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Table Grape Care Guide

Grape Culture

Planting: Plant grapes in early spring, or as soon as you can work the soil. Space the plants 8 feet apart along a trellis, arbor or fence. Prune the roots to avoid wadding them in the planting hole, and prune the top growth back to 2 or 3 buds. Plant them 1 inch deeper than they grew in the nursery.

Soil: Grapes prefer light, deep, slightly acid, well-drained soil with average fertility.

Water: The soil around your grapes should be kept evenly moist for the first few years after planting. After that, the plants long, deep-striking roots make them tolerant of short periods of drought.

Fertilizer: Beginning in early spring of the grapes' second year in the ground, apply 2 ounces of a 10-10-10 fertilizer to each plant. Increase the amount of fertilizer by 2 ounces each spring, up to a maximum of 16 ounces.

Pruning: Prune grapes any time from late February to March. After the first growing season, select the strongest cane from the 2-3 buds you left at planting time, and cut back the others. In the second growing season, allow this cane to produce 4 lateral branches (you can vary this number to suit the particular structure on which you are train the vines). When pruning back vines, always leave a finger (or stub) with 3-4 buds. Some light summer pruning may hasten fruit development.

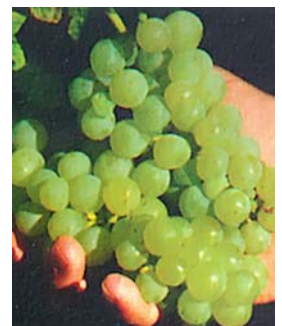
Fruit Production: Grape vines may produce an occasional fruit bunch the first season, and a good crop the second year if they are planted in full sun. A sunny, south-facing location is ideal. In general, vines may produce 5 to 10 pounds of fruit by the third year. Harvest fruit in fall when it is **fully ripe**, as its sugar content doesn't increase after picking. Fruit is ripe when its color deepens and it softens, becoming sweet and juicy. In Northern regions, the fruit is often harvested after a frost, which greatly increases its sweetness.

Seedless Grape Varieties for 2008

Canadice: This hardy vine produces small, tight clusters of seedless pink-red fruit with a mild 'Concord' flavor. Generally ready to harvest in early October. Hardy to -40 degrees F.

Einset: Early ripening, seedless red grape, throws us a hint of the bright flavor of strawberry, a lovely surprise in a grape. Ripens late September and stores well. Hardy in zones 7 to 10.

Glenora Seedless: Medium size, loose, well filled clusters of medium, seedless bluish black berries. Smooth thin skin with sweet and spicy highly flavored flesh. Superior quality; keeps well on the vine. Hardy to approximately -10 degrees F.



Interlaken: Delightful green table grape that also makes great raisins! Interlaken is one of the best and most reliable seedless grapes for Western Washington. Hardy to -15 degrees F.

Lakemont: This seedless white table grape has a lovely, mild flavor and keeps well in cold storage. Also suitable for making sweet, white, dessert wines. It grows on very productive canes. Hardy to -10 degrees F.

Suffolk Red: Medium size, long, loose clusters. Round, firm, meaty and seedless with a pure non-foxy flavor. Excellent quality. Color varies from bright red to grayish pink. Ripens during September.

All grape varieties we sell (and most grape varieties in general) are self-pollinating.

