



Mountain Grove Research Campus

Highlights

- ▶ Founded in 1899, the State Fruit Experiment Station, which was assigned to Missouri State University in 1974, is the oldest identifiable component of the University.
- ▶ An interdepartmental degree program leading to a Master of Science in Plant Science offers students the opportunity to enroll in courses and conduct thesis research in the Departments of Agriculture, Biology, Chemistry, and Fruit Science.
- ▶ The campus is one of only three USDA quarantine facilities for the introduction and virus testing of grape varieties originating outside the U.S.
- ▶ The Station's grape and wine program ranks among the most comprehensive in the United States.
- ▶ The campus houses the Mid-America Viticulture and Enology Center, which attracts funding for research and education programs.



History and General Information

Mountain Grove Research Campus serves as the research campus within the Missouri State University System. It houses the State Fruit Experiment Station and the Mid-America Viticulture and Enology Center.

The State Fruit Experiment Station has a legislated mandate to generate knowledge through research, and to disseminate this knowledge to support and expand the productivity and profitability of the Missouri fruit industry. The Station, which is the oldest identifiable segment of Missouri State University, was founded by legislative act in 1899 and was assigned to the University on July 1, 1974, under the Omnibus State Reorganization Act. In 1994, the Station became the location of the newly designated research campus.

The Department of Fruit Science, created through University reorganization in 1994, staffs and operates the State Fruit Experiment Station. Permanent employees include 8 faculty, and 20 professional and support staff. The department also employs from 20 to 25 temporary and student employees throughout the year. In addition to carrying out research and advisory programs, faculty guide graduate students in thesis research, and teach classes in their various disciplines. Faculty and professional staff supervise undergraduates on internships.

Research is focused on pomology, plant pathology, entomology, genetics, plant physiology, viticulture and enology. Plant pathogens and insect pests are studied to help reduce their damage to fruit crops. Research on reducing pesticide use for management of diseases, insects, and weeds is a major ongoing effort. The fruit crops under investigation include apples, grapes, blueberries, peaches, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, and exotic native fruits such as persimmon and pawpaw. Information derived from the Station's research is disseminated by advisory programs to fruit growers and processors through bulletins, newsletters, a newspaper column, conferences, workshops, and persona consultations.

The Mid-America Viticulture and Enology Center conducts extensive testing of new grape varieties and selections for their adaptability to Missouri soil and climate and resistance to diseases. One of only three USDA quarantine facilities for the introduction and virus testing of grape varieties originating outside of the United States is located in the Station. Research on the culture of fruit crops is carried out on nutrient and water requirements, pruning and training systems, growth regulators, and rootstocks.

Grapes are of particular interest at Mountain Grove Research Campus. Located in a natural grape environment, the campus has been the site of extensive grape experimentation since 1900. Today, research of the Vitis Gene Discovery Program explores the genetic basis for disease resistance in native grapes. Research and advisory education efforts are the basis for the recent rapid economic development of Missouri's grape and wine industry. The grape and wine program ranks among the most comprehensive in the United States. The Mid-America Viticulture and Enology Center was established in 1999 to provide educational programs and service for the multi-state region and to attract funding for research on the Mountain Grove campus. Funding for center staffing and operations comes from Missouri wine and grape producers.

An interdepartmental master's degree program in plant science was initiated in August of 1997. This program includes the Department of Fruit Science, as well as the Departments of Agriculture, Biology and Chemistry at the Springfield campus. Graduate students desiring an emphasis in pomology, pest management, molecular genetics, or viticulture and enology take courses and conduct thesis research with faculty from the Department of Fruit Science. Facilities on the campus include Shepard hall, classroom building, research winery, shop and maintenance building, duplex housing, green house facilities, cold storage, and fruit processing education building which house an interactive television teaching laboratory and commercial teaching winery and distillery. Historic Faurot Hall, renovated in 1998, houses a library, interactive television and other classrooms, and a plant science laboratory for graduate students.

**Sources of Funds (in dollars) for State Fruit Experiment Station Operations
FY 1994-2004**

Fiscal Year	University	Grants & Gifts		Total Budget
	Funding Amount	Funding Amount	% of Total	
1994	663,253	291,104	30.5	954,357
1995	682,883	273,433	28.6	956,316
1996	733,890	285,660	28.0	1,019,550
1997	766,853	307,086	28.6	1,073,939
1998	818,949	329,624	28.7	1,148,573
1999	856,297	376,357	30.5	1,232,654
2000	895,151	270,508	23.2	1,165,659
2001	1,018,978	392,627	27.8	1,411,605
2002	969,718	339,729	25.9	1,309,447
2003	1,154,621	341,813	22.8	1,496,434
2004	1,143,000	850,000	42.6	1,993,000

Source — Financial Services and the State Fruit Experiment Station