

# Venus Grape



- Seedless Eating / Juice Grape.
- A lovely blue-black seedless grape that is extremely versatile.
- Suitable for outdoor and protected cropping.
- Vigorous.
- Self fertile.

## *Vitis lambrusca x vinifera 'Venus'*

- **Use:** Originally from America. Early fruit ripening. Winter wood ripening is good - so can be grown both outdoors or under protection (greenhouse, polytunnel or conservatory). Can be trained using either the cane replacement method or spur pruning. Self fertile. SO4 rootstock. Seedless (though some fruit may contain partially-formed seeds) **Google "UGA on Growing Grapes" for a great article online.**
- **Exposure/Soil:** Prefers higher pH soil than our southern soils so amend with lime and improve drainage if red clay. 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. Pruning increases the fruit yield and the plant also looks neater. It is best to prune the plant in the period between November and February, but not during severe frost. Prune superfluous side and main branches.
- **Growth:** Expect it to reach 8 to 10 feet long within a decade.
- **Hardiness: Zone** 6-8; Vine
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Dark green above and green tinged yellow beneath, the leaves are glossy on both sides, becoming firm and subglabrous at maturity.
- **Flower/Fruit:** A quick-growing, medium to large-sized, blue-black seedless grape. Tastes like a milder form of the Labrusca (Fox) Grape with a smooth muscat flavour. Developed by the University of Arkansas in 1977 this variety produces large bunches of early-ripening fruits. It has what is known as 'slipskin' which means that the pulp is not attached to the skins. Sometimes the skins on this variety can be thick. Venus is excellent for making jam and grape juice from, as well as for eating straight from the vine or making wine!

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