

## Reviews and Abstracts

### THREE NEW GRAPES THAT SHOW PROMISE

By George D. Oberle, 1947

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*Schuyler* is a very early black grape ripening about 25 days before Concord. The vine, a seedling of Zinfandel crossed with Ontario, is less winter-hardy than Ontario. *Schuyler* bears heavily from spur and sucker shoots and requires closer pruning than most American varieties to prevent it from overbearing. The vines should be sprayed to reduce loss from Downy Mildew.

The clusters of *Schuyler* are large, cylindrical and well filled but not compact. The skin is sufficiently tough to withstand handling, but is not objectionable in eating since the variety is not a "slipskin" as typified by Concord. Preliminary tests indicate that *Schuyler* may have value for red wines as well as for table use.

*Steuben* is a late-midseason black grape, a cross of Wayne with Sheridan, and ripens a day or two after Concord. The vine is vigorous, productive and hardy. A full crop of fruit was borne on *Steuben* in 1943 after the  $-20^{\circ}$  F. temperatures of the preceding winter. Like *Schuyler*, *Steuben* bears heavily on spur and suckers shoots and must be pruned more closely than many varieties to pre-

vent overbearing. Neither mildew nor black rot have been observed to attack the fruit or foliage at Geneva or Fredonia:

The fruit of *Steuben* is borne in long, tapering, compact, shouldered clusters. The flavor is sweet and free of foxiness but has a spicy tang resembling Eumelan. Wine makers have expressed an interest in *Steuben* because of its promise for making red wine.

*Interlaken Seedless* is a very early, yellow-fruited seedless grape, a cross of Ontario and Thompson Seedless. The vines are vigorous and of moderate productivity. In hardiness the variety compares favorably with Seneca, Golden Muscat, *Schuyler* and Delaware. Temperatures of  $-20^{\circ}$  F. may be expected to injure the wood of *Interlaken Seedless*.

The clusters of this variety are of medium size, well filled and often shouldered. The fruit has a high sugar content and the flesh is meaty with a tight skin. From a practical standpoint the berries are seedless. The fruit of *Interlaken Seedless*, as well as that of *Schuyler* and *Steuben*, will keep in cold storage in good condition until late December, much longer than most eastern varieties.

#### Vines Available

Vines of *Schuyler*, *Steuben* and *Interlaken Seedless* are now available in limited numbers from the New York Fruit Testing Association at Geneva. — WPJ