

‘King of the North’



John Marshall

Pedigree: Unknown, *V. labrusca* x *V. riparia* hybrid (4).

Origin: Unknown.

Introduction: Unknown.

Type: Interspecific hybrid (*V. labrusca* x *V. riparia*) (3, 4).

Color: Blue.

Berry: Medium to large; round and dark in color. The berry has a slipskin and is juicy and tart (1, 2).

Cluster: Medium sized (1); conical and somewhat loose (2).

Viticultural Characteristics: Very vigorous trailing growth habit which requires wide spacing (1, 2). Very productive (2).

Disease/Pests: Susceptible to downy mildew and foliar phylloxera (1, 2) anthracnose, black rot and powdery mildew are not commonly seen (2).

Wine Quality and Characteristics: Not typically used as a wine grape as it is acidic (1, 2) and makes a very “grapey and aromatic *labrusca* style wine (2). Marshall (2) also noted that wine typically needs to be finished a bit sweet to balance the acidity.

Season: Midseason (mid-late September) (2).

Cold Hardiness: Very hardy to -35° F (2).

Use: Most suitable for juice or jelly. Fairly high-acids, so use as a table grape is limited, although the juice is delicious (1, 4).

Notes: Said to be a slight improvement over ‘Beta’ (1).

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Literature Cited

1. Hemstad, P., University of Minnesota. *Personal communication* (2007).
2. Marshall, J., Great River Vineyard and Nursery. Lake City, MN. *Personal communication* (2008).
3. National Grape Registry (NGR) website: <http://ngr.ucdavis.edu/>. Supported by University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources, Foundation Plant Services, and National Clonal Germplasm Repository of the USDA Agricultural Research Service.
4. University of Minnesota Commercial Fruit Website. 2007. <http://fruit.coafes.umn.edu/grape/varieties.html>.