

# The Punta Gorda Herald

PUNTA GORDA — In Tropical Southwest Florida, a Seaport on the Famous Charlotte Harbor — a Town that is Known for its Natural Attractions and the Hospitality of a Cosmopolitan Citizenship

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## WILL DO WELL IN THIS STATE

### THE MUSCADINE GRAPES

Possibilities of Profit on Vineyards Which Can be Established Over Wide Area in South-east—Several Varieties

Muscadine grapes can be grown successfully over a large area in the southern and southeastern portion of the United States, according to specialists of the department.

In Farmers' Bulletin No. 709, a new publication dealing with this subject, it is stated that there are at least 250,000,000 acres of land along the southeastern Atlantic coast and the Gulf coast which are well adapted to the culture of these grapes and a large percentage of which at present is untilled. It is, in fact, only during the last 10 years that the production of Muscadine grapes, which are especially suited to this territory, has assumed commercial importance.

Muscadine grapes are used chiefly for wine making but when carefully picked and handled there is a considerable demand for them as table grapes. They also make excellent jellies, preserves, catsups, etc. The Scuppernon, a light colored variety, and the Eden, Flowers, James, Memory, and Thomas, dark colored varieties listed in catalogs and grown in a commercial way. Of these, the Scuppernon is much preferred for wine purposes.

Muscadine grapes can be grown wherever cotton thrives, and can be grown on almost any of the tillable soils along the Atlantic coast from the James river to Florida and from Florida along the Gulf coast to Texas, their natural habitat extending along the sea well into the mountains. They succeed also along the Mississippi River as far north as southeastern Missouri and the Tennessee River.

The best results are obtained on sandy loam soils that are well drained and contain a fair amount of fertility and organic matter.

It is important that the subsoil be well drained. If Muscadines are to be planted on new land the soil should be well prepared and some crop requiring cultivation be grown on it at least one season.

The first two seasons after planting, hoed crops, such as melons, peanuts, cotton, or tobacco may be grown between the vines. After this a leguminous crop, such as cow peas and soy beans in the summer, and vetch, but clover, or crimson clover in the winter, may be grown to regulate the soil moisture supply and fertility.

If the vines are properly supported they will do no harm to grape cows, sheep or hogs on the winter crop in vineyard in early spring before the vine growth starts. After the second season the winter cover crops should be plowed under in the spring as soon as possible after grazing, cutting for hay, or harvesting for seed, followed with cultivation through the early part of the summer.

In addition to good cultivation and inter-cropping, commercial fertilizers should be used to give best results with Muscadine grapes. It is also good practice to mulch young vines with stable manure. Nitrogenous fertilizers applied to young vines induce them to make a robust growth and to bear a profitable crop the third year, results which under ordinary conditions would not have been attained before the fourth year. After the vines have reached bearing age, with proper culture and inter-cropping they will require more phosphoric acid and potash.

All the leading fruit varieties of Muscadine grapes have been proven to be self-sterile and set no fruit unless their blossoms are pollinated with the fertile pollen of male vines. The cross-pollination is brought about by insects. Therefore, it is necessary to plant vines here and there in the vineyard, one such vine to every

eight or ten fruiting vines being recommended. Investigations have shown that under ordinary circumstances only 7 to 10 per cent of the Muscadine buds normally produce ripe berries while with perfect pollination 20 to 30 will bear fruit. This is equivalent to an increase yield of approximately 200 to 300 per cent.

Until recently it was a common belief that Muscadine vines could not be pruned without killing them. This has been shown to be a mistake, but there are still persons who advocate the growing of vines without pruning. The safest plan, according to knowledge now available, is to follow moderate pruning.

In training the vines, two systems are employed, (1) the horizontal or overhead system, by which the growth is spread on an overhead canopy about 7 ft. above the ground and supported by posts, and (2) the upright, or vertical, system, in which the growth is spread over a vertical trellis. Both have their advantages.

Muscadine grapes shatter readily from the stem. When the fruit is intended for wineries it is harvested by jarring the berries from the vines onto large canvas sheets. Fruit for table use should be hand picked. By careful picking, the fruit of some varieties can be secured in clusters and it sells for a higher price upon the market.

