

## **Factors affecting production and management of table grapes in Southern Arizona**

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Arizona's fresh table grapes are direct competitors with early season table grapes produced in low elevation desert of California. Grapes produced in early season market (May, June and early July) offer growers an opportunity to earn prices in their production. In Arizona early table grape cultivars are sold in the market approximately mid to late May and June. This early market of table grapes ranks Arizona among the earliest table grape markets in the country.

Grape cultivars considered in this project were all seedless, they were such as, Perlette, Flame Seedless, Thompson Seedless, and Exotic. Factors affecting to improve quality and quantity of these four early cultivars were suckering, thinning, flower cluster thinning, cluster and berry thinning, chemical flower cluster thinning, cluster and berry thinning, berry sizing by use of gibberellic acid, girdling, harvest maturity and ripening, harvest time and methods, packing, grading and sizing, pressure cooling system, room precooling and marketing were among factors considered in this project.