

MUSCADINE GRAPES

Where they are from
and where you should plant them.

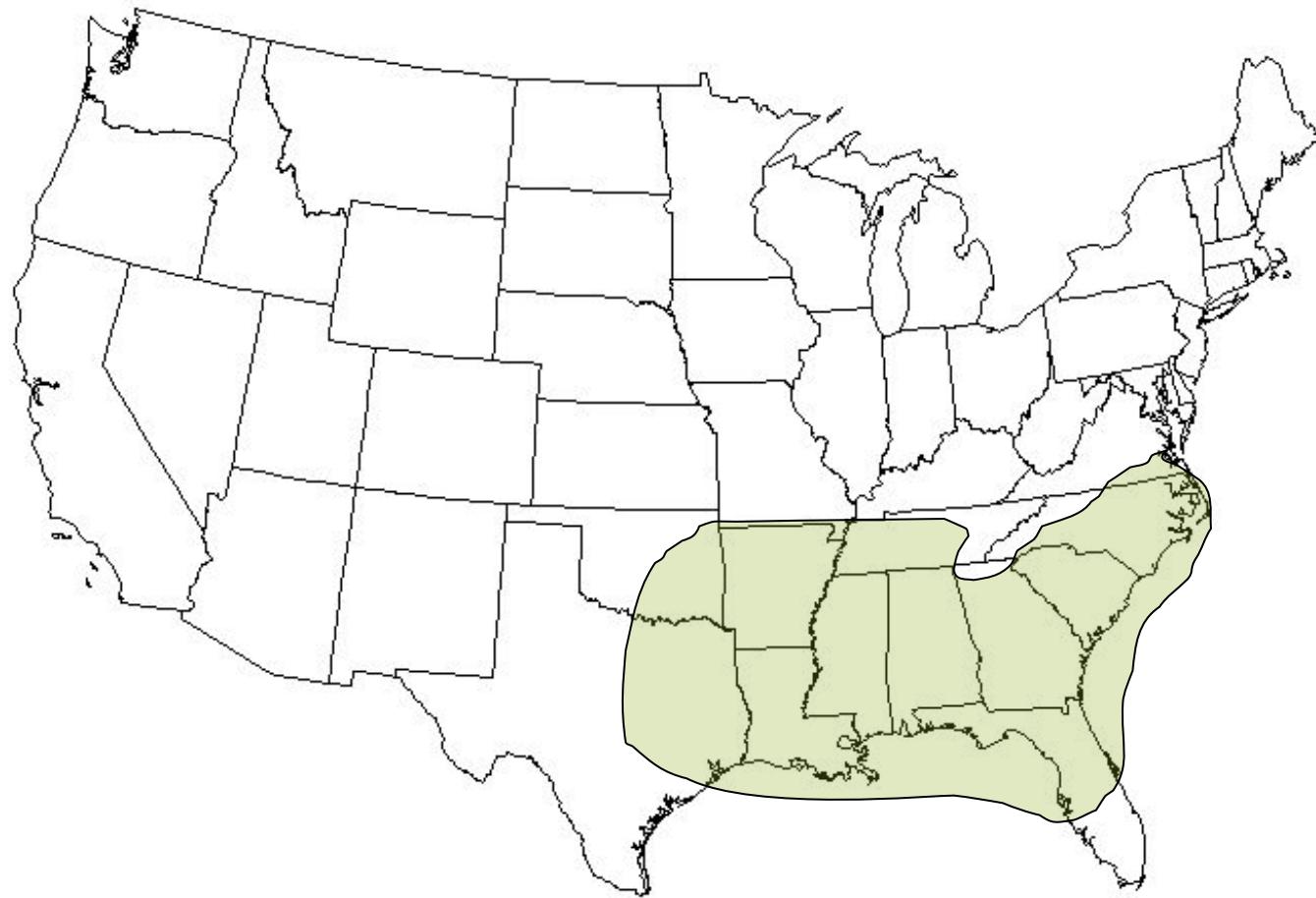
By Christopher Vincent

SIR WALTER RALEIGH

1584 – “on the sand and on the green soil, on the hills as on the plains, as well as on every little shrub... also climbing towards the tops of tall cedars...in all the world the like abundance is not to be found”

Vitis rotundifolia - Muscadine





**Approximate native range and commercial distribution of muscadine grapes
(after Olien and Hegwood, 1990; Basiouny and Himmelrich, 2001)**

Over 95% of production is in coastal states (NC-LA)

