

# Grapes

Grapes (*Vitis* spp.) are a wonderful fruit of the vine and have been deeply ingrained in human culture for millennia. Here, in the Finger Lakes Region of New York, they are a staple in agriculture for a multitude of uses including jamming, winemaking, and fresh eating. At Bristol's Garden Center, we carry many cultivars to cover all of your grape needs!

## Soil Requirements

**Loam** soils are best suited for grapevines, though they have high adaptability in sandy or clay soils with amendments.

Grapevines thrive in **soils with a pH between 5.5 and 6.5**. Fruit yields can improve in these conditions.

Soils **high in organic matter** provide nutrients necessary for development.

Mulching with **straw or shredded wood mulch** will help with moisture retention and insulate the roots in cold weather while also providing necessary nutrients over time.

Fertilizing with **10-10-10 slow-release granule** fertilizers at the start of the growing season will promote growth for the rest of the year.

## Protect from wildlife!



Although we tend to grow grapevines for the fruit, **all** parts of the grapevine are desirable to wildlife. We **strongly encourage** adding **fencing or netting** of adequate height around your grapevines for protection from browsing.

## Light Requirements



All grape varieties require **6+ hours** of direct sunlight in a day. Grapes are tolerant of 4+ hours of direct sunlight, but yields will be minimal or not occur under these conditions.

## How many plants are needed to produce fruit?



All of the grape varieties we carry are **self-pollinating**, meaning only one plant is required to produce fruit. *However*, having **more than one** of either the same or different cultivar will **increase** yields. Additionally, many cultivars produce **fruit at different times of the season**, so with strategic planning, you could be harvesting grapes from August to October! *Learn more on the next page.*

Once your grapevines are established, expect to harvest anywhere from **5-10 pounds** of fruit per **vine per year!**

*Note: different cultivars have different yields.*



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Below is a table consisting of grape cultivars we currently or have carried. Information includes whether or not the fruit are seedless, when fruit will be ripe for harvest, general uses, and other aspects of each cultivar. *Note: harvest time is greatly dependent on weather conditions leading up to harvest.*

Cultivar	Color	Seedless?	Estimated Month of Harvest			Flavor	Uses
			August	September	October		
Canadice	Pink	Yes				Sweet, Spicy	Table grape.
Catawba	Red	No				Foxy	Fresh eating, jellies, and wine.
Cayuga	White	No				Citrus, Apple	Juicing and winemaking.
Concord	Blue	No				Tangy, Sweet	Juicing and winemaking.
Einset	Red	Yes				Sweet, Fruity	Table grape.
Glenora	Blue	Yes				Sweet, Spicy	Table grape.
Himrod	White	Yes				Citrus, Ginger	Table grape or winemaking.
Isabella	Blue	No				Strawberry, Foxy	Fresh eating, juicing or winemaking.
La Crescent	White	No				Apricot, Citrus	Table grape or wine.
Lakemont	White	Yes				Sweet	Fresh eating and winemaking.
Marquette	Blue	No				Cherry, Currant	Table grape or wine.
Marquis	White	Yes				Sweet, Mild	Fresh eating, jellies, and baking.
Niagra	White	No				Apple, Floral	Fresh eating and winemaking.
Reliance	Red	No				Mild, Foxy	Fresh eating, jellies, and wine.
Traminette	White	No				Spicy, Floral	Table grape or wine.

**Ask any of our knowledgeable staff for more information!**



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