One of the purposes of the investigations now carried on by the department is to develop, through breeding work, varieties in which the berries will adhere better to the cluster. Some of the other aims of the breeding investigations are (1) to originate perfectioned, self-fertile varieties, to eliminate the necessity of interplanting with male vines, and (2) to originate varieties having larger and better clusters of fruit of better quality.

The Muscadine grapes are very productive, and up to the present time remunerative prices have been secured for the fruit.—Weekly News Letter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

### CITRUS FRUIT INSPECTION

#### Standards Adopted and Duties of Inspectors

Under date of Aug 21st inst., state Chemist R. E. Rose addresses to The Herald the following communication, which should be read carefully by all growers of oranges and grapefruit:—

At the recent convention of the Association of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials, held at Detroit, Michigan, the "Joint Committee on Standards" reaffirmed and tentatively adopted the Florida standard for mature citrus fruit, as applied to all citrus fruit imported into, or grown in America, to-wit:

"Eight parts of total solids to one part of anhydrous citric acid, for oranges, and

"Seven parts total solids to one part of anhydrous acid, for grapefruit."

This department has been unofficially assured by the United States Bureau of Chemistry of its hearty cooperation, in the strict enforcement of the standard, and prevention of the shipment of immature citrus fruit from all parts of the Union and from foreign countries.

I inclose a copy of instructions to inspectors for the information and guidance of the growers and shippers.

The inspection season will begin September first. The names, post-office addresses and territories of the various inspectors will be published, as soon as the inspectors are appointed and qualified, for the information of the growers and shippers.

The methods of analysis, rules and regulations are the same as those promulgated by the National and State authorities for the last shipping season; copies of which may be obtained free of cost from the State Chemist or the Commissioner of Agriculture.

For the information of growers and shippers, hereunder are given the instructions issued to inspec-

## Man Who Labors Seven Days a Week Lowers His Efficiency

By Dr. E. G. MARTIN, Harvard University

SCIENTIFIC experiments made under my direction at Harvard go to show that the man who works seven days a week lowers his efficiency.

The method depended on the determination of the weakest electric shock the subjects could feel. Perception of a very weak shock signified high sensitiveness and vice versa. The underlying principle was that high sensitiveness would go hand in hand with a high degree of nervous efficiency. A FALLING OFF OF SENSITIVENESS WOULD INDICATE, THEREFORE, A CORRESPONDING LOWERING OF NERVOUS EFFICIENCY.

For this particular phase of the work medical students served as subjects, and determinations of sensitiveness were made daily during eight weeks. Throughout this time all the subjects were following the regular and pressing routine of the medical school, a routine that occupied them fully on the week days and was necessarily interrupted on Sundays by the closing of the medical laboratories.

The results of the inquiry can be summarized briefly. There was an unmistakable tendency for the sensitiveness to be at its highest at the beginning of the week and to sink steadily from day to day until its end, reaching the lowest point on Saturday.

WITH THE RETURN OF MONDAY, FOLLOWING THE BREAK IN ROUTINE AFFORDED BY THE SUNDAY RECESS, THE SENSITIVENESS WAS BACK AT ITS FORMER HIGH POINT.

## FARM AND GROVE IN FLORIDA

Agricultural News Service University of Florida College of Agriculture

### Losses To Livestock Largely Preventable

Losses to Florida cattle and hogs from exposure and disease are heavier than for the United States as a whole. That most of this loss is unnecessary is evident, because diseases are no more prevalent in Florida than elsewhere and the weather is much milder. The loss from exposure at least should be extremely low.

C. C. Hare, field agent for the United States Bureau of Crop Estimates, calls attention to the livestock statistics issued by the Bureau recently. The loss on Florida hogs from disease during 1915 was 11 per cent. In the United States the loss was 6.63 per cent.

The total loss on Florida cattle from disease and exposure was 4.2 per cent. Corresponding loss in the United States was 3.03 per cent. The exceptionally large loss on Florida hogs is probably due to cholera, altho conditions for cholera are probably no more favorable here than elsewhere.

Loss on cattle from exposure, which is placed at 2.01 per cent in Florida, is entirely too high when the mild climate is considered. With proper attention and care, the percentage of losses from both the disease and exposure can be reduced even below that of the United States at large. Suppose that there were 1,000,000 cattle in Florida last year and that they were worth \$15,000,000. Deduct from that 2.01 per cent, and an idea can be had of the enormous waste that is experienced by cattlemen each year from the exposure alone. Practically all of it is useless.

tors Oct. 11th, 1915, which hold good the coming season:

Inspectors will pass for shipment only such fruit as are found in packing-houses prepared, or being prepared, for shipment.

