting the net. If a decision is made to cut the net, leave a couple of metres of extra to allow for contraction of the net the following season.

Netting Retrieval

Preparing the spool:

- The retrieval spool is made from the supplied retrieval discs, which are removable and reusable, and 80 mm plastic pipe [eg. 80mm PVC DWV SH] cut at 1.23m lengths.
- Drill two holes through the pipe, the bottom hole approximately 80 mm from the end, and the upper hole 250 mm from the other end. Bolt discs to the spindle with the flanges facing top and bottom so that the spool is smooth inside.
- Place the spool between the rotating hubs and tighten ratchet to hold the spool in position.
- The retrieval width of the net is not usually the full 1.23 m as the netting width contracts under tension.
- Start slowly over the first metre or two until the net winds on 2 or 3 revolutions then retrieve at a comfortable pace.
- At the end of a row, if the netting is wound around the post, drive in a slightly wider circle to come back to the other side of the row. The Netline machine will stop rewinding and maintain tension, then rewind when tension falls.

Tension of Retrieval

The netting tension can be adjusted by loosening the nuts on the slip clutch. Too high a tension may tear cheaper netting. The machine has the tension preset, and there should be no problem, but experience may lead you to alter the setting.

Distribution and Retrieval Guide

The retrieval guide is used for

- 1. Distribution**

During distribution the guide is placed about 30 cm from the vine row making for easier clipping. It also stops the net from dropping if tension falls.

- 2. Retrieval**

During retrieval, the guide directs netting to the spindle and removes the majority of grape material that may get tangled with the net.

- 3. Angle**

The angle of the guide will tend to dictate how the netting is placed on the spindle, often altering with terrain. Experience will lead the operator to the most appropriate angle so that the netting is optimally placed. The angle can be easily adjusted.

Spool Full

When adequate netting is on the spool, remove the spool by raising the top arm with the ratchet. Remove bolts, then the discs for the next spool. Tie baling twine around the netting and the pipe to stop unraveling. If desired, mark on the pipe with a texta the row the netting was retrieved from.

Disengaging Spindle Drive

At the end of the row after net collection, or if there is any distance to travel, it is advisable to disengage the drive. Stop the tractor or ATV before disengaging.

Transporting the Netline Machine

When towing the Netline Machine on the road disconnect the drive coupling between the clutch and the gearbox. This will avoid gearbox damage.

General Advice

Do not engage the gearbox when applying the nets.

When adjusting the slip clutch, adjust nuts evenly 1/4 -1/2 turn at a time.

Warranty

Mainframe 2 years.

Gear Box 12 months.

Items excluded from warranty:

- Slip clutch linings
- Collision damage ie. net guide with vine posts etc

The Netline Netting Machine has been engineered to high standards and should give years of trouble free service.