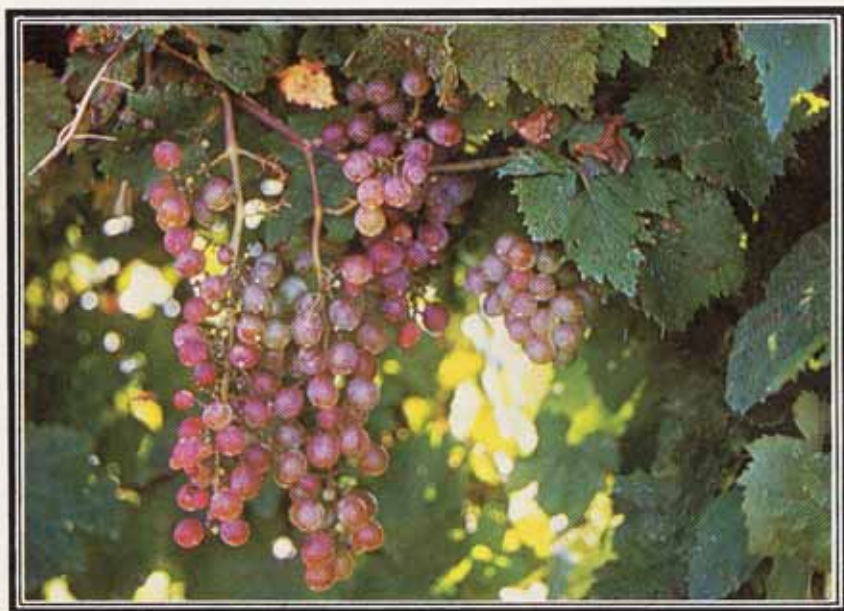


# Daytona

## A Table Grape for Florida Homeowners

J. A. Mortensen and L. H. Stover



Agricultural Experiment Stations  
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences  
University of Florida, Gainesville  
F. A. Wood, Dean for Research

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'Daytona', a pink bunch grape recommended for fresh fruit consumption, is being released by the University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station. Daytona is resistant to Pierce's disease and long-lived in Florida. The name is in honor of one of Florida's well-known resort areas. It is recommended for homeowners.

### Origin

Daytona, tested as Fla. F4-16, originated from a 1964 cross between Fla. B3-90 and 'Exotic' made by L. H. Stover at the Agricultural Research Center, Leesburg (Figure 1). Daytona first fruited in 1967, and was selected from a progeny of 24 seedlings in 1968 for propagation and further testing.

### Characteristics

Daytona has an erect, rangy growth habit with strong apical dominance. Internodes vary from 10 to 20 cm in length, mostly 10 to 15 cm. Leaves have 5 or 7 sinuses, with pointed lobes and sharply serrated margins, averaging 18 cm in length and width. Upper surface is dark green and rugose, and lower surface lighter green. No pubescence appears on either young or fully expanded leaves. Anthocyanin pigmentation in Daytona is heavy in stems, petioles, and basal veins of leaves. However, newly opening leaves have no visible anthocyanin. Canes are gray with brown streaks, larger in diameter than 'Blue Lake' or 'Stover'. Flowers are self-fertile. Daytona roots readily from cuttings and does not require grafting when grown in soils of pH 5.0 to 6.5. In alkaline soils, use of 'Dog Ridge' rootstock is recommended. Fruit clusters are moderately large, loose and shouldered, averaging 201 g, with round berries of 4 g each. Fruit is pink color where exposed to sunlight, or light green where completely shaded. Fruit texture is not a slipskin type like

