

GRAPES



The South Carolina grape industry continued on a downward trend as grape acreage fell to 255 acres in 1996, 7 percent below 1991. The continued decline in Muscadine types, which were down 11 percent from 1991, more than offset a 19 percent increase in Bunch type grapes. Despite the acreage decrease since 1991, there were 2 more growers in 1996.

Acres of Grape Vines in Commercial Vineyards, Varieties by Age Groups, South Carolina, 1996 Survey

Variety	Acres of Vines According to Year Set Out							Percent of Total
	1996 (1 yr.)	1994-95 (2-3 yrs.)	1989-93 (4-8 yrs.)	1984-88 (9-13 yrs.)	1979-83 (14-18 yrs.)	1978 & earlier (19 yrs +)	Total Acres of All Ages	
Bunch Types <u>1/</u>	1	1	20	11	10	--	43	17
All Muscadine Types	1	13	29	71	71	27	212	83
STATE	2	14	49	82	81	27	255	100

1/ Includes table and wine varieties.

INTENTIONS TO SET AND REMOVE VINES

Number of Vineyards, Total Acres in Commercial Vineyards, and Intentions to Plant and Remove Vines in South Carolina, 1991 and 1996 Surveys

STATE	Number of Vineyards		Total Acres of Grapes		Intentions <u>1/</u>			
					Acres to be Set		Acres to be Removed	
	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996
	41	43	274	255	2	3	--	1

1/ Intentions to remove and plant vines after the 1996 harvest and in early 1997.

NECTARINES

During the survey, growers were asked to report the acreage and tree numbers of any other fruits they were growing. In addition, to their apples, grapes, and peaches, they reported a few acres of pears and plums but also about 255 acres of nectarines with 30,000 trees of all ages. About two-thirds of the nectarines reported were being grown in the Upper State region while the other one-third were in the Ridge and Coastal Plains regions.