

1. What savings can I get with the KLIMA system?

In trials conducted in Marlborough and Waipara since 2007, the KLIMA system achieved labour cost savings of between 35-70c/vine with an average saving of approximately 50c/vine.

Being able to reduce staff numbers by up to 50% delivers a reduced cost and less hassles with administration costs, holiday pay, ACC levies, OSH compliance, travel, recruitment, gear (loppers and secateurs), toilet facilities and smoko supplies.

2. What sort of area can I prune in a season?

100-150 hectares for a single-head KLIMA cane pruner and 150-200ha for a double-head is a conservative estimate based on our trials. Well maintained vineyards with an organised crew running it 24/7 could do considerably more.

3. How does KLIMA compare to other mechanised approaches?

	KLIMA system	Other machines
Integrated system (machine, training, process, support)	✓	X
Suitable for all varieties	✓	X
Capable of delivering cost reduction of more than 30c per vine	✓	X
Easy to operate	✓	✓
Up to 50% staff reduction	✓	X
Allows for optimisation of genuinely skilled pruners over much larger area	✓	X
No compromise to cane number and overall pruning quality	✓	X
Quick and uncomplicated pre pruning process	✓	X
Minimal risk of vine damage due to poor pre pruning	✓	X
Canes on correct side of wire for inside out wrapping	✓	X
No cleanup work required once stripped	✓	X
No mulching or sweeping required after stripping	✓	X

4. Why do I need to secure fruiting wires with clips rather than staples?

The KLIMA system slashes pruning costs without comprising vineyard quality. A key to doing this is our patent pending method for lifting wires clear of the canopy, which is enabled by the KLIMA clip system.

5. Can the machine operate at night and when it is wet?

Yes. The KLIMA cane pruner can run 24/7, even when it is wet (subject to reasonable ground conditions).

6. Will it stretch my fruiting wires?

Wires are not stretched by the KLIMA system. We have not had any problems with stretching wires over thousands of hectares pruned since 2007. KLIMA has also had advice from scientists at Lincoln Ventures Limited that the structural integrity of high tensile wires is not affected providing simple operational rules are followed.

7. I have an older trellis, will it break my wires?

During normal operation you will experience wire breakages in any vineyard. However wire breakages will only occur when there is a logical reason. Such as: Poor wire joins, wires that are embedded in vine trunks, replacement posts with wires on the wrong side, staples not pulled out of posts etc. Our experience suggests that 99% of any issues in a vineyard are 'audited' in the first pass. In subsequent seasons the incidence of wire breakages will largely be limited to driver error only. Most KLIMA users report 1-2 wire breakages a day is typical after the first season.

8. Is blind budding an issue with the KLIMA system?

Any mechanised system does increase the risk of blind budding, but KLIMA's studies show the level of blind budding has been insignificant. We can show you simple and easy techniques to minimise the likelihood of blind budding.

9. Is the galvanising stripped from wires by the KLIMA machine?

No. The threading mechanism on the KLIMA cane pruner does not remove galvanising providing simple operational rules are followed, as developed with Lincoln Ventures Limited.



10. Can the system be used on any variety?

The KLIMA system is more flexible than other mechanised approaches to pruning. It has been successfully trialled on over 20 different varieties in Australasia and Europe.

11. What size tractor can I put KLIMA on?

80hp is the minimum size for the KLIMA cane pruner.

12. Can I put the KLIMA on my harvester?

Yes. The KLIMA cane pruner can be mounted on Pellenc, Braud or Gregoire harvesters.

13. What if I have fruiting wires on opposing sides of my posts?

No problem, the KLIMA cane pruner can complete these rows in 2 passes. The travel time is longer but the cost savings are not lost. For maximum efficiency after the first season most clients take the opportunity to switch their fruiting wires to the same side of the post for the future.

14. How fast can you go?

We recommend a ground speed of 4-6km for the best results. However in good conditions speeds of 8-10km/hr are achievable.

15. How long does it take to do a hectare?

This is a tricky one, due to row widths, fruiting wire position, vine vigour etc. A conservative estimate for say 2.8m rows with wires on the same side would be 1Ha/hr.

16. What are the options available for purchase?

KLIMA Cane Pruner configurations available to purchase:

- Tractor mounted single head
- Tractor mounted double head
- Harvester mounted double head

ABOUT KLIMA

KLIMA is the smartest way to prune your vineyard. It delivers cost and productivity benefits without sacrificing vineyard quality. The result is as good as if you pruned the whole vineyard yourself.

The patent pending KLIMA system incorporates:

- Tractor or Harvester mounted KLIMA cane pruner
- KLIMA clip system
- KLIMA vineyard pruning process
- Operator and manager training, including a comprehensive list of tips and tricks to optimise your productivity throughout the season
- Comprehensive support in season

KLIMA is a local solution to a local problem. It has emerged from the viticultural sector in response to growing concerns about the cost and difficulty of pruning effectively.

Directors Marcus Wickham and Nigel George are both experienced in the viticulture sector, and have endured the pain of trying to prune vineyards effectively and efficiently.

The KLIMA system is now being used extensively in Australasia with outstanding results.

