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Cold Hardy Wine Grape Cultivar Trial

Abstract

In conjunction with the Northeast Regional Research project NE 1020 "Multi-state Evaluation of Wine Grape Cultivars and Clones," Iowa State University established a cold hardy wine grape cultivar trial in 2008 at the ISU Horticulture Research Station (HRS) and Tabor Home Vineyards and Winery (THV) near Baldwin, IA. The Iowa trial evaluates the performance of Corot noir, La Crescent, Marquette, Petit AmiTM, NY 95.0301-01, MN-1189, MN-1200, MN-1220, MN-1235, MN-1258 with Frontenac, and St. Croix serving as controls. This report summarizes the results for the 2012 growing season.

Keywords

RFR A1214, Horticulture

Disciplines

Agricultural Science | Agriculture | Fruit Science | Horticulture

Cold Hardy Wine Grape Cultivar Trial

RFR-A1214

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Introduction

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Materials and Methods

The vines were spaced 8×10 ft apart (545 vines/acre) with three vines/replication. Treatments were replicated 6 times (18 vines/cultivar) in a randomized complete block design. Vines were trained to the highwire bilateral cordon with the trellis wire 6.0 ft above the ground.

Results and Discussion

Although the 2011-12 winter was considered mild, a potentially stressful freeze occurred on

January 21, 2012 (-8°F) at HRS. The lowest temperature recorded at THV was -3°F on January 14, 15, and 20. No additional vine mortality occurred at either site and primary bud injury was minimal at HRS (Table 1). Based on cumulative vine mortality, pruning weights, and length of established cordon, vines were performing better at HRS than at THV.

Following an unusually warm March and very early bud break, the vines were exposed to 21°F at HRS and 27° F at THV on Apr 11. At HRS, bud development ranged from first swell to third leaf with Marquette, MN-1235, and La Crescent being the most advanced (Table 1). Marquette and NY95.0301-01 vines had the highest mortality of primary shoots while MN-1258 and Frontenac had the lowest mortality. At THV, injury was not as severe, although Marquette vines had the highest mortality of primary shoots.

At HRS, a combination of low yields and unusually warm growing conditions contributed to favorable harvest indices for northern hybrid cultivars (Table 2).

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	Horticulture Research Station							Tabor Home Vineyards			
	Vine	% Dorm.	Pruning	Estab.	Date	Bud	%	Vine	Pruning	Estab.	%
	mortali	ty bud	wt.	cordon	50% bud	dev.	live 1°	mortality	wt.	cordon	live 1°
Rootstock	(cum)	injury	(lb)	(ft)	burst	stage ^y	shoots	(cum)	(lb)	(ft)	shoots
Corot noir	2	7.1	1.2	3.1	4/9	3.2	34	6	.4	.0	51
La Crescent	0	6.7	2.1	4.8	4/2	5.1	30	4	1.4	.8	47
Marquette	0	10.0	2.5	6.4	3/30	5.8	15	1	1.3	1.6	36
Petit Ami	0	7.5	.5	3.2	4/10	3.2	65	4	.2	.1	63
MN1189	0	11.5	1.3	4.2	4/8	3.6	45	4	.5	.0	48
MN1200	0	2.5	2.0	4.8	4/5	4.1	37	2	1.2	2.9	66
MN1220	0	5.0	1.6	6.2	4/3	4.6	38	0	1.1	1.4	64
MN1235	0	2.3	1.1	5.3	3/31	5.5	35	0	1.2	5.6	65
MN1258 ^z	0	.0	.8	3.3	4/9	3.6	78	2	.3	.3	69
NY95.0301-01 ^z	1		.4	.6	4/9	2.9	17	7	.2	.0	
Frontenac	0	5.2	1.5	6.2	4/7	4.2	72	1	1.3	5.1	78
St. Croix	0	5.7	1.9	6.2	4/2	4.8	43	1	1.3	4.1	67
LSD .05		.8	.5	1.3	1	.4	8		.4	1.4	14

Table 1. Performance of 12 wine grape cultivars in the NE-1020 cold hardy cultivar trial at two Iowa locations in 2012.

^zPlanted in 2009.

^yBud development stage at the time of the April 11 freeze: $1 = 1^{st}$ swell, 2 = full swell, 3 = bud burst, $4 = 1^{st}$ leaf, $5 = 2^{nd}$ leaf, $6 = 3^{rd}$ leaf, 7 = 4th leaf as described by Zabadal.

Table 2. Fruit development and harvest characteristics of 12 wine grape cultivars in the NE-1020 cold hardy cultivar trial at the ISU Horticulture Research Station in 2012.

		Date of		In	dices at H	Yield/	Average	
	Initial	Early				TA	Vine	cluster
Rootstock	bloom	veraison	Harvest	Brix ^o	pН	(g/liter)	(lb)	wt. (lb)
Corot noir	5/24	7/22	8/31	19.9	3.3	6.5	9.9	.32
La Crescent	5/20	7/17	8/31	24.8	3.3	11.6	4.3	.20
Marquette	5/21	7/10	9/6	28.0	3.3	9.8	2.8	.10
Petit Ami	5/20	7/17	8/7	19.0	3.2	8.1	11.1	.21
MN1189	5/20	7/9	8/17	20.4	3.2	7.5	10.4	.25
MN1200	5/16	7/11	9/6	24.4	3.3	8.3	1.4	.05
MN1220	5/21	7/16	8/17	24.8	3.4	9.1	9.9	.22
MN1235	5/17	7/15	9/13	25.2	3.4	10.1	5.7	.12
MN1258 ^z	5/18	7/16	9/6	28.8	3.5	9.6	4.7	.10
NY95.0301-01 ^z	5/27	7/22	8/31	21.8	3.4	7.4	1.6	.11
Frontenac	5/17	7/13	9/13	28.4	3.5	11.1	10.9	.20
St. Croix	5/18	7/16	8/17	20.4	3.4	7.6	8.0	.19
LSD .05	1	1	2				1.8	.01

^zPlanted in 2009.

^yParameters are non-replicated values obtained during maturity testing for determining when to harvest.