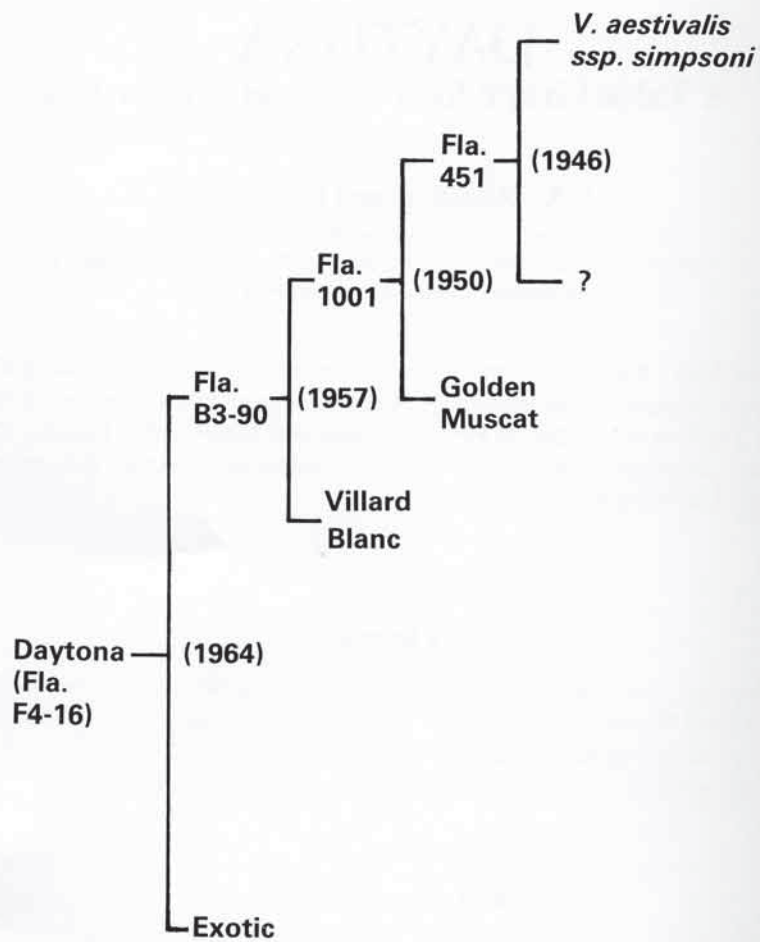


Figure 1. Pedigree of Daytona with year of pollination in parentheses.

Table 1. Characteristics of 4 Pierce's-disease-resistant bunch grape cultivars

Cultivar	Yield (tons /acre) <sup>c</sup>	Bunch	Berry	Sol. solids (%)	Approx. ripe date	Color
		wt. avg. (g)	wt. avg. (g)			
Daytona	1.9	201	3.8	18	8/2	Pink
Blue Lake	5.9	122	2.0	16	7/18	Purple
Lake Emerald	5.1	184	1.8	20	7/30	Green
Stover	4.6	117	2.3	18	7/11	Lt. Gn.

<sup>c</sup>Tons per acre multiplied by 2.24 equals metric tons per hectare.

Stover and Blue Lake, but has easily chewed pulp of firm texture. Yields are lower than desired, averaging 1.9 tons/acre (Table 1), but Daytona responds to cordon type pruning with larger yields.

## Disease Resistance

Daytona is resistant to Pierce's disease and downy mildew [*Plasmopara viticola* (B&C) Berl. & DeT.] but moderately susceptible to anthracnose [*Elsinoe ampelina* (DeBary) Shear] and ripe rot [*Glomerella cingulata* (Stonem) Spaulding & Von Schrenck] thus requiring a thorough preventive fungicidal spray program. Daytona may occasionally develop symptoms of black rot [*Guignardia bidwellii* (Ell.) Viala & Ravaz] and powdery mildew [*Uncinula necator* (Schw) Burr.].

The local County Agent should be contacted for spraying recommendations. Daytona is resistant to grape leaf folders [*Desmia funeralis* (Hubner)] and tolerant of grape leaf hoppers [*Erythroneura comes* (Say)] allowing for holding foliage into the fall months.

## Uses and Limitations

Daytona is for fresh fruit consumption, recommended primarily as a door-yard cultivar. While the fruit characteristics suggest pick-your-own or roadside marketing, yields have been generally too low for recommending Daytona as a commercial bunch grape. Preliminary tests in central Georgia and the Agricultural Research Center, Fort Pierce, indicate wide adaptability of Daytona with yields exceeding those obtained at Leesburg. Additional research on the best pruning, training, and fertilization practices for Daytona are needed.

The principal advantages of Daytona are its vinifera-like fresh fruit character, especially the easily chewed pulp, its tenacious berries which permit handling without berries falling from the cluster, and its superior bunch and berry size as compared with other Pierce's disease resistant cultivars.

## Availability

Stock plants and cuttings were distributed to propagating nurseries in early 1983. Inquiries regarding plants of Daytona should be directed to Florida Foundation Seed Producers, Inc., P.O. Box 309, Greenwood, Florida 32443. Limited supplies of cuttings and plants may be obtained during the dormant season from the Agricultural Research Center, P.O. Box 388, Leesburg, Florida 32748.



This public document was promulgated at a total cost of \$1,050.75, or 13.1 cents per copy, to provide information on a new table grape variety for Florida homeowners.

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