

# 'Aurore'



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**Synonyms:** Seibel 5279, Aurora, Feri Szoeloe, Financ Szoeloe, Redei (8).

**Pedigree:** Seibel 788 x Seibel 29 (2, 5)

**Origin:** Aubenas, Ardeche, France; bred by Albert Seibel (2).

**Cross/Selection/Test:** Cross made *circa* 1860.

**Introduction:** Introduced into the United States during the 1940's; into Canada in 1946 (2) .

**Type:** Interspecific hybrid (including *V. linsecumii*; *V. rupestris*; *V. vinifera*) (8).

**Color:** White

**Berry:** Brooks and Olmo (2) describe the berry as medium in size and spherical in shape; skin golden to light pink; pulp soft and juicy. Some say it has a foxy flavor in the East, but in the West it is quite neutral (10). The berries are thin skinned and prone to splitting when exposed to rainfall before full ripeness (7). They also tend to fall off at maturity (5).

**Cluster:** Long (20 cm); cylindrical (4) and loose (2, 5).

**Viticultural Characteristics:** Domoto (4) listed 'Aurore' as productive and vigorous with a procumbent growth habit. He indicated that bud break is early and cluster thinning is not required.

**Disease/Pests:** 'Aurore' is reported to be highly susceptible to powdery mildew, black rot, Botrytis bunch rot and Eutypa dieback; moderately susceptible to crown gall, downy mildew (1, 3, 4, 9) and powdery mildew (1, 3, 4); and slightly susceptible to anthracnose and Phomopsis cane and leaf spot (1, 3, 4, 9). However, Reisch et al (9) and Domoto (4) rated it as highly susceptible to powdery mildew. It is also listed as not susceptible to injuries from sulfur applications (1, 3, 4, 9) but is moderately susceptible to injuries from copper applications when applied under cool, slow drying conditions (1, 3, 4). Reisch et al (9) noted that damage by birds is a concern.

**Wine Quality and Characteristics:** Wine quality is poor and it is being replaced by interspecific varieties of higher quality (9). Said to have a slight foxiness when very ripe (5).

**Season:** Early (late August and early September in New York), before most other varieties are ripe (9). Well suited to areas with a short growing season.

**Cold Hardiness:** Moderately hardy (-10° to -15° F) (4, 9).

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**Use:** Major use has been for bulk wine production, frequently blended with *V. labrusca* varieties (9). Sometimes used for juice (10), but not good as a table grape as berries tend to fall off at maturity and it is a poor shipper (5).

**Notes:** Named after the goddess of dawn (11). In the mid 1970's this hybrid was more widely planted across the eastern U.S. and in Minnesota that it is today (6).

## Literature Cited

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