

Grape Times



OCTOBER 2006

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA GRAPE GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Florida A&M Hosts Grape Harvest Festival

On a beautiful Florida Summer day, Friday September 1st, the annual Grape Harvest Festival was held in Tallahassee. Unlike the Growers Day held in late Spring, this outing is held for the community, to raise awareness of Florida grapes and the viticulture programs at FAMU.

Festivities started at 8:00 AM with a run in the vineyard. Afterwards, welcoming remarks were given by the University, local government groups and the FGGA.

Several activities followed the introductory talks. For the athletically inclined a grape throwing contest was held. It was very popular with the youngsters. Tours of the research vineyard were given on covered trailers drawn by tractors. It definitely beats walking as the daytime temperature was rising. Many muscadine cultivars were put out for the tasting. This is a great time to compare the various grapes to determine likes and dislikes. Most growers never have the opportunity to sample this many grapes at one time. Some of the cultivars are still experimental and the tasting gave us the chance to determine if there was interest.

Tours were given to show the various laboratories and the work that is being done in these facilities. Each lab had set up demonstrations which were presented by the staff who are working on these projects. It showcased the work being performed at the center to develop new and improved technologies.

No program is complete unless there is a home wine making session. This was held at FAMU's wine development area. The participants were given



Bob Paulish is describing the FGGA and the benefits of joining



Shown is a very enthusiastic audience listening to the various speakers.

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MARK YOUR CALENDER

- **FGGA Annual Conference & Meeting**
January 18-19, 2007
Hilton Hotel, Ocala
- **16th Annual Open House**
Friday November 10
10AM—5 PM
Saturday November 11
10 AM—5 PM
Sunday November 12
11AM—5 PM
Free Admission
Lakeridge Winery



Presidents Message

Harvest 2006 Average

Good news! This year's harvest provided average yields despite the spring drought. This is based on a survey I took of the largest vineyards in our state.

Two of the vineyards reported outstanding yields and only one vineyard reported below average crop. Other than a lack of rain in early spring the weather patterns were very good, especially with a lack of hurricanes. I am sure that this was a contributing factor to a successful year.

I hope that more information about our industry can be routinely gathered to help us determine how we are doing. Statistics are available for almost all crops grown in Florida with the exception of grapes. Attempts were made in the past to determine how many acres of grapes are grown in our state. For one reason or another the results of these efforts were never completed. Our industry has grown to the point that we need to know how we are doing.

I will attempt to determine how to survey our state. Your help will be needed to provide information on vineyards that we are not aware of. We need to enlist the Florida and US Departments of Agriculture to assist us in this effort. Let me know your suggestions and comments.

See you in the vineyard

Bob Paulish, FGGA President

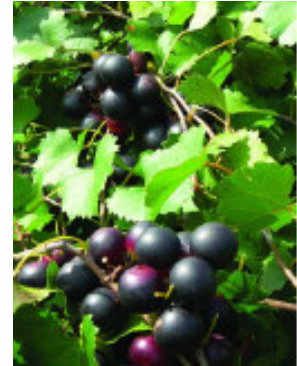
Grape Times October, 2006

EDITOR and PUBLISHER
Bob Paulish

Questions? Contact Susan Goolsby
386-329-0318 or admin@fgga.org

Joint USDA-UF/IFAS Release of CD8-67 Muscadine Grape Selection as a Commercially-Available Cultivar 'Eudora'

CD8-67 was produced by sexual hybridization in 1979 at the UF/IFAS Research & Education Center, Leesburg. The parents were the commercial muscadine varieties 'Fry' and 'Southland'. CD8-67 was planted in the Leesburg experimental vineyard and evaluated over time as it matured. The vine was also cloned and distributed to several interested cooperators, including a germplasm repository in McNeil MS in 1994. Dr. Stephen Stringer USDA ARS, Poplarville, MS has been evaluating it in comparative field trials since then.



Eudora a new grape cultivar

CD8-67 received highly favorable field trial ratings at Leesburg through 1991 and was deemed promising enough to save as a potted plant in a germplasm collection by Dr. Dennis Gray who's grape biotechnology research program was relocated to the new Mid-Florida Research & Education Center at Apopka.

The plant is vigorous, disease tolerant and productive. The fruit consists of large purple skinned berries, moderately tough but edible skin, tender flesh, excellent flavor (fruit flavorful and sweet and comparable to best cultivars). Importantly, the berries form in clusters suitable for cluster harvest and packaging. The fruit is extremely high in total phenolics and ellagic acid, which are value-added nutraceuticals.

