

Protocol Information

Natural Resources Conservation Service -
Appalachian Plant Materials Center
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United States Department of Agriculture

Family Scientific Name: **Vitaceae**
Family Common Name: **Vine family**
Scientific Name: *Vitis aestivalis L.*
Common Name: **Summer grape**
Species Code: **VIAE**
Ecotype: **Monongahela National Forest**
General Distribution: **Widely distributed throughout the eastern half of the US.**
Known Invasiveness: **Not known to be invasive in the US.**
Propagation Goal: **Plants**
Propagation Method: **Seed**
Product Type: **Container (plug)**
Time To Grow: **8 Months**
Target Specifications: **A well developed plant suitable for transplanting by hand with a healthy root system.**
Propagule Collection: **Mature fruits were harvested by hand in early November from existing stands of summer grapes within the boundaries of the Monongahela National Forest. Tarps were spread out on the ground under the trees and pole pruners were utilized to dislodge the fruit by shaking the tree or clipping small sections of the vine off.**
Propagule Processing: **Fruit was harvested, placed in a container and allowed to ferment for one month to facilitate the seed cleaning process. The fruit was then placed on**

a ribbed mat and rubbed gently to separate the seed from the pulp. The seeds were then washed through a series of sieves (12/64, 9/64, and 6/64) to further separate the seeds out. The seeds were then spread out to air dry, rubbed again on the ribbed mat and aspirated.

Pre-Planting Treatments: **No pretreatment was used.**

Growing Area Preparation/

Annual Practices for Perennial Crops: **Pro-mix BX with biofungicide was moistened and placed in heavy plastic trays. The growing media was compacted slightly to form a firm seedbed.**

Establishment Phase: **Seeds were spread evenly by hand on the soil surface and then covered with 1/4 inch of additional soil. The top layer was pressed down slightly to ensure good seed to soil contact. The trays were then placed in a cooler (34 degrees) for 3 months to allow for a cold stratification period. The trays were then moved directly to greenhouse for germination.**

Length of Establishment Phase: **3 months**

Active Growth Phase: **Seedlings began to emerge after about a month in the greenhouse. Once the seedlings had developed sufficient root systems, they were transplanted into quart plastic containers filled with Metro-mix 510 growing media.**

Length of Active Growth Phase: **5 months**

Hardening Phase: **Plants were moved into the shadehouse to allow for hardening off before shipping.**

Length of Hardening Phase: **2 weeks**

Harvesting, Storage and Shipping: **Plants with sufficient top growth and root development were shipped back to the Monongahela National Forest for transplanting. Trailer was covered with tarps to prevent excessive wind burn.**

Length of Storage: **1 day**

Outplanting performance on typical sites: **Vitis aestivalis is a climbing vine which grows into the canopies of most trees to compete for sunlight. Care should be taken when selecting outplanting locations.**

References: **USDA, NRCS. 2012. The PLANTS Database (<http://plants.usda.gov>, 12 July 2012). National Plant Data Team, Greensboro, NC 27401-4901 USA.**

Citation:

Lester, Randall; Vandevender, John. 2014. Propagation protocol for production of container *Vitis aestivalis* L. plants; Natural Resources Conservation Service - Appalachian Plant Materials Center, Alderson, West Virginia. In: Native Plant Network. URL: <http://www.nativeplantnetwork.org> (accessed 23 June 2014). Moscow (ID): University of Idaho, College of Natural Resources, Forest Research Nursery.