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Grapes and Gardens: UF/IFAS Extension Hosts Muscadine Field Day for Homeowners

July 23, 2025 —

Highlights

- Step-by-step instructions for starting and caring for muscadine vines
- Managing common pests and vineyard problems at home
- Recommended muscadine varieties perfect for Florida gardens
- Cooking demonstration featuring muscadine recipes and tasting samples
- Optional: U-Pick muscadine harvesting

FLAGLER COUNTY, Fla. — Ever dreamed of growing your own muscadine grapes? Homeowners and garden enthusiasts are invited to "**Grapes and Gardens: A Muscadine Field Day for Homeowners,**" hosted by UF/IFAS Extension agents and specialists.

This hands-on educational event will take place on **August 13, 2025** at **Ever After Farms in Pomona Park** and will offer expert guidance for growing muscadine grapes in Florida's unique climate. Participants will learn about planting, trellising, irrigation, fertilization, pest management, and Florida-Friendly Landscaping practices.

Two ticket options are available:

- General Admission Full access to all educational sessions and vineyard activities
- **Grapevine Ticket** Event admission plus a 1-gallon muscadine grapevine to take home. Varieties include:
 - Southern Home Black fruit, mild flavor, and attractive ornamental leaves

- o Delicious Black muscadine with thin skin, great fresh or for wine
- Welder Bronze muscadine ideal for juice or wine

Featured speakers:

- Dr. Ali Sarkhosh UF/IFAS Tree Fruit & Viticulture Specialist
- Julio Perez Horticulture Agent, UF/IFAS Putnam County
- Judy Jean Horticulture Agent, UF/IFAS Flagler County
- Terra Freeman Florida-Friendly Landscaping & Commercial Horticulture Agent
- Ryan Bjelke Rural Health Agent, UF/IFAS Putnam County

Parts of the program will be outdoors. Attendees are encouraged to wear closed-toed shoes, bring a hat, sunscreen, and a sweat towel. For food safety and planning, please complete a separate ticket for each participant so dietary preferences can be collected.

"We hope this field day inspires people to grow, harvest, and enjoy muscadine grapes right at home," said Judy Jean, UF/IFAS Extension Horticulture Agent in Flagler County.

For registration and event details, visit: https://Grapes-in-the-Garden-Field-Day.eventbrite.com

ABOUT UF/IFAS

The mission of the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) is to develop knowledge relevant to agricultural, human and natural resources and to make that knowledge available to sustain and enhance the quality of human life. With more than a dozen research facilities, 67 county Extension offices, and award-winning students and faculty in the UF College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, UF/IFAS brings science-based solutions to the state's agricultural and natural resources industries, and all Florida residents.

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GRAPES & GARDENS:

A Muscadine Field Day for Homeowners

August 13



10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ever After Farms 372 Sisco Rd Pomona Park, FL 32181

Discover how to grow and enjoy muscadine grapes right at home! Join UF/IFAS Extension agents and specialists for a hands-on field day covering everything from trellising and irrigation to pest management and top-performing varieties for Florida landscapes.

What to Bring:

Parts of this event will take place outdoors. We recommend wearing closed-toed shoes or sneakers, and bringing a hat, sunscreen, and a sweat towel to stay comfortable during vineyard activities.

♦ Ticket Options (Choose the registration that fits you best):

- \$20 General Admission Attend the field day and enjoy all sessions.
- \$30 Grapevine Ticket Includes event admission plus a 1-gallon muscadine grapevine to take home. (Variety selection coming soon.)

Schedule

9:15 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Check - In

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

How to Pick Like a Pro (Optional)

Welcome and Introductions

10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

From Ground to Grapes: Planting, Irrigation, and Fertilization

(Judy Jean – Horticulture Agent, UF/IFAS Flagler County)

10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

<u>Trouble in the Vineyard: Common Pest and Problems</u>

(Julio Perez – Horticulture Agent, UF/IFAS Putnam County)

11:20 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

UF Favorites & Backyard Standouts

11:50 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. TBA

(Dr. Ali Sarkhosh – UF/IFAS Tree Fruit & Viticulture Specialist)

12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

(Terra Freeman – Florida-Friendly Landscaping & Commercial Horticulture Agent)
From Vine to Dine: Muscadine Recipes

(Ryan Bjelke – Rural Health Agent, UF/IFAS Putnam County)

Sweet Send-Off: U-Pick Time (Optional)

REGISTER NOW



https://Grapes-in-the-Garden-Field-Day.eventbrite.com