At Mississippi field days where muscadine grape growers were allowed to sample fruit of different cultivars, CD8-67 was consistently among the most favored. At the Southeastern Extension/Research Activity-14 Grape Research Committee 2003 annual meeting, a panel of scientists compared CD8-67 with commercial varieties. Their consensus was that eating quality was excellent and that it should be released to growers. The only negative features of this variety are the following:

- 1) The flowers are pistillate and require a pollina-

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Check-Out the Revised UF/IFAS/MREC Grape Website

<http://www.mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/grapes>

It's been about two years since we established a website designed to provide information and assistance to new growers. The website has now been expanded and given a new look. This is in response to changing needs and our desire to better publicize the historic grape research and education programs of the University of Florida. All of the information from the previous website is carried into the new version as "Help for Growers" & "Current Events" and some important additions have been accomplished. In particular, the original release bulletins for UF/IFAS cultivars have been added (see the link under Help for Growers/UF Literature for Grape Growers). We've also added new pages and photographs to describe the ongoing grape genetics and pathology programs. And finally, to place our research programs into a historical context, we linked a new document to the home page that chronicles 110 years (1891 – 2001) of UF publications devoted to grape.

We hope that you will continue to find this new & improved website useful.

Dennis J. Gray
Professor & Developmental Biologist
Mid-Florida Research & Education Center

**FGGA Annual
Conference and Meeting**

**JANUARY 18-19, 2007
Hilton Hotel, Ocala**

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Eudora New Grape

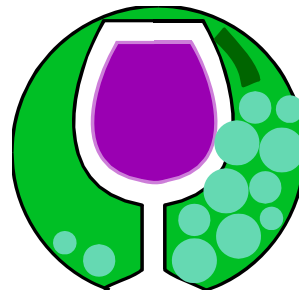
tor variety to set fruit. However, currently, all large-berried muscadine cultivars are pistillate so that growers are accustomed to their use. 2) The berries tend to be somewhat adherent to the pedicel, causing a "wet stem scar" on occasion when picked singly. However, this adherent quality is seen as a potential advantage because CD8-67 fruit forms uncharacteristically (for a muscadine) in clusters. It is envisioned that the fruit may be harvested by clipping clusters, as is currently the norm for seedless *V. vinifera* table grapes, like Thompson Seedless, which also have adherent berries. Such harvesting methods may be more efficient and lead to better shelf life.

In Mississippi, growers have expressed interest in CD8-67 based on direct observation of its productivity, disease resistance, fruit texture and flavor. In Georgia, Bottom's Nursery has expressed interest in selling it.

UF/IFAS will release it jointly with USDA propose to release it as an unpatented cultivar and propose the name 'Eudora' for appropriate historical reasons. The name Eudora honors Mississippi writer Eudora Welty. The name also has secondary significance in that it suggests the town Mount Dora, which is near the UF/IFAS breeding program where the variety was developed. Finally, the Latin prefix "Eu" means "true". Therefore, this grape may be considered the "True Dora"!

USDA will arrange to have plants propagated for distribution. We anticipate that plants will be commercially available from interested nurseries.

Contact Dennis Gray djg@ufl.edu or Stephen Stringer sjstringer@msa-stoneville.ars.usda.gov for information concerning plant availability



Jim Trezise Named 2006 Wine Integrity Award Honoree; Champion of New York Wines Recognized by Industry

LODI, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 30, 2006--The Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape Commission announced today that James Trezise of the New York Wine and Grape Foundation has been named the Wine Industry Integrity Award honoree for 2006. Created in 1998, the award honors individuals who have conducted their careers with integrity while making significant contributions to the wine industry. The award will be presented at a dinner in honor of Trezise at the Wine and Roses Hotel in Lodi, California, on Friday, November 3, 2006.

According to selection panel member John Ledbetter, "Jim works tirelessly promoting and educating the American public, regulators and elected officials not only about New York wines, but American wines as well. He is an extremely dedicated and effective voice for our industry, and woven through it all is his great personal integrity."

