



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1988

**TAMPA BAY CHAPTER of the
RARE FRUIT COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL, Inc.**

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(INCLUDING RENEWALS)

MEETINGS ARE HELD THE 2nd SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 2:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, 1988

MEETING PLACE. THE HOME OF JANET CONARD, 919 W. HENRY AVE.,
TAMPA, PHONE 239-9246. YOU WILL FIND JANET'S
HOME ON THE NORTH SIDE OF HENRY AVE., BETWEEN
KENNETH AVE. & THE RIVER, NINE BLOCKS WEST OF
FLORIDA AVE., AND FOUR BLOCKS NORTH OF HILLS-
BOROUGH AVE. TAKE I-75/275 TO THE HILLSBOROUGH
EXIT & GO WEST TO FLORIDA, HIGHLAND OR OLA,
AND THEN NORTH TO HENRY AVE. THEN WEST ON
HENRY TO JANET'S.

PROGRAM. POT-LUCK (COVERED DISH) LUNCHEON AT 1:00 p.m.
Please bring cold dishes such as salads,
luncheon meat, breads, desserts, etc. that
do not have to be warmed up, unless you have
a favorite you would like to bring that is hot.
We do have a microwave. If you have any folding
chairs, bring them too. There will be a plant
raffle, and a very important planning session
for next month's annual Plant Sale. PLEASE BE THERE!

***PLEASE POST THE ENCLOSED FLIERS IN A PUBLIC PLACE IN YOUR AREA TO ADVERTISE OUR
UPCOMING TREE SALE***

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A "GRAPE" MEETING

Our August meeting, compliments of Tom Hughes, might be termed a "grape success". We were a little early for some of the grapes but there were enough for some delicious sampling of the numerous varieties of muscadine grapes available at Tom's nursery.

Tom has been growing grapes for over 30 years and has worked closely with several universities testing grape varieties in Florida. The newest grape available and one Tom calls a "super grape" is the Nesbitt. The Nesbitt is the largest self-fertile muscadine grape available at this time. It is also a very heavy producer and sets large bunches of beautiful black grapes, very sweet and with a relatively thin skin. Grapes are very easy to grow and fit well in the Florida landscape. They are cold hardy and not bothered by frost by flourish in the full Florida sun. Tom promotes several decorative uses of grape vines, such as hanging baskets, arbors, potted vines and even bonsai tree grapes that produce normal sized fruit.

Tom Hughes offers the following instructions for successful grape growing:

SITE SELECTION: Select a sunny, well drained spot. Grapes do not do well in very acid soils; a handful of lime (dolomite) will "sweeten" the area.

PLANTING CARE & CULTIVATION: Dig a hole larger than the root ball. Pull the vine out of the container. (A larger vine should have the container cut.) Plant the vine using a good planting medium. We have available our own special soil mixture which has been specifically formulated for grape vines. Muscadines are extremely hardy and do not require spray programs. Several insects may occur but seldom cause sufficient damage to warrant spraying. Insect pests can be controlled by Sevin or Malathion - fungus problems respond to Dithane or Benylate. (DO NOT use products which contain petroleum bases - NO oil sprays.)

FERTILIZING: We fertilize grapes 3 times a year, (March, May & Sept.) with a good citrus fertilizer. Several light applications per year are more efficient than one heavy dose. As a rule, we give a plant 1 pound of fertilizer annually per year of age.

<u>AGE</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>SEPT.</u>	
1 year	1/3	1/3	1/3	
2nd	2/3	2/3	2/3	
3rd	1 pound	1 pound	1 pound	Liquid fertilizer may also be used as per instructions from the manufacturer.
4th	1-1/2	1-1/2	1-1/2	
5th	1-2/3	1-2/3	1-2/3	
6th	2 pounds	2 pounds	2 pounds	

WATER: Water thoroughly at planting to get out any air pockets around the vine. Grapes do not want too much water but initially vines must be well watered until roots become established in their new homes.

CULTIVATION: Grapes can compete with grasses so we mow rather than clean cultivate. A small area around the vine should be clean - usually 12" around the trunk is satisfactory.

PRUNING: Grapes bear on new wood. Heavy pruning in January keeps our quality and yield high. TOM HUGHES' VINEYARD is pleased to offer everyone an opportunity to visit us any Saturday in January for a free pruning demonstration.

TRELLISING: Your grape vine will be your most cooperative plant. It can cover a fence, create a beautiful arbor, hide a wall or hang from a basket. We are happy to share our trellising ideas.

* *

Hospitality Table

Unfortunately, no one turned in a list of those who brought snacks or drinks to the meeting's Hospitality Table, so this is from memory. Thanks to Janet Conard and Al Roberts for the cookies, bread and papaya juice, and to Tom and Margaret Hughes for the fruit punch, and the many grapes we ate on our tour. If you have been left off this list, we apologize, and please let us know.

Recipe of the Month

Mango Ice Cream - from RFDI "Tropical Fruit Recipes"

Place 2cups of sugar in a quart container. Add enough freshly pureed mango to fill this container. Add the juice of 1/2 lime, and mix thoroughly. Place in refrigerator and chill. Make a boiled custard by mixing 5 eggs, 3 cups milk and a pinch of salt; cook in double boiler until custard coats spoon. Cool in refrigerator an hour or more. Whip 1 1/2 pints of whipping cream for 1 - 2 minutes in a large mixing bowl. Do NOT overbeat! Add the custard and pureed mango; mix well with a large spoon or spatula. Freeze in ice cream maker, following directions. Yield: 1 gallon.

