

Variety evaluation in Latvia, performed by Gunvaldis Vesmins

All varieties grown in Latvia has been evaluated by G. Vesmins in assistance of A. Shimchenko in recent growing seasons. Varieties have been put in conditional groups based on **quality** (score 1-5, with max=5), **disease resistance** (1-5, with max=1) and **hardiness**

Group I

- **High quality** (degustation score 4.5), short vegetation period, ripens in August. Wood hardening at the beginning of Sept. 60–90% (score 1-2). Hardiness 22–25 C, with primary bud survival more than 75%. **Resistant to Plasmopara viticola** and other diseases (score 2 – 2.5).
- **Varieties which could be grown without spraying, put down on winter with slight covering.**
- **Varieties:** ‘Hasanskij Sladkij’, ‘Liepājas Dzintars’, ‘Liepājas Agrā’, ‘Dovga’, ‘Cīravas Agrā’, ‘Agrā’, ‘Silva’ (Vesmin’s).

Group II

- **High quality** (degustation score more than 4). Medium veg. period, ripens until 20 of September. Fast and good wood hardening, 60-90 % (score 1-2). Cold resistance 21-25 C. **Non-resistant to Plasmopara viticola**: damage level - more than 50 % of leave surface, leaves stay on vine (score 4), or more than 50 % (score 5) with leaves falling down.
- **Varieties which should be sprayed before and after blooming, but in high risk years – additionally 2-3 times with 7–12 day interval. Covering as that in Group I.**
- **Varieties:** ‘Supaga’, ‘Sukribe’, ‘Guna’, ‘Skujina-675’, ‘Zilga’, ‘Jadviga’, ‘Brat Vostorga’, ‘Tambovskij Belij’, ‘Šhasla Gailuna’, ‘Ēzops’, ‘pearl of Crim’ etc.

Group III

- **High and good quality** (score more than 4). Medium veg. period, ripens until 20 of September. Medium and good wood hardening, about 40% (score 3). Low hardiness, 18–20 C. **Non-resistant to *Plasmopara viticola*** (score 4 – 5).
- **Varieties which should be sprayed obligatory and covered on winter carefully.**
- **Varieties:** 'Aljoshenkin', 'Rannij Magaracha', 'Veldze', 'Olga', 'Kosmonavt', 'Muskat Moskovskij', 'Tambovskij Belij', 'Kish Mish 342', 'Žemchug Belij', 'Augustovskij Fioletovij', 'Kijevskij Belij', 'Madeleine Royale', 'Zida Kekars' and other *V. vinifera* varieties.

Group IV

- **Medium quality** (score 3.5-4.0). Good and medium cold resistance (20–25 C). Medium wood hardening (30–40%). Medium or prolonged veg. period, ripens in September. **Medium resistance to Plasmopara viticola** (score 3–3.5).
- **Varieties which should be sprayed before and after blooming. Could not be covered after 3rd year.**
- **Varieties** ‘Kuzminskij Sinij’, ‘Swenson Red’, ‘Russkij Jantarj’, ‘Phoenix’, ‘Zilga Seedling’, ‘Vidzemes Skaistule’, ‘Toldi’, ‘Jodkrante’, ‘Ilja Muromec’, ‘Muromec’, ‘Plamja’, ‘Solovjova 58’, ‘Silva’ (Gailuna), ‘Jubileja 203’, ‘Sele’, ‘Līga’, ‘Dange’, ‘Agne’, ‘Sukate’, ‘Agat Donskoj’, ‘Rondo’, ‘Tervetes Zila’, ‘Jubilei Novgoroda’, ‘Moldovaja’. Seedless: ‘ČBZ’, ‘Reliance Pink Seedless’, ‘Einset Seedless’, ‘Kish Mish Unikalnij’, ‘Korinka Russkaja’ etc.

Group V

- **Lowered quality**, degustation score – below 3.5. Medium or prolonged veg. Period, ripens in September. Medium or good cold resistance (20–23 C) medium wood hardening (30–40%). **Medium resistance to Plasmopara viticola** (score 3–3.5).
- **Varieties which need spraying before and after blooming. Could be not covered on winter. Usable as ornamentals and could be tried for juice and wine blends.**
- **Varieties:** ‘Jodupe’, ‘Varnava-1’, ‘Varnava-2’, ‘Varnava-3’, ‘Krasavec’, ‘Palanga’, ‘Širvintas’, ‘Amurskij-1’, ‘Amurskij-2’, ‘Amurskij-3’, ‘Bufalo’, ‘Inkognito’, ‘Meda’, ‘Spulga’, ‘Severjanec’, ‘Dvietes Zila’, ‘Russian Cocord’, ‘Grazina’, ‘Sojudis’, ‘Samanta’, ‘Skaiste’, ‘Marechal Foch’, ‘Žalzve’, ‘Smugljanka’, ‘Serbente’, ‘Alpha’, ‘Belgradskij Rannij’, ‘Oriente’, ‘Stella’, ‘Vino Nordica’, ‘Tambovskij Rozovij’, ‘Muskat Nini’, ‘Zelliot’, ‘Veina’, ‘Glenora’ etc.

Group VI

- **New varieties with big clusters and berries, non suitable for on open field. Good or medium resistance to *Plasmopara viticola***, could not be sprayed at dry summers, or spraying needed before and after blooming in other seasons. Long veg.period.
- **Varieties for greenhouse, with ripening at the middle of September,. Bad wood hardening, low hardiness (15 C). Needs careful covering on winter.**
- **Varieties:** 'Vostorg', 'Vostorgi Krasnij', 'Vostorg Idealnij', 'Vostorg Muskatnij', 'Vostorg Čhornij', 'Arkadija', 'Novoje Stoletije', 'Serafimovskij', 'Super Bezh', 'Podarok Ukraini', 'Talisman', 'PZA-8-11', 'Timur Rozovij', 'Rishelje', 'Karmakod', 'Belaja Magia', 'Denal', 'Lora', 'FVR 7-9', 'Natalia', 'Kostja', 'Tip Stoletija', 'Elegant Sverhrannij', 'Rusven', 'Kish Mish Zaporozhskij', 'Sashenka', 'Galbena Nou', 'Kodrijanka', 'Rusbol', 'Demetra', 'Voskovoij', 'Beloje Čhudo', 'Podarok Zaporozhju', 'Novij Podarok Zaporozhju', 'Himrod' etc.

- **Because** some varieties were located only in one site and many plantings are new, with Downy Mildew appearing in Latvia only in last years, the evaluation should be continued
- This grape variety evaluation has been published in *Darzs un Drava* magazine June, 2009, the oldest specialised horticulture magazine in Baltics with strong scientific background
- **Today** the survival of this extraordinary magazine is endangered