
Current Varieties for the Northwest & Intermountain West

There are presently no restrictions on

ants and gooses, environmental risks continue. The
ten non-timber, five-needled pines, such as whitebark
blister rust resistant or immune currant and
' and 'Crusader' are resistant to blister rust.

Black Currants

Expected yield: 5 pounds per bush

Age to maturity: 3 to 4 years

Productive life: 15 years or more

Cold hardiness: -20 to -31 F

Optimal pH: 5.8 to 6.8

Spacing: 4 to 5 feet apart in rows 8 to 10 feet

Cultivar	Ripens	Fruit Size	Powdery Mildew Resistance	Comments
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Ben Alder

				cultivar somewhat resistant to spring frosts. High yielding under ideal conditions, but low yields and marked susceptibility to white pine blister rust have been reported from the northeastern United States. The cultivar yields better than 'Baldwin' and is seen as a replacement for it. The fruit can be harvested mechanically. Developed in Scotland (' Ben Lomond' x 'Ben More').
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Ben Connan	1	L	G	Berries are deep black and considered suitable for commercial fresh and processing markets, as well as for home production. Not ideal for juice markets. Good resistance to leaf curling midge. Reportedly tolerates spring frosts and has produced high yields in tests in British tests.
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				United States. Not recommended by the breeders for commercial juice production. A sibling of 'Ben More' and the first in a line of small-bush hybrids designed for high-density plantings. Developed in Scotland as an open pollinated seedling of 'Goliath' x 'Ojebyn'.
Boskoop Giant	1	L	F	Clusters are long, loose, and hang well on the bush after ripening. When pollination is poor, berries near the tips of the clusters often abort after they appear to be set. Canes are vigorous. Often used as a pollinizer of 'Silvergieters Zwarte' in Europe. Introduced from Holland via England between 1895 and 1900. Very popular for commercial production in the U.S. during the early 1900s. Nursery stock labeled as 'Boskoop Giant' is not always true-to-name. The fragrant leaves and buds are, reportedly, well suited for use in teas.
Champion	1	M-L	F-G	Berries are variable in size and mild-flavored with good to very good quality, but do not ripen evenly. The canes are vigorous and. One of the most popular black currants for commercial production in the U.S. during the early 1900s. Developed, probably from a chance seedling, in England around the 1870s.
Consort	1	S-M	P	The fruit flavor and overall quality are poor to fair. Developed in Ottawa, Canada as a cross between 'Kerry' X <i>R. ussuriense</i> . Released in 1951 to replace 'Crusader' and 'Coronet'. Resistant to white pine blister rust. Served as a parent of 'Ben Lomond'. If blister rust is a concern, 'Titania' is a better choice.
Coronet	1	M	P	A sibling of 'Crusader'. Developed in Ottawa, Canada as a cross between <i>R. ussuriense</i> x 'Kerry'. Released in 1948. Fruit quality and size are poor (similar to 'Consort' and 'Crusader'). Highly self-sterile and requires cross-pollination. Resistant to white pine blister rust. If blister rust is a concern, 'Titania' is a better choice.
Crandall	3	VL	E	A selection of the North American native <i>Ribes aureum</i> var. <i>villosum</i>

species is used most often as an ornamental and can reach heights of

Cherry	1	M	G	The fruit is variable in size and has excellent flavor and good quality. Short, tight clusters make hand harvesting difficult. Vigorous with variable yields. Suitable for home production. Probably originated in Italy. Introduced to the U.S. in 1846.
Diploma	1	L-VL	G	The berries ripen over a short period during the mid-season. They are borne in loose, medium-length clusters that fill poorly at the tips. Short clusters and tender fruit skins make harvesting difficult. Suitable for home production. Canes are vigorous, erect to spreading, productive, and resistant to powdery mildew. Developed in New York in 1885 as a cross between 'Cherry' and 'White Grape'.
Fay	1-2	M-L	F	Also known as Fay's Prolific. The fruit is firm and juicy with a thin, tough skin and excellent quality. Compact bushes with fair vigor and productivity. Better suited to home than commercial production. Developed in New York in 1868, possibly as a cross between 'Victoria' and 'Cherry'.

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picked promptly after ripening. Canes are small, vigorous, only moderately dense, and susceptible to breaking. Very cold hardy. Possibly a good selection for commercial production in colder areas. Developed

White Dutch	1	S-M	G	Berries are juicy, sweet, and have excellent quality. They ripen very early and are darker than other white cultivars. Canes are medium-sized, vigorous, erect to slightly spreading, dense, and very productive. One of the oldest named white currants and has often been confused with other berries. Developed before they in the U.S. and have since probably introduced into America in the early 1800s. The small, uneven size of the berries is the main limitation of this cultivar.
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