Compost Feedstocks

- Cover crop clippings
- Yard clippings
- Grape prunings
- Grape pomace
- Sawdust *(careful not to use too much)*
- Chicken, cattle, dairy, pig manure *(careful to mix with carbon source)*
- Straw or hay
Organic Grape Variety Trial
Neely Kinyon Farm, Greenfield, IA

- All *V. labrusca* disease-tolerant cultivars
- Edelweiss: Cold-hardy, white table grape
- Frontenac: Cold-hardy, disease-tolerant red wine
- Marechal Foch: Medium cold-hardy red wine grape
- Bluebell: Cold-hardy, black table grape
- Mars: Seedless blue table grape; medium cold-hardy
- Steuben: Seeded table or red wine grape; cold-hardy
- Traminette: White wine grape; medium cold-hardy
- Others with low disease: Norton/Cynthiana (cold-sensitive) and St. Croix
Organic Grape Projects
Greenfield, IA and Norwalk, IA

N-K Vineyard: July 2002: 2 yr-old plants

Overall Disease Incidence: 1%
Overall Insect Pressure: 2%
Organic Grape Variety Trial

- Vines planted Spring 2001
- Untreated stakes used for 1st-year and 2nd-year vines
- Trellis system created in 2nd year: steel posts and wires-bilateral cordon
- Vines pruned in 2002 and 2003
- Compost applied Spring 2002 and 2003 (4 tons/acre)
- Vines treated with sulfur Spring 2002 and lime-sulfur in 2003 (before bud break)
- Vines treated with Surround™ kaolin clay 3 times in 2002 and 2 times in 2003
Integrated weed management: Crimson clover/rye ground cover (middles) with straw mulch (one-yard perimeter around vine)
Grape Harvest Yields 2003
Producing Plants Only

Ton/acre

- **Bluebell**
- **Edelweiss**
- **Foch**
- **Frontenac**
Organic Weed Management

- Mulches (in-row; between rows; “mow ‘n blow”) - 70%
- Cover crops - 80%
- Mowing - 50%
- Hand-held rotary weeders - 50%
- Cultivation
  - weed badgers
- Propane flame burners

Wood-chip mulch
Cover crops can be turned under for nutritional additions
Weed Management: Cultivation

Weed badger™ or modified cultivator - used in West coast vineyards
Kirkland’s On-Farm Organic Grape Trial

Weed management treatments:
- Mowing
- Wood chip mulch
- Vinegar herbicide (All Down™) w. wood chips

Vinegar plus mulch - most effective
Mowing alone - competition with grape vines