

# Catawba Grapes



Grapes are primarily grown for fruit production in home fruit gardens where ornamental interest is not a concern. However, grapes do in fact have good ornamental value: bold summer foliage, some fall color, showy fruit and shaggy, twisted trunking and branching often best seen in winter. When grown on fences, walls, trellises, arbors or other structures, grapes can be quite attractive year-round and can provide good cover, screening, or shade to areas around the home.

## *Vitis 'Catawba'*

- **Use:** A vigorous, hardy, deciduous vine with bold-textured, deep green foliage. Grown for its medium-size clusters of round, dull purple-red grapes. Catawba grapes are well-suited for jellies and juices, and for sweet white, red and rosé wines. Fruit ripens late in the season. Grown in California and its origin and history are well documented. **See UGA Handout on Growing Grapes on Plant Info page of website.**
- **Exposure/Soil:** This grape tolerates a wide range of soil conditions, but must have good drainage. Prefers warm Southern sun exposure for best crop. Needs full sunlight and high temperatures to ripen, so plant on southern slopes, the south side of windbreaks, or the south sides of buildings.
- **Growth:** Fast growing vine; grows 20 to 25 ft. each year.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 4-8; Vine ; Very cold hardy cultivar.
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Dark green above and green tinged yellow beneath, the leaves are glossy on both sides, becoming firm and subglabrous at maturity.
- **Flower:** Panicles of fragrant, greenish flowers appear in spring. Large, shallowly-three-lobed green foliage. commonly used for wines, champagnes, jams/jellies and juice. It is grown by some vineyards for production of blush and rose wines. It is an American grape variety that produces copper-red berries that mature in late September to early October.

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