

CULTIVAR PROFILE Chambourcin (SHAM-bore-sin)

BY C. Oliver, and H. Caspari, 7/2025

Seyve-Villard 12-417 X Chancellor French-American Cross French-American Cross

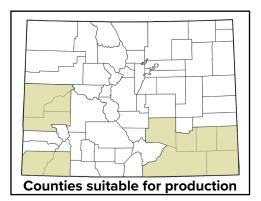
Commericially released 1963 by Joannes Seyve, French viticulturist

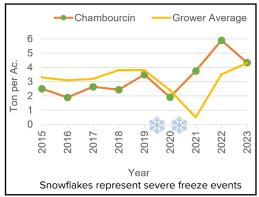
Descriptor

Chambourcin is one of the world's most popular interspecific varieties and is noted for its distinctive dark coloring and herbaceous aroma. Leaves are large and made up of three large lobes and have heavy saw-toothing. Clusters are large, with a loose architecture and large berries. Vines have a moderately vigorous, semi-upright, growing habit, making them a versatile, red-fruited variety.

Growing Practices

Due to the growth habit of these vines, they do well on a variety of trellising systems including vertical shoot positioning and high-wire systems. Chambourcin has moderate tolerance to phylloxera so it does not require rootstock but can benefit in highly infested areas¹. Fungicide spray programs can be kept to a minimum since this variety has





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moderate resistance to both powdery mildew and botrytis bunch rot.

Concerns

Chambourcin is prone to aerial phylloxera damage and sulfur phytotoxicity². It can also be an asymptomatic reservoir for grape viruses like grape leaf roll. It is not drought tolerant and requires a robust irrigation program throughout the season.

Colorado Research

Chambourcin has been tested in six different CSU test plots, the Orchard Mesa station, two at the Rogers Mesa station, and two off-site, grower/collaborator locations (near Clifton and in Fort Collins) since 2004. The vines have weathered multiple major frost events, with vine mortality ranging from 0 to 21 %.

References

1 Bozzolo, A., et. al. 2023. HortTechnology 33, 3: 253-261 2 Dami, I. 2023. Ohio State University Extension ANR-0138.

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Grand Valley Growth Profile

- Late budbreak
- Late-season ripening
- Oct 8 harvest
- 3.5 ton/ac average yield
- Large cluster size

Cold Hardiness

• -15 to -20 °F

Flavors

- Tannic, acidic
- Black pepper, dark cherry

Juice Metrics

- 26.8 Brix
- 7.6 g/l titratable acidity
- 3.14 pH



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