



*Southern Maryland Growing Grapes for Wine Program
Application -- FY 2008*

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN BALLPOINT PEN DATE: _____

County:	Date Received
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Applicant(s)

Name(s):
Address:
Home Phone:
Other Phone: FAX:
Email:
Website:

Property Identification:

a) Location if different from above:

Address:
Phone:
Name of person(s) in residence:

b) Name(s) on Deed if different from above:

Name(s):
Address(es):
Phone:

NOTE: Information provided below on this statement shall be treated as confidential by the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission of the Tri-County Council and shall be subject to disclosure only with the consent of the applicant.

Please provide the following information. Extra sheets may be attached. The explanation may be in a narrative form signed by the applicant or his or her agent.

Farm Activities

1. Describe your vision of your farm production goals, financial expectations, and time lines.

2. **Explain how you hope that this program will benefit the economic viability and increase the on-farm income** of your farm.

3. **Describe the type and number of years of agricultural experience that the manager(s)** of this farm have. Please indicate if the manager(s) have completed an Agricultural Entrepreneurial Training Class or other business planning or management courses and/or if you have developed a farm business plan.

4. **If owner is not principally engaged in agricultural activities, please indicate the short and long-term plans for keeping the property in agricultural use.**

Criteria for Selection:

No experience is necessary, but a demonstration of long-term commitment is required. Applicants will be evaluated and selected based on the following priority criteria:

1. **Describe fully the agriculture carried out on the farm.**

Total acreage of Farm owned:
Total acreage rented:
Total number of acres to be planted to grape vines:
Existing vineyard equipment and experience:
The suitability and productivity of the land for grape production based on its soil classification, physical features, and location:
Acreage or quantity of other specific crops, livestock, forest products, specialty crops, greenhouses, etc on the farm:

Is your land under Agricultural Land Preservation or another Land Preservation Program?

Agricultural Land Preservation Program <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Other Land Preservation Program <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Name of Program(s):	Name of Program(s):

Do you have any interest in tobacco production for human consumption (e.g.: do you produce, store, or market tobacco for human consumption?) If yes, please explain.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please explain.
<input type="checkbox"/> No.

Is your farm in compliance with the State of Maryland’s Nutrient Management Plan (e.g.: Nutrient Management Plan been submitted and approved? If not, please explain.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please attach cover sheet signed by extension agent or nutrient advisor.
<input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain:

Farm Income and Financial Status

1. **List any liens or encumbrances** (and amounts) on the farm covered by this questionnaire.

2. **Attach last three years schedule F forms.**

3. **If taxes for 2006/07 are not completed, indicate gross and net income.**

\$	Gross Income	\$	Net Income
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4. **Employment provided by farm operation:**

a. Owner operator(s)		
b. Employees: Full-time	Part-time	Seasonal
c. Family help: Full-time	Part-time	Seasonal

5. **I agree to follow the recommended viticultural practices, as outlined below:**

- Prospective grower should contact their local Maryland Cooperative Extension County Educator (MCE) indicating that he/she would like to participate in the program.
- Grower should consult with wineries for cultivar selection based on anticipated market demand
- MCE conducts a site visit and assists in soil and nematode tests.
- MCE, based on the site visit, will then advise the prospective grower if the site is suitable for commercial grape production and give cultivar recommendations based on the recommended cultivar list.
- Growers will attend New Grape Growers Seminars as provided or advertised by MCE.
- Growers will follow standard site preparation recommendations (based to soil and nematode test results) as provided by MCE.

- Growers will choose cultivars from the recommended cultivar list for at least 75% of the matching eligible planting.
- Growers will follow standard MCE establishment recommendations, including planting, vine spacing, and trellising system recommendations.
- Drip irrigation is highly recommended.
- Deer fencing is highly recommended.
- Growers will follow standard MCE pest management recommendations during establishment, including diseases, insects, and weeds.

6. Commercial wine grape production in Maryland is relatively new and is dependent upon factors inherent to grower management and favorable environmental conditions. As such, **I agree to assume the risk associated with wine grape production in a new area where all production/marketing risk may not be fully understood.**

7. **I agree to purchase the following grape vines** (75% of total is of recommend designated varieties below and 25% of own choice written in) in the following quantities of (order in bundles of 25):

Variety of grapes	Quantity (Number of bundles @ 25 vines per bundle)	Total bundles	My Cost (fill in at order time)	Commission Cost (fill in at order time)
Vidal Blanc				
Traminette				
Chardonel				
Cayuga White				
Vignoles				
Chardonnay				
Chambourcin				
Chancellor				
Norton				
Cabernet Franc				
Petite Verdot				
Merlot				

Please check to ensure the following are attached for your application to be complete

1. NRCS soil map with area outlined that will be included in the farm viability plan
2. Three years of Schedule F forms
3. Approved Nutrient Management Plan (signed cover sheet)

Applicant signature(s): _____ Date: _____

Proposed Timelines

April 30, 2008 Applications due back to Commission
 May 2009 Vines ordered
 Jan.-April 2009 Vines disbursed

Return application no later than April 30, 2008 to:



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