

'Reliance'



Iowa State University

Synonyms: Arkansas 1163, Reliance Seedless (10).

Pedigree: 'Ontario' x 'Suffolk Red' (8, 9, 10).

Origin: Fayetteville, Arkansas. University of Arkansas Breeding Program, developed by James N. Moore (10).

Cross/Selection/Test: Cross made in 1964; selected in 1967; tested as Ark. 1163 (2, 8, 9).

Release: 1983. Plant patent 5174 given on January 10, 1984 (8, 10).

Type: Interspecific hybrid (includes *V. labrusca*, *V. vinifera*) (2, 9).

Color: Pink to red when fully mature (2).

Berry: According to Moore (8), the berries are spherical and medium sized (2.7 g average weight); and the skin is tender and non-adhering to flesh. He describes a very sweet melting texture, with a delicate *labrusca* aroma and flavor. Berries are seedless, with no noticeable seed traces found. Moore (2, 8, 9) noted that berries are susceptible to cracking if rain occurs near maturity. Berries are also subject to shelling (4). Soluble solids can reach 25° Brix (2).

Cluster: Medium large (average weight is 300 g); conical and occasionally with shoulder; well-filled but not excessively compact (2, 8, 9).

Viticultural Characteristics: Moderately vigorous with a procumbent growth habit (8). Cluster thinning may be needed at bloom to increase berry size (4). Fitzgerald and Patterson (7) report that development of full color can be a limitation in some years (especially with heavy crops), this can be enhanced with fruit thinning. Ninety days from bloom to harvest (3).

Disease/Pests: 'Reliance' is rated as highly susceptible to anthracnose (1, 4), black rot (1, 3, 4, 11) and downy mildew (1, 3, 4); moderately susceptible to powdery mildew (1, 3, 4, 11) and Phomopsis cane and leaf spot (1, 3, 4); and slightly susceptible to Botrytis bunch rot (1, 3, 4). Reisch et al (11) considers it slightly susceptible to crown gall,

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moderately susceptible to downy mildew and highly susceptible to Botrytis bunch rot. Domoto (4) reported that it is not sensitive to injury from sulfur or copper applications.

Wine Quality and Characteristics: Not used for wine.

Season: Early (mid-August in Iowa) (5, 6).

Cold Hardiness: Moderately winter hardy (-10° F to -15° F) (4). Has survived (and fruited well) after temperatures of -29.2° F in Sturgeon Bay, WI (9).

Use: Seedless table grape and raisins (8).

Notes: Moore often referred to 'Reliance' as a "Will Rogers" grape, in that he never met anyone who did not like the flavor and quality of 'Reliance' (2). The name 'Reliance' was chosen due to its hardiness. It is capable of storing for three months (9).

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