MUSCADINE GRAPES

- ⦿ Mostly dark-fruited in the wild
 - ⦿ Bronze-fruited types rarely occur in the wild and are often referred to as “scuppernongs”
- ⦿ ‘Scuppernong’ was first muscadine brought into cultivation from the wild
 - ⦿ Discovered around 1760 in NC
 - ⦿ Unusual bronze-fruited cultivar



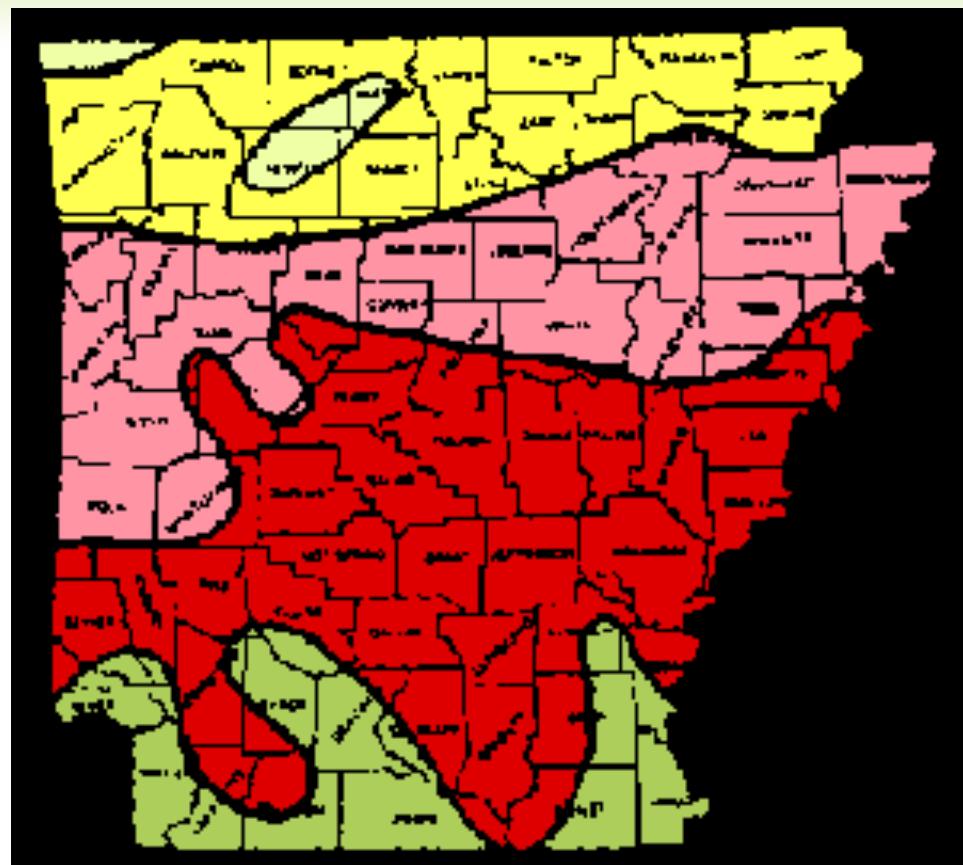
Scuppernong

MUSCADINE GRAPES ARE ADAPTED TO THE SOUTHEAST

- ◎ Tolerant of intensive rainfall and high humidity
- ◎ Resistant to most diseases and nematodes that plague *V. vinifera* (wine grapes)
- ◎ Amenable to organic production
- ◎ High levels of phenolic compounds and antioxidant activity in fresh grapes and grape products