Trezise has been President of the New York Wine & Grape Foundation since its creation in 1985. The Foundation is a private, not-for-profit organization which sponsors research and promotion programs in support of New York grapes, juice and wine. Jim is widely recognized for his leadership on behalf of the American wine industry. In addition to his New York duties he serves as Director General of the International Federation of Wines and Spirits, based in Paris, is on the Executive Committee of the American Vintners Association, and is co-founder of the American Wine Alliance for Research and Education. He holds a masters degree in International Communications from American University in Washington, DC, and a bachelor's degree in Psychology from Allegheny College.

Jim Trezise will be a speaker at the 2007 Annual Conference. He will discuss his influence in the development of the wine industry in New York and what he thinks Florida can do to develop it's fledging industry

The wine industry in NY has grown from nine wineries in 1976 to 212 in 2006. New York wineries have experienced 10%-15% growth in each of the past 10 years

Fireman's Fund Offers Insurance for Wineries

October 2, 2006

Fireman's Fund Insurance Co. has recently introduced a new service coverage, Insurance for Wineries. The comprehensive product has coverages specifically created for the business of growing, making and selling wine, including vineyards, equipment, employees, winemaking and production, retail stores and tasting rooms as well as on-site tours and events. In addition, clients can add an endorsement to value their in-process wines as well as their limited edition library and heritage wines at their ultimate selling price.

This "roots to retail" offering includes coverage for property, business income, liability, international operations and key employees. From vintners with boutique operations to large winery owners, all members of the wine industry will be better protected with the following benefits:

Property-Gard Select Winery Endorsements—Coverage and valuation options covering buildings, business personal property, wine products, and barrel and case storage products against loss from a wide variety of perils. Coverage and valuation options for in-process wines, library wines, heritage wines and staged release wines.

Ocean Cargo- Property protection for cargo that is being shipped by sea, air, and/or land. This allows parties involved in international trade, be they sellers, buyers, banks or other interested entities to be confident that the transaction can be completed.

Agricultural Chemical Drift – Coverage for physical injury to people, domestic animals, or growing or harvest crops due to herbicide or pesticide above-ground contact or accidental chemical drift from a vineyard to a

neighboring property. Includes payment for the defense of any resulting claim or lawsuit.

Product Withdrawal Expense – Covers expenses incurred when a defect such as contamination or mislabeling causes the withdrawal of goods from customers.

Life Insurance and Key Employee Plan – Key employee replacement cost, Prestige DestinationsSM travel coverage, Allianz Life, Deferred Compensation, and Long-Term Care cover key employees.

Auto and Truck - Additional coverage for non-owned and hired vehicles and the Fleet-Cover endorsement which includes higher limits for medical payments, coverage for communication equipment and rental expense reimbursement.

Boutique wineries, with production between 750 and 2,500 cases per year, can take advantage of farm and ranch insurance that combines coverage for the primary residence and the working vineyard to protect agricultural structures, equipment and commercial vehicles, home and auto in one policy.

For more information, visit www.firemansfund.com.

FGGA GEAR

Featured Items

- T-shirts—\$10
- Polo Shirts—\$13
- Caps—\$6

Shirts are grey -Caps are grey
with purple bill

Mail Check to FGGA Office



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Grape Festival

a chance to see winemaking in progress and some of the equipment used in crushing, pressing, storing, and filtering.

After a very busy and informative morning a barbecue lunch was served. This gave the people a chance to visit the various booths that were set up around the festival grounds including some free medical screening tests.

In the after noon all were invited to stomp grapes. It reminded many people of the “I Love Lucy” show where Lucy was stomping grapes at a winery in Europe. Teams were formed consisting of faculty



On the table are some of the many muscadine cultivars



Jellies, jams and wine grape varieties including Carlos, Noble and Cynthiana.

members and volunteers. Again the children seem to have the most fun.

A good time was had by all. It was an eye opening experience for those who hadn’t known that there was so much being done in the research of grapes and grape products.

**FLORIDA GRAPE GROWERS
ASSOCIATION**

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**Lakeridge Winery and
Vineyards hosts their
16th Annual Open House
November 10 -12, 2006.**

Live music, food, beer, and of course wine by the glass will be available for purchase at this years Open House. Many local artisans and crafters will display their wares just in time for Christmas gift buying..

Gourmet gift items and seasonal gift baskets will be available in the wine shop. Complimentary mulled wine will be provided along with the usual wine tastings and tours. Admission is free.



Florida Grape Growers Association, Inc
111 Yelvington Road
East Palatka, FL 32131

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

«First Name» «Last Name»
 «Address 1»
 «Address 2»
 «City» «State» «ZipCode»