

# New York's Food and Life Sciences Bulletin

New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, a Division of the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, a Statutory College of the State University, at Cornell University, Ithaca

## REMAILY SEEDLESS GRAPE

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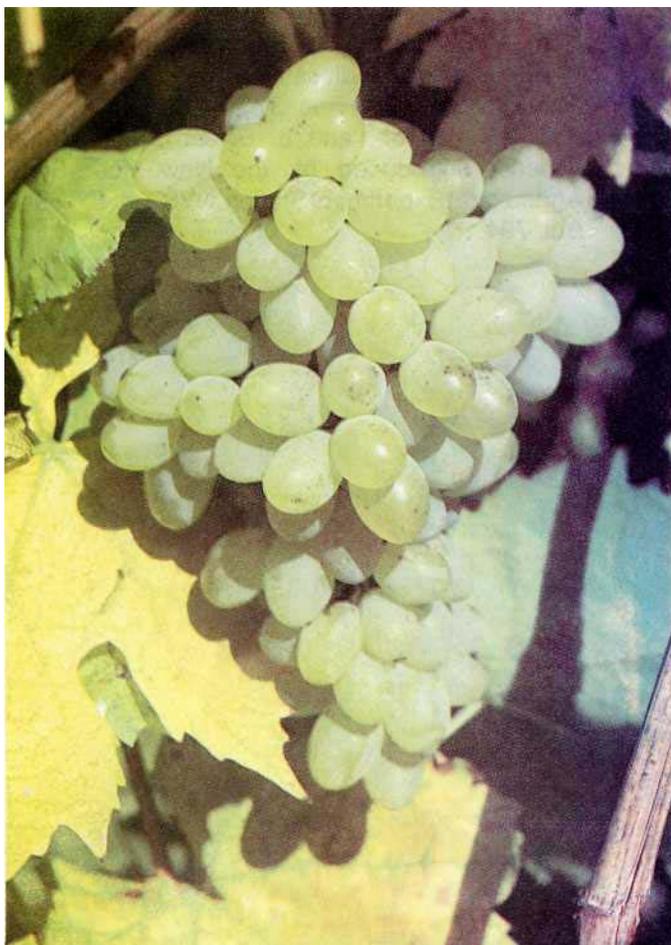


Figure 1.—'Remaily Seedless' grape.

Since the late 19th century when grape breeding began at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, a major goal has been to combine certain fruit attributes such as seedlessness, crisp texture, and adherent skin of *Vitis vinifera* L. table grapes with some of the vegetative characters such as disease resistance and cold hardiness of native American hybrid (*V. labruscana*, Bailey) grape cultivars. Crisp texture has been one of the more elusive

goals. Of the 42 table grape cultivars released by the Experiment Station (2), only one seeded cultivar, 'Alden,' combines an adherent skin and crisp texture. 'Remaily Seedless' (Fig. 1) combines seedlessness (stenospermocarpy), an adherent skin, and crisp berry texture with adaptive traits favorable to northeastern North American viticulture.

'Remaily Seedless' is named for Mr. George Remaily, a retired member of the Department of Pomology and Viticulture at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station. Mr. Remaily has been a private grape breeder and student of viticulture both before and subsequent to his tenure at Geneva. He introduced new germplasm to the grape breeding program at Geneva, and 'Remaily Seedless' represents the new directions that these contributions make possible.

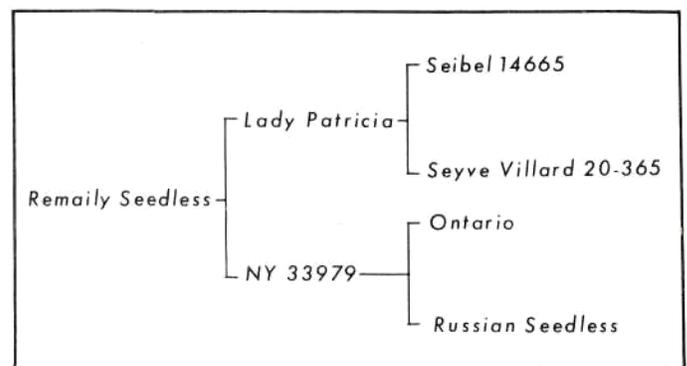


Figure 2.—Pedigree of 'Remaily Seedless' grape, formerly N.Y. 65.085.1.

### ORIGIN

'Remaily Seedless' resulted from the cross 'Lady Patricia' x 'NY 33979' which was made in 1965 (Fig. 2). It was tested as N.Y. 65.085.1 and selected in 1974. It has been available for testing from the New York State Fruit Testing Cooperative Association, Inc. since 1976.

## DESCRIPTION

Vines of 'Remaily Seedless' are vigorous. Own-rooted vines which have been flower cluster thinned to prevent overcropping and grown in phylloxera (*Phylloxera vastatrix*, Planchon) infested soils have maintained annual pruning weights in excess of 1.8 kg. There is, therefore, no need to graft 'Remaily Seedless' to a phylloxera-resistant rootstock. The vines are moderately winter cold hardy at Geneva, New York. In winters where the minimum temperature has not fallen below -25 C there has been negligible bud injury. Winters with temperatures of -27 C or below have caused up to 50 per cent bud injury. The wood of 'Remaily Seedless' appears to be quite winter hardy at Geneva, although the trunk of one vine was damaged following a winter minimum of -28 C. The vines are less resistant to powdery mildew (*Uncinula necator*, Burr.) and downy mildew (*Plasmopara viticola*, Bui. and Toni.) than is 'Concord.' Extra sprays to control these diseases may be required.

The berries are oval, and lightgreen in color (Fig. 1 ).The berries turn to gold at full maturity; they are of medium size (ca. 2 g) with small scarcely noticeable vestigial seeds. The skin is adherent, slightly tough, and resistant to cracking. The flavor is neutral and not noticeably labrusca in character. The clusters are large (ca. 250 g), tapered, and

attractive. The fruit ripens with 'Concord,' or about October 10 at Geneva. The fruit responds very well to gibberellin sprays (1), but gibberellin treatment should be combined with cluster thinning to avoid overcropping. In storage tests using in-package sulfur dioxide generators, the fruit of 'Remaily Seedless' was rated acceptable for Thanksgiving trade and unacceptable for Christmas trade.

## AVAILABILITY

Vines of 'Remaily Seedless'<sup>1</sup> are available from the New York State Fruit Testing Cooperative Association, Geneva, NY 14456.

## LITERATURE CITED

1. Lider, L.A. and J. Einset. 1966. Improving berry and cluster size of seedless New York grapes. NYS Agr. Exp. Sta. Farm Res. 31:10-11.
2. Slate, G.L., J. Watson, and J. Einset. 1962. Grape varieties introduced by the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station. NYS Agr. Exp. Sta. Bui. 794.



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