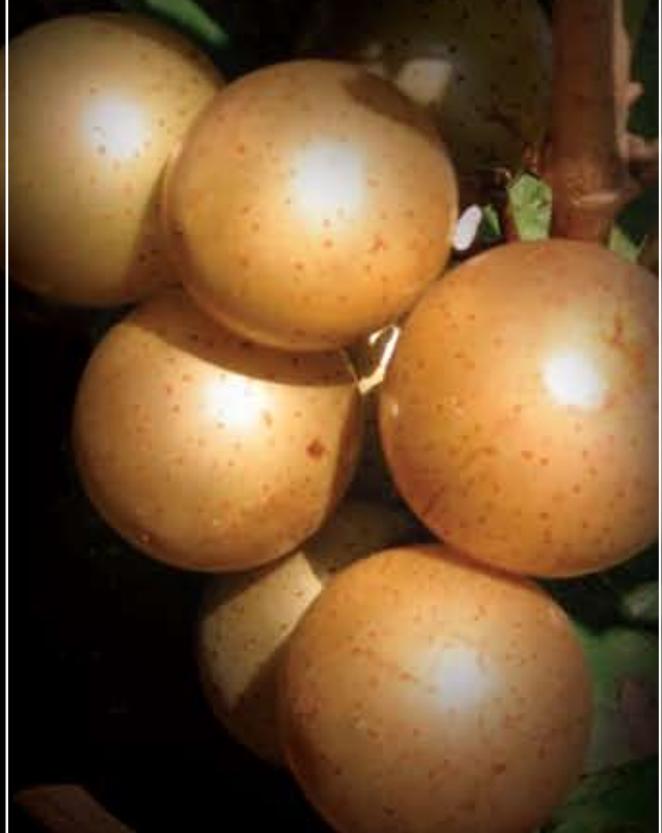


North Carolina
Muscadine
GRAPE
 Association



Select photos courtesy of Connie Fisk - Extension Associate, Muscadine Grapes, Horticulture, North Carolina State University



www.ncmuscadine.org



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THE MUSCADINE GRAPE

What's a muscadine grape?

Muscadine grapes are native to North Carolina and the southeastern United States. Muscadines are available throughout North Carolina from late August through early October. They are large, thick-skinned and seeded grapes that grow in small, loose clusters and are often harvested as individual berries. They can be bronze or black in color.

ORIGIN

What's in a name?

Where did the name muscadine originate? When the early settlers arrived in America, they were familiar with the muscat grape, which is a French grape that is used in making muscatel wine. And the word muscat derives from the Latin muscus, which describes the smell of a male musk deer. The early settlers called the sweet, musk-scented wild grapes that they found here by the same name as the sweet grapes they had known in Europe, and that eventually became muscadine.

VARIETIES

Is it a Muscadine or a Scuppernong?

"All Scuppernongs are Muscadines, but not all Muscadines are Scuppernongs." Muscadine is a broad category of grape that includes many varieties of both bronze and black grapes. Both bronze and dark varieties taste great and make wonderful jams, jellies, pies, juices and wines. Scuppernong is one of the bronze varieties and were the first muscadine grapes discovered and cultivated in America. With Scuppernong being one of the oldest and most popular varieties, the name is sometimes used to refer to any bronze variety of muscadine. There are now many other varieties of muscadines used both in wine production and for fresh eating. To be precise, it is better to use the term muscadine when uncertain of the variety. Some other popular varieties include:

- Bronze Varieties
 Scuppernong
 Carlos
 Magnolia
 Fry
 Triumph

- Black Varieties
 Noble
 Nesbitt
 Black Fry
 Supreme

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