

Citrus Industry Magazine – UF/IFAS SWFREC Citrus Mechanical Harvesting Program “What’s Shakin” column

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Pellenc, an equipment manufacturer in the agriculture industry, has developed mechanical harvesters for grapes. Their harvesters include both self-propelled and a tow-behind models. Their newest machine, the Optimum series, is a self-propelled over-the-row machine using a flexible conveyor sorter that they claim can help eliminate juice loss and maintain the berry integrity. Pellenc claims that this machine can efficiently, but gently, harvest grapes while removing 99.82% of any harvesting debris. One of their distributors, Vine Tech Equipment, has downloaded a video on YouTube that show the machine’s capabilities. You may view it at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WBmFH7fNxnA> or you may download it from our website at <http://citrusmh.ifas.ufl.edu>.