

## **Currants, Elderberries, and Gooseberries**

**Cherry Red Currant** - Developed by the Washington State Department of Agriculture. Large, dark red fruit with acid flavor. Fruit is high quality and excellent for jams, jelly, and sauces. Plants will grow 4 - 6 feet tall and 2 - 5 feet wide. Commonly grown commercially but can also be used as edible ornamentals or hedges. Bears fruit well but attracts aphids. Resistant to powdery mildew. Hardest and best yielding currant. Zone 3-8.

**Red Lake Red Currant** - Developed at the University of Minnesota and introduced in 1933. Large, dark red berries on medium to large compact clusters. Excellent for jelly, preserves, and muffins. Strong and vigorous upright bush that will grow 4 - 6 feet tall and 2 - 5 feet wide. Used commercially and as ornamentals. Good for bird forage and windbreak plants. Red Lake is one of the most widely grown red currants. Early bearing; ripens in July. Zone 2-8

**Wilder Red Currant** - Originated in Indiana. Large clusters of dark red, medium sized berries. Fruit is of very good quality. Heavy bearing, vigorous, tall stemmed plant will grow 4 - 6 feet tall and 2 - 5 feet wide. Wilder is a good variety for market or home use. Wilder has a long fruit bearing season, from July 1 - 20. Zone 3-8.

**Consort Black Currant** - Developed in Ottawa, Ontario and introduced in 1950. Medium clusters of somewhat soft black berries. Very prominent, sweet, and unique flavor. Good for jams, jellies, juice, and wine. Also excellent when dried. Resistant to White Pine Blister Rust. Black currants are a very high source of vitamin C. Excellent bird forage or windbreak plants. Very cold hardy. Zone 3-8

**Crandall Black Currant** - Clusters of large black currants with sweet tart flavor that is excellent for jams, juice, and syrup. Crandall Black Currants have 5 times the vitamin C of oranges. Bush is upright, dark green leaves, very productive. Ripens in mid July. Zone 2-8

**King Edward- Flowering Currant.** A compact, upright shrub with clusters of dark red flowers in spring followed by blue-black fruit. Max Height 2m. Max Spread 2m. Flowers March to May. Full Sun. Hardy. Back-fill with soil mixed with peat substitute and a suitable fertiliser.

**White Imperial** - Loose clusters of beautiful, white, translucent fruit with pink blush that varies in size from medium to large. Seeds show through the flesh and skin, looking somewhat brownish in color. Richest and sweetest flavor of all currants. Similar to red currants in size and hardiness. Ripens in mid-July. Hardy in zone 3-8.

**Primus** - White currant. Compact bush bearing long fruit clusters. Bears up to 20 lbs of fruit per bush. Sweetest fruit of all currants. Zone 3-8.

## Gooseberries

**Oregon Champion** - Originated in Salem, Oregon before 1880. Medium to large, yellowish green berries. Flavor will sweeten as it ripens. Oregon Champion is excellent for pies, jams, canning, and wine. Productive, vigorous plant will grow 3 - 5 feet tall. Berries hold well on the bush. Oregon Champion will start bearing fruit in its second year and produce for approximately 20 years. Mildew resistant. Zone 3-8

**Pixwell** - Originated in North Dakota in 1932. Medium sized, oval shaped fruit. Pale green color becoming pink when fully ripe. The fruit is borne in clusters on long pedicels, making picking easier, hence its name. It has few thorns but are stout and aggressive. Pixwell is too tart for fresh eating, but makes wonderful pies, jams, and preserves. Leaves turn purple in the fall. This variety is mildew resistant. Overall height is 4 - 6 feet tall. Very productive plants. Zone 3-8

**Captivator** - Developed at the Central Experiment Farm in Ottawa, Canada and introduced in 1949. Captivator is a hybrid of European and American species. It has a large tear dropped shaped fruit. The plant is semi thornless, turning yellow in Fall. This is a sweet berry, colored pink to red when fully ripe. Ripens in late July. Captivator is mildew resistant and very cold hardy having originated in Canada. Zone 2-8

**Jostaberry** - A cross between a black currant and a gooseberry. It has the vigorous growth habit and the disease resistance of the black currant. The leaves are gooseberry like and the fruit, until ripe, looks like a gooseberry. In late June the fruit ripens and the elongated fruit turns black. The flavor is sweet like a gooseberry with a hint of black currant. Resistant to both powdery mildew and white pine blister rust. It should be pruned like a gooseberry. Hardy to -35 F.

**Poorman** - Originated in Utah and introduced in 1888. The berries are green but turn pink when ripe. This is a table variety which can be eaten fresh. They are sweeter than most gooseberries. The berries are 3/4 to 1 inch in size. They are considered by many to be the best American Gooseberry. Overall height is 3 - 4 feet tall. Plants are vigorous and reliably productive. Berries are the largest of any American variety, pink, and the best table quality. Excellent for fresh eating, pies, and jams. Zone 3-8

**Welcome** - Medium to large, light green fruit with few spines turns pinkish red when fully ripe. Rich, juicy, pink flesh; sweet-tart flavor. Makes delicious red pies, jellies or jams. Extremely productive. Practically thornless. Bears over a long season from late June until late July. Zone 4-7