



# NEWS RELEASE

## VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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### Virginia Grape Production Increases in 2004

Virginia's grape producers harvested 3,700 tons of commercial grapes in 2004, up nearly 3% from the 3,600 tons produced in 2003. Production of the Vinifera varieties accounted for the majority of the overall production. Producers harvested a crop valued at \$4.8 million, receiving an average price of \$1,300 per ton.

Virginia ranked 10<sup>th</sup> nationally in commercial grape production and 9<sup>th</sup> for bearing acreage.

Virginia acreage (bearing and non-bearing) has increased from 1,418 acres in 1995 to 2,360 acres in 2004, a 66% increase over that time span.

### Production and Price by Variety, 2004

<i>Variety 1/</i>	<i>Tons Produced</i>	<i>Utilized Tons</i>	<i>Avg. Price Per Ton</i>
Chardonnay	885	816	\$1,348
Cabernet Franc	481	450	\$1,384
Merlot	435	428	\$1,479
Vidal Blanc	331	327	\$818
Cabernet Sauvignon	262	203	\$1,345
Viognier	197	163	\$1,745
Chambourcin	143	143	\$853
White Riesling	80	80	\$1,230
Sauvignon Blanc	29	29	\$1,727
Virginia 2/	3,700	3,400	\$1,300

1/ All other grape varieties were not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

2/ State price and production based on all reported varieties. Price based on all reported sales.

\*The information reported was obtained from growers who responded to the 2004 Virginia Commercial Grape Survey. The final publication will be released in the upcoming months.