SITE SELECTION - CLIMATE

Arkansas Hardiness Zones

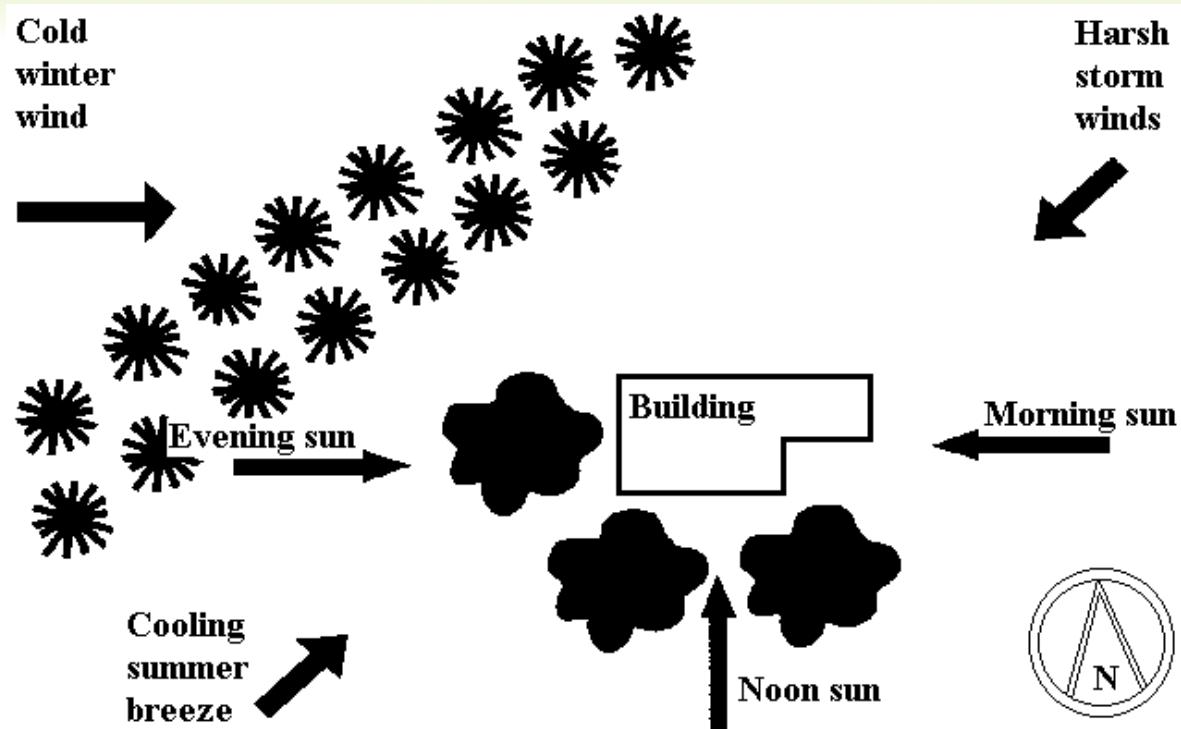


	A	B	
6	Light Green	Light Yellow	-10 to -5 / -5 to 0 F
7	Pink	Red	0 to 5 / 5 to 10 F
8	Dark Green	None	10 to 15 F

SITE SELECTION - CLIMATE

Microclimate

- ◎ Elevation
- ◎ Slope
- ◎ Air Drainage
- ◎ Solar exposure



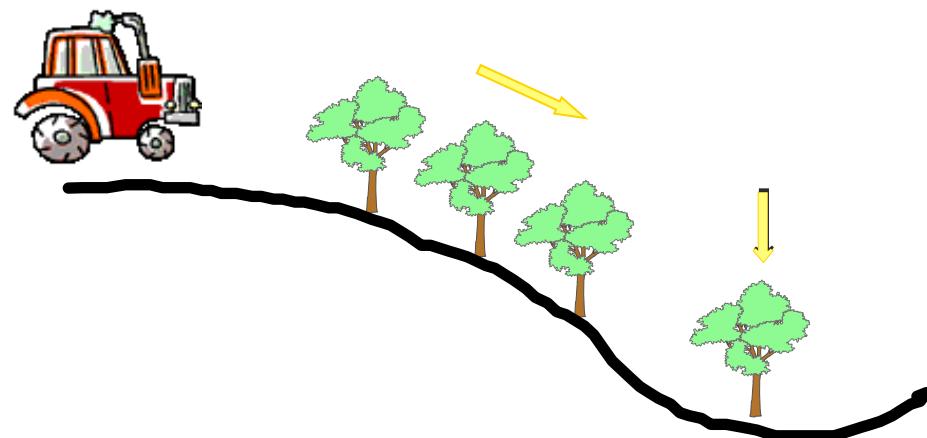
PLANTING SITE

- ◎ Slope

- ◎ A 4 to 8% slope is ideal.
- ◎ Avoid areas at the bottom of the hill where cold air settles and frost pockets form.

- ◎ Drainage:

- ◎ No standing water



SITE SELECTION - SOIL AND SPACE

Space

- ◎ At least 20' between plants in a row
- ◎ Room for males

Soil

- ◎ Light soil preferred - drainage
- ◎ pH 5.8-6.5



MUSCADINE GRAPES

Practical fruit for Arkansas

- ◎ Adapted to climate:
- ◎ Native plant
- ◎ Disease and insect resistance
- ◎ Tolerates heat
- ◎ Requirements
- ◎ Space
- ◎ Moderate pH
- ◎ Drainage



ANY QUESTIONS?



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