The sample shall consist of the mixed juice of twelve average fruit, which sample shall include the smallest sizes and most immature, as well as the largest and most mature fruit. The sample must be fairly representative of the entire lot. In case the test shows the fruit to be above the U. S. standard, the inspector shall inform the shipper of the fact that the sample is mature, and pass the lot for shipment. If it fails to pass the standard, the fruit shall be attached and placed in the custody of the sheriff or his deputy—as directed by law.

Inspectors shall by no means "pass" or certify to the maturity of a crop of fruit on the trees in the grove, nor give any official opinion as to the proportion of mature fruit in the grove, nor as to the probable date of maturity of any portion of the fruit—cart lot or number of boxes. Inspectors shall not make un-

### Trucking May Be Studied By Mail

Trucking is one of the most important industries of the state. With citrus growing it shares the attention of the average home-seeker. A large number of farmers in the state have made, and are making, money growing truck crops. There is no reason that more farmers should not find trucking profitable. The area in Florida which can produce winter vegetables is small when compared with the millions of vegetable-hungry northerners.

The University of Florida College of Agriculture offers a correspondence course in trucking. This course has recently been revised and enlarged. It is especially adapted to Florida conditions and will be found profitable by any one who intends to grow vegetables whether for home or market. The text book which is used is by P. H. Rolfs, dean of the College. It is one of the few books that have been written for Florida conditions. Further information concerning this course and others which are offered, may be had by addressing the College of Agriculture, Gainesville.

### Do Not Rob Citrus Trees To Feed Stock

The average citrus grower does not need much hay. He usually depends on the cover crops in his grove to supply what he needs. If the cover crop is thrifty, indicating that there is plenty of organic matter in the soil, the crop may be used for hay without detriment to the soil. But if the cover crop

necessary tests of evidently immature fruit, thus wasting their time and chemicals for simple curiosity. The personal knowledge of the inspector, and his experience with citrus fruit, he may use for the information of the grower. No official opinion as to the probable date of maturity, nor the number of cars or boxes in the grove that may be mature at a fixed date, shall be given.

Inspectors will also advise all growers that the inspection season does not end on November 5th, but will continue until discontinued by order of the national authorities, after the full maturity of the crop.—R. E. Rose, State Chemist.

Approved: W. A. McRAE, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. Citrus Grower, what are you going to do about the whitefly? It will be time to spray for the fall brood before long. The fungi have helped about all they can, and the oil sprays are in order.

Mediation has a hard row to hoe when neither of the opposing sides will yield an inch.

is sparse, it may make expensive hay. If the soil is lacking in organic matter, it will be robbing the trees to feed stock.

A seamy cover crop does not always mean that the soil needs organic matter, but if plenty of seed were sown and other conditions were favorable for growth, the trouble was probably a lack of humus. An examination will usually give some indication of the organic material content of the soil. B. F. Floyd, plant physiologist to the University of Florida Experiment Station, suggests that the cover crop be turned under, if the soil is lacking in humus.

It is not advisable to cultivate the grove at the time the cover crop must be cut, the crop may lie on the ground until time to cultivate. The crop must be cut before the plant bugs go to the trees.

Speaking from the tick family's viewpoint, things look mighty blue. But when we think of the farmer and his long suffering cattle, prospects are brighter. Progress in eradication is evident in practically every section of the state.

The recount in Putnam county—made openly, fairly, honestly, accurately—gives Mr. Knott a net gain of twenty votes. Is there a man so prejudiced, so unfair, or so narrow as to deny Mr. Knott or any other candidate the right to have the votes counted that were legally and regularly cast for him? And that is all that Mr. Knott and his friends ask—just a fair and accurate recount. If mistakes in tabulating the second choices were made by the inspectors, then the recount will rectify them—as was the case in nearly all the precincts in Putnam county—then no harm can be done any one by a recount. Why there should be opposition to a fair, accurate recount is beyond our comprehension. —Palatka Times-Herald.

