

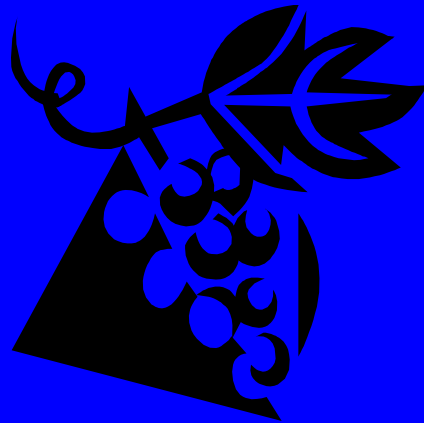
Muscadine Cultivar Selection for the Fresh Market

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What is a Muscadine?

Muscadine Grape



Bunch Grape



Early Reports

- Native Americans used the fruit.
- 1565 Spanish missionaries in Florida.
- 1584 Coastal North Carolina.
- Wild and semi-cultivated vines.
- Vineyards since mid-18th century.

Distribution

- Delaware to central Florida; along Gulf of Mexico to eastern Texas. North along the Mississippi River to Missouri & near the Appalachian Mts. from the east & west.
- Where temperatures seldom drop below 10 degrees F.



Why Muscadines?

- Traditional for region
- Alternative crop
- Health considerations



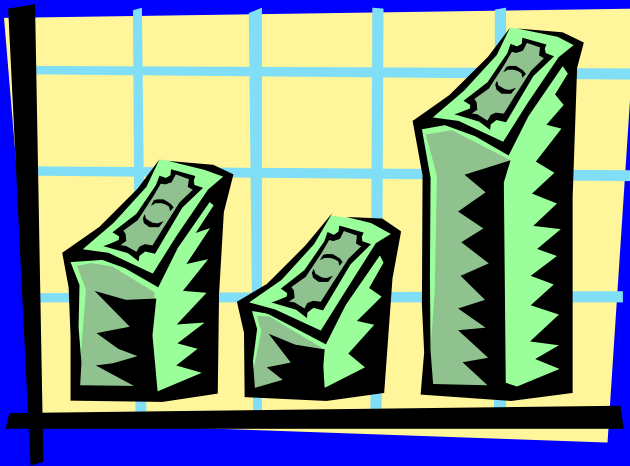
Georgia

\$2.7 million average
annual farmgate value
for grapes (1990-99)--
--*Georgia Crop
Reporting Service,
2000.*



North Carolina

\$2.5 million farmgate
value for grapes in
2001---*North Carolina
Department of
Agriculture and
Consumer Services.*



Uses

- Fresh Market*
- Processing



Considerations when Selecting a Fresh Market Cultivar

- Adaptation
- Productivity
- Type of Fresh Market
- Fruit Size
- Fruit Color
- Fruit Quality
- Dry Stem Scar
- Pollinizers

Adaptation

How does the cultivar perform in the specific area where it is to be grown? Vigor?



Productivity

- Acceptable yield
- Reliable production from year to year



Type of Fresh Market

- Once-over---mechanical or hand-picked
- U-pick
- Homeowner



Harvest Season

- Uniform ripening vs. increased ripening period.
- Early to late.



Fruit Size



Fruit Color



Fresh Fruit Quality

- Sugar and acid and their ratios
- Flavor
- Skin thickness
- Seed size
- Pulp texture
- Adherence to the vine
- Uniform ripening



Dry Stem Scar



Pollinizers

- Female or self-fertile plants?
- Marketability of the pollinizer
- $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ of vines
- Two or more pollinizer cultivars



Leading Fresh Market Muscadines in the Southeast

- Carlos
- Dixie
- Fry
- Jumbo
- Nesbitt
- Summit
- Triumph

*(Basiouny & Himelrick--
--2001)*

Six Newer Unpatented Cultivars with Promise for Fresh Market

- Alachua
- Florida Fry
- Loomis
- Polyanna
- Scarlett
- Tara

*(Basiouny & Himelrick--
--2001)*

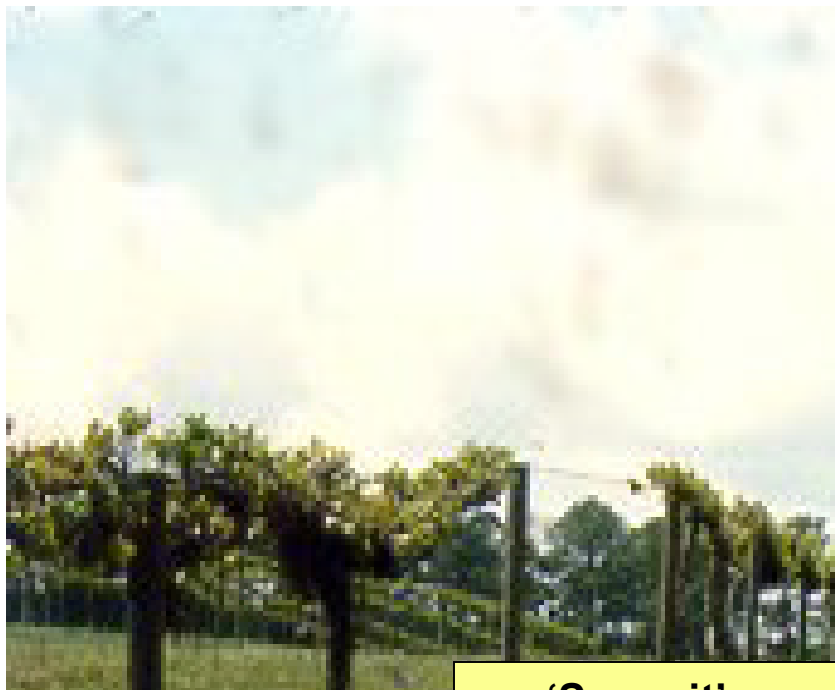
Other Fresh Market Cultivars

- 15 newer patented cultivars with promise as fresh fruit types.
- 13 other cultivars which may be found useful by some growers.
- Over 50 other fresh market cultivars still planted but no longer competitive.

(Basiouny & Himelrick ---2001)

Cultivars for Georgia

- 34 fresh market cultivars grown to some extent but only a few are well known.
- Attractive, large bronze fruit preferred for both commercial and u-pick operations.



'Summit'



'Fry'



'Summit'



Other Bronze Types to Try

- ‘Darlene’
- ‘Early Fry’
- ‘Pam’
- ‘Sweet Jenny’



Cultivars for Georgia

Attractive, large black fruit preferred
in some areas

Popular Black-Fruited Cultivars

- ‘Supreme’
- ‘Black Fry’
- ‘Polyanna’*







Pollinizer Cultivars

Commercial Shipping

‘Granny Val’*

‘Tara’

‘Triumph’

U-Pick

‘Cowart’

‘Nesbitt’

‘Tara’

‘Triumph’



Popular Cultivars Grown in North Carolina

- ‘Fry’
- ‘Higgins’
- ‘Scuppernong’
- ‘Jumbo’
- ‘Nesbitt’
- ‘Regale’
- ‘Tara’
- ‘Triumph’
- ‘Cowart’
- ‘Carlos’

Popular Cultivars Grown in South Carolina

- 'Fry'
- 'Darlene'
- 'Sugargate'
- 'Black Beauty'
- 'Supreme'
- 'Summit'
- 'Scarlett'
- 'Carlos'
- 'Cowart'
- 'Nesbitt'
- 'Tara'

Cultivar Selection is Crucial for Successful Fresh Market Muscadine Operation

