FAMU | COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE + FOOD SCIENCES
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FAMU Granted Two New Grape Patents

Florida A&M University's (FAMU) College of Agriculture & Food Sciences (CAFS) is proud to announce two new grape patents. The event is a major milestone for the University's research and an important contribution to the Florida grape and wine industry.

Muscadine grape plant named 'Floriana'

US Patent, PP31, 654
April 14, 2020
Ren, Z., Lu., J., and V. Tsolova
Florida A&M University

'Floriana' is a new muscadine cultivar bred for red wine grape industries in Florida and southeastern U.S., at the FAMU CAFS Center for Viticulture & Small Fruit Research. 'Floriana' is a self-fertile wine grape vine that is highly productive, resistant to Pierce's disease (PD) and low cases of the fruit ripening rot (ripe rot, and bitter rot) and able to produce fine red wines. The most outstanding characteristics of 'Floriana' are its high-quality wine, rich and stable red color, and consistent high yield.

Fig 1. *Floriana : shoot tip, cluster and leaves*

Fig 2. *Floriana vine in fruit maturity*

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are the most pronounced characteristics of this new cultivar when grown in Florida, and which in combination distinguish it from existing cultivars:

- Moderate, vigorous vine growth with high fruit yield and evident disease resistant
- Premium red wine producing muscadine variety
- Wines with deep red color, smooth mouthfeel, excellent stability and good longevity
- Hermaphroditic self-fertile flowers

[more ▸]

Muscadine grape plant named

`Florida Onyx`

US Patent, PP31, 407
January 18, 2020
Ren, Z., Lu., J., and V. Tsolova
Florida A& M University

'Florida Onyx' is a new muscadine cultivar bred for the fresh fruit, grape industry in Florida and south-eastern U.S., at the FAMU CAFS Center for Viticulture and Small Fruit Research. 'Onyx' is a pistillate (female) grape vine that is highly productive, resistant to Pierce's disease (PD), low fruit ripening rot (ripe rot and bitter rot), and relatively low wet scar. The most outstanding characteristics of 'Florida Onyx' are its very large, deep black-red colored berry with extremely pleasant fruit flavor.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are the most pronounced characteristics of this new cultivar when grown in Florida, and which in combination distinguish it from existing cultivars:

- Moderate vine growth with high fruit yield, and very good disease resistance
- Very large black-red colored fruit, which is 3-4 grams superior to the largest muscadine varieties on the market
- Very good favor
- Low fruit rot and relatively low wet scar.
- Extended shelf life

Fig 3. *Florida Onyx - mature cluster*

Fig 4. *Florida Onyx - mature berry size in comparison of a golf ball*

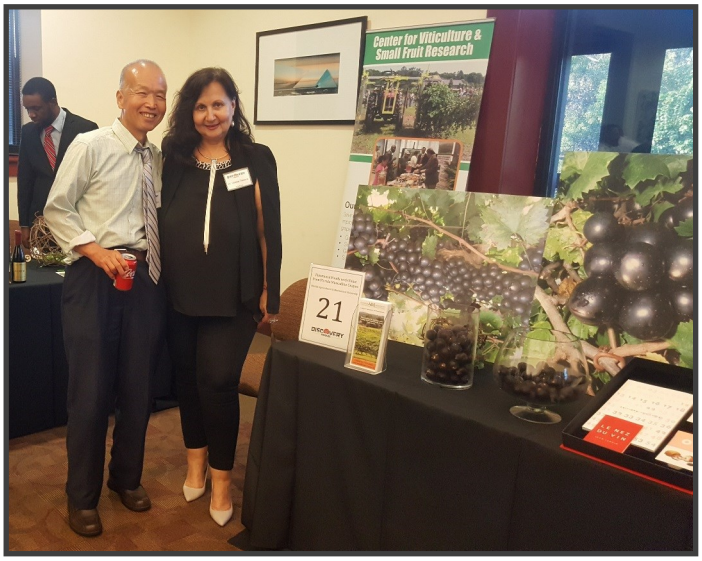

Fig 5. *(From left) Z. Ren and Violeta Tsolova, Ph.D., at the 2018 "Discovery on Parade" Exhibit/ I-show in Tallahassee, Florida, a joint initiative between Florida A&M University, Florida State University, and Tallahassee Community College.*

There are executed material transfer agreements (MTAs) and interest for licensing the varieties from Florida and Texas growers. Contact information for licensing and planting stock at: www.famu.edu/Viticulture

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