

## Final Report: 2022 Virtual Southeastern Muscadine School

### Name, Mailing and Email Address of Principal Investigator(s):

#### Principal Investigator

**Mark Hoffmann**

North Carolina State University  
[mhoffma3@ncsu.edu](mailto:mhoffma3@ncsu.edu)  
Department of Horticultural Science  
Kilgore Hall 258  
Raleigh, NC 27695

**Penelope Perkins-Veazie**

North Carolina State University  
[penelope\\_perkins@ncsu.edu](mailto:penelope_perkins@ncsu.edu)  
Department of Horticultural Science  
600 Laureate Way  
Kannapolis, NC 28081

#### Co-Investigators:

**Phillip Brannen**

University of Georgia  
[pbrannen@uga.edu](mailto:pbrannen@uga.edu)  
CAES Campus 3307  
Miller Plant Sciences Building  
Athens, GA 30602

**Margaret Leigh Worthington**

University of Arkansas  
[mlworthi@uark.edu](mailto:mlworthi@uark.edu)  
Department of Horticulture  
2301 S. University  
Little Rock, AR 72205

**Amanda McWhirt**

University of Arkansas  
[amcwhirt@uada.edu](mailto:amcwhirt@uada.edu)  
Department of Horticulture  
2301 S. University  
Little Rock, AR 72205

**Renee Threlfall**

[rthrelf@uark.edu](mailto:rthrelf@uark.edu)  
Department of Food Science  
2301 S. University  
Little Rock, AR 72205

**Bill Cline**

North Carolina State University  
[bill\\_cline@ncsu.edu](mailto:bill_cline@ncsu.edu)  
Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology  
3800 Castle Hayne Rd  
Castle Hayne, NC 28429

**Patrick Conner**

[pconner@uga.edu](mailto:pconner@uga.edu)  
Department of Horticulture  
2360 Rainwater Road  
Tifton, GA, 31793

**Daniel Tregeagle**

North Carolina State University  
[tregeagle@ncsu.edu](mailto:tregeagle@ncsu.edu)  
Agriculture and Resource Economics  
Nelson Hall 3310  
Raleigh, NC 27695

**Lynette Johnston**

North Carolina State University  
[lynette\\_johnston@ncsu.edu](mailto:lynette_johnston@ncsu.edu)  
Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition  
Sciences  
400 Dan Allen Dr.  
Raleigh, NC, 27695

**Brett Blaauw**

University of Georgia  
[bblaauw@uga.edu](mailto:bblaauw@uga.edu)  
120 Cedar Str.  
Athens, GA 30602

### Objectives:

- (1) Develop a seven-part online webinar series on updated information on muscadine management and wine-making, targeting industry, growers and extension agents.
- (2) Produce virtual content (YouTube) and a webpage that will be housed on the Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium Homepage.

**Public Abstract:**

Muscadine grapes are a traditional Southeastern crop, cultivated for several hundred years for winemaking as well as for fresh consumption. In the past decades, new development in breeding has led to a large increase in available muscadine varieties, and propelled both the wine-making and fresh-market industry to grow substantially. However, much of the information necessary to successfully grow muscadines and produce value-added products are not easily accessible for new growers and agents. We therefore developed an online webinar course in 2022 that is specifically geared towards new growers and agents. This school was composed of [six webinars](#) over the course of 2022: (1) Pruning, training, renovation of muscadine grapevines; (2) Disease, weed and root borer control; (3) Land preparation, planting and fertilization; (4) Summer chores, canopy management, muscadine economics; muscadine cultivars; (5) Food safety, storage, harvest and fruit sampling; (6) Basics of winemaking. The webinar contains a total of 18 videos, all available on [YouTube](#) and on the [NCSU Grape Portal](#). Further the videos were shared with the Southern Regional Small Fruits Consortium, which will make them available on their homepage as well.

**Justification and Description:**

The Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium in the past has successfully funded the collaborative development of the “Muscadine Grape Production Guide for the Southeast” (Hoffmann et al. 2020; <https://smallfruits.org/files/2020/07/muscadine-grape-production-guide-southeast.pdf>). However, growers and extension agents increasingly seek information in video and interactive online formats. To fulfill this demand, we have put together a webinar series covering muscadine production, ranging from pruning over disease management to food safety and wine making. This school complements previous crop education schools on Blackberry, Blueberry and Strawberry, funded by the Southern Regional Small Fruits Consortium.

Following webinar videos were developed and published on [YouTube](#) and the [NCSU Grape Portal](#). Clips will be made available on [smallfruit.org](http://smallfruit.org) as well in the near future.

1. Vine Renovation (Feb 21, 2022)
2. How to prune a muscadine vine (Feb 21, 2022)
3. How to train a young muscadine vine (Feb 21, 2022)
4. Muscadine weed management (March 24, 2022)
5. Muscadine vineyard disease control (March 24, 2022)
6. Control of grape root borer (March 24, 2022)
7. Muscadine seedless cultivar trials (April 14, 2022)
8. Site selection and land preparation (April 14, 2022)
9. Fertility and tissue culture sampling (April 14, 2022)
10. General economics of muscadine vineyards (June 23, 2022)
11. Summer chores and canopy management (June 23, 2022)
12. Muscadine cultivars (June 23, 2022)
13. Protocols for grape sampling (July 28, 2022)
14. Ideal muscadine harvest (July 28, 2022)
15. Why sampling grapes (July 28, 2022)
16. Muscadine fresh-market food safety (July 28, 2022)
17. Post harvest of fresh-market muscadines (July 28, 2022)
18. Basics of winemaking (Dec 8, 2022)