Oyster Bay is one of those old towns that live almost wholly in the past.

### THE FLORIDA ORANGE

#### Would Find Wide-Spread Favor With Advertising

A man from the Central States, section of the United States who made his first visit to Florida last winter, walked into an office at the University of Florida and was offered an orange by way of introduction. A few days later he happened (evidently) into the same office. In the course of the conversation that followed, he remarked as he looked around the room like a hungry boy:

"By the way what kind of an orange was that you gave me the other day?"

Upon being told that it was a Florida orange and that it had been bought from a wagon, he wanted to know where the wagon could be found.

"Oh," replied his friend, "you can find any number of wagons selling oranges down town."

"What! Do you mean to say that I can buy oranges like that, with that flavor, from any wagon?"

"Yes, you can buy oranges like that from any wagon, not only here, but anywhere in Florida."

That man had never tasted a Florida orange before. There are hundreds like him in his section of the country and in other sections. Those people have never been introduced to the exclusive flavor of the Florida orange. Growers could easily build up a private trade by advertising not only in their local papers, but in some of the small papers of the North. The same is true of other Florida products, some of which are entirely unknown to thousands of those people.

A few growers are doing such advertising and it evidently pays, because they continue to run the ads.

President Wilson was going to tour the country, but since Mr. Hughes made his trip it is unnecessary since he made the doubtful states sure democrats.

## RUMANIA HAS ENTERED WAR

### CONFLICTING CLAIMS MADE

As to Gains on Salozika Front—King Ferdinand's Troops are in Transylvania and Expected to Attack Teuton Rear

London, Eng.—Rumania has thrown in her lot with the Entente Allies by declaring war on Austria-Hungary, and almost simultaneously Germany has announced that she is at war with Rumania.

The troops of King Ferdinand are seeking entry into the plains of Transylvania through the eastern Carpathians toward Kronstadt, the chief city in Transylvania, and in the direction of Heramstada, evidently in an endeavor to press northward toward the Bukovina and Galicia borders and to take in the rear the Austro-Germans trying to hold back the Russians.

Nothing has come through to indicate what preparation has been made by the Bulgarians to offset a probable attack by the Rumanians along the Danube front, or a possible attempt by the Russians at invasion by means of the Danube and through Dobruja or by the Black Sea. It is estimated that Rumania will be able to throw nearly a million men into the field.

### Both Sides Claim Gains

Except in the Macedonia sector little important fighting is reported from the fronts. All along the line where the Teutonic Allies are in contact with the Serbians, British and French, Berlin and Paris report additional gains for their respective forces. Berlin records the capture of heights south of Zbrozko by the Bulgarians and the repulse of the Serbian counter attacks on Mount Seganska, while Paris says the Serbs have made considerable progress near Vetrnika, and have repulsed with heavy losses Bulgarian attacks on the road from Banica to Ostrovo. Paris admits, however, Bulgarian occupation of Pons, abandoned by the Greeks, west of Kavala, on the Aegean.

Artillery engagements and mine operations again have characterized fighting in France and Belgium. The French report further progress east of Delville wood and near the Mouquet farm in the Somme region, while London reports the shelling of British positions by the Germans, especially between Pozieres and the Thierval wood and reciprocal bombardments at other points. A German attack near Fleury failed.

### Isolated Engagements Fought

From the Riga region to the Carpathian passes there have been isolated engagements at various points between the Russians and the Austro-Germans, but no notable successes. Hard fighting is in progress between the Russians and the Turks in the Lake Van region and north of Bitlis. In the latter region the Turks have been driven back southward by Russian counter attacks, losing men and guns.

Aside from bombardments from the Austrians along the Isonzo front, the situation in the Austro-Italian theatre remains unchanged.

We heartily favor state division, and if we cannot get the capitol in the center of the of the new state, then we would favor Tampa as the capitol. With its splendid harbor and its progressive citizens it would be made one of the best capitols in the whole country. The people of North Florida are just a little too slow to keep pace with the people of South Florida. Give us Volusia, Marion and Citrus counties for our north boundary and we will be satisfied. By leaving all the counties above those, we would be giving to West Florida all the public buildings including our state educational institutions. Give us our freedom and we will show the world a progress unequalled in any of the states of the Union.—Fort Lauderdale Sentinel.