

## 'Seyval blanc'



Iowa State University

**Synonyms:** 'Seival', 'Seyval', Seyve-Villard 5276, SV 5276 (12).

**Pedigree:** 8- Seibel 5656 x Seibel 4986 ('Rayon d'Or') a second parental alternative is Seibel 4995 x Seibel 4986 (12).

**Origin:** Saint Vallier, Drome, France by Seyve-Villard (1).

**Introduction:** *Circa* 1930 in France; in the United States *circa* 1940's (5). Planted in 1951 at the Horticultural Research Institute of Ontario (4).

**Type:** Interspecific hybrid (*V. lincecumii*; *V. rupestris*; *V. vinifera*) (12).

**Color:** White

**Berry:** Small and round; golden yellow with a dull bloom; firm (11).

**Cluster:** Large and compact (10).

**Viticultural Characteristics:** Nonnecke (13) described 'Seyval blanc' as having a moderately vigorous, semi-upright growth habit. Galet (11) reported that it buds out early and matures early. He added that production is usually good, but can vary depending on soil and climate conditions. He stated that it is capricious and subject to poor fruit set if pruned too short and over cropping if pruned too long. Bordelon (3) reported that since vines have a tendency to overbear, cluster thinning and shoot thinning are needed to ensure proper ripening and to maintain vine size. One hundred days from bloom to harvest (6). Good tolerance to 2, 4-D, but susceptible to dicamba (7).

**Disease/Pests:** 'Seyval blanc' is rated as highly susceptible to Botrytis bunch rot, powdery mildew; (1, 6, 7, 10, 15) and black rot (6, 7, 10, 15); moderately susceptible to downy mildew (1, 6, 7, 10, 15), Phomopsis cane and leaf spot (1, 6, 7); and slightly susceptible to anthracnose (1, 7) and Eutypa dieback (1, 6, 7, 14) Domoto (7) and Reisch et al (15) consider it highly susceptible to crown gall while Bordelon et al (1) and Dami et al (6) rate it as moderately susceptible. Bordelon et al (1) also rates it moderately susceptible to black rot. It is not sensitive to injuries from sulfur (1, 6, 7, 15) but may be sensitive to injuries from copper when applied under cool, slow drying conditions (1, 6, 7).

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**Wine Quality and Characteristics:** Wine quality has been described as good with attractive aroma but body is somewhat thin (13). Bordelon (3) reported that when grapes are harvested at optimal maturity, wines have attractive aromas of grass, hay and melon. He added that either malolactic fermentation or barrel fermentation followed by oak aging will enhance quality. In cooler climates, such as Quebec, it can produce outstanding sparkling wines (14).

**Season:** Midseason (late-August to early September in Iowa) (8, 9).

**Cold Hardiness:** Moderately hardy (-10° F to -15° F).

**Use:** Wine

**Notes:** Most popular white wine grape in eastern United States (2).

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