August, 1988 Plant Drawing

PLANT	DONOR	WINNER
Rheedia	A. & L. Stark	Armando Mendez
Rheedia	A. & L. Stark	Kay Tanaka
Sugar Apple	Bob Heath	Robert Eliason
Sugar Apple	Bob Heath	???
Spanish Lime	Bob Heath	Monica Brandies
Pepper	Bob Heath	A. & L. Stark
Pineapple	Bob Heath	Janet Conard
Orlando Seedless Grape	RFCI	???
Orlando Seedless Grape	RFCI	Bobbie Puls
Bignay	RFCI	Romogene Vaccaro
Atemoya	Armando Mendez	Frank Honeycutt
Black Sapote	Armando Mendez	Frank Honeycutt
Dorman Red Raspberry	Romogene Vaccaro	A. & L. Stark
Yellow Passion Fruit	???	Al Roberts
Avocado	???	Bobbie Puls

*Donor or Winner unknown, due to failure to sign in - PLEASE be sure to sign in donated plants each month, and to sign in your selection after you win a drawing!

TREE SALE...

If the RFCI is important to you, then you should join your fellow members in helping to make our sale its usual huge success. There are so many things we need help with, that we could not possibly mention it all here. Join us at the next meeting, where we will discuss many specifics, and have sign-up sheets available for the various plant sale committees. Participation in the Plant Sale will also reap higher benefits in the form of greater discounts on plant purchases than will be enjoyed by non-working members. In addition to physical help on both Saturday & Sunday, I hope that some of our members are planning to bring some plants for sale. Our suppliers generally bring many beautiful plants, all of relatively large size. Many of our customers are also interested in experimenting with more varieties and will purchase more plants if we have smaller size plants that sell for less (we usually have tables set up for such specials, @ \$1.00, \$2.00 & \$3.00) and our members generally supply these. Remember, we deal with these sales the same as we do with our commercial suppliers, i.e., the sale price is split evenly between the seller and the Club. Be sure to keep this in mind when setting your prices, which should be in half dollar increments. Plants should be clearly labelled as to type and price. All members who wish to sell plants must provide us with a specific manifest, listing quantity, type and selling price, & using the same forms provided our suppliers (no scrap paper is acceptable!). These forms will be available at the next meeting, and at the Armory the day before the sale (Saturday). No plants may be brought for sale on Sunday, the day of the sale; they all must be delivered to the Armory on Saturday. The same is required of our commercial suppliers, as things are far too hectic that morning to deal with plant unloading and inventory.

Any member who wishes to donate plants to the sale may do so, and such donation will be much appreciated. Again, we request that they be delivered to the Armory on Saturday. If you are selling plants, or donating plants to the sale, please be sure to sign the appropriate sheet at the next meeting.

* *

TREE SALE NOTES

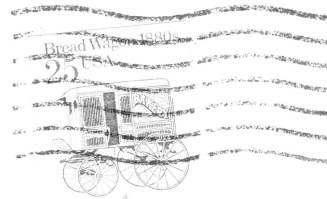
- 1) All RFCI members, whether they work at the sale or not, receive a 10% discount on purchases at the sale (upon proof of membership).
- 2) Those who work a half day or more, receive a 25% discount on plants selected prior to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.
- 3) Workers receive a 50% discount on plants still on the sales floor after 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.
- 4) Workers may select plants prior to the sale until 12:00 noon on Sunday. These plants may be stored in the designated area during the sale after being checked out.
- 5) No plants may be moved from the sales floor between 12:00 noon & 1:00 p.m. Sunday.
- 6) There are no discounts at all on fresh fruit sales.

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* YOUR RFCI NEEDS YOU!! The Annual Tree Sale is the Life's Blood (Sap?) *
 * of our Organization. Without a successful Sale, we could have no *
 * speakers for programs, and we could not publish this Newsletter - in *
 * short, there would be no RFCI! We cannot have a successful Sale with- *
 * out enough peoplepower, both Saturday for set-up, and Sunday, the day *
 * of the Sale. YOUR PARTICIPATION IS ESSENTIAL - PLEASE BE THERE!!! *

* * * * *

Tampa Bay Chapter
 Rare Fruit Council Intl.
 P O Box 260363
 Tampa FL 33685



P. JUDSON NEWCOMBE
 314 DEER PARK AVE.
 TEMPLE TERRACE, FL 33617

Ninth Annual
FRUIT TREE SALE
Sunday, October 16, 1988
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

FT. HOMER HESTERLY ARMORY
500 N. Howard Ave. – Tampa

I-275 Exit 24 – 5 blocks South on Armenia Ave.

EDIBLE LANDSCAPING

APPLES
ANNONAS
AVOCADOS
BANANAS
BARBADOS CHERRIES
BLACKBERRIES
BLUEBERRIES
CARAMBOLAS
CHERRIES OF RIO GRANDE
CHINESE CHESTNUTS
FIGS
GRAPES

GRUMICHAMAS
GUAVAS
JABOTICABAS
LOQUATS
LONGANS
LYCHEES
MACADAMIA NUTS
MANGOS
PAPAYAS
PEACHES
PEARS
PERSIMMONS

PECANS
PINEAPPLES
POMEGRANATES
BLACK RASPBERRIES
TREE TOMATOES
GRAPEFRUIT
KUMQUATS
LEMONS
LIMES
NECTARINES
ORANGES
TANGERINES

... AND MANY OTHERS

ALSO RARE HERBS AND VEGETABLES
All Varieties Subject to Availability at Time of Sale

TAMPA BAY CHAPTER
RARE FRUIT COUNCIL INT'L (INC.)
(A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION)

