

Protocol Information



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United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Corvallis

Plant Materials Center

Corvallis, Oregon

Family Scientific Name: **Grossulariaceae**

Family Common Name: **Currant and Gooseberry**

Scientific Name: ***Ribes cereum* Dougl.**

Common Name: **wax currant**

Species Code: **RICE**

Ecotype: **Crater Lake National Park; on open ridges and slopes with rabbitbrush, manzanita; dry meadows at 5,500 to 6,000 feet elevation.**

General Distribution: **Western and central continental US. Common on East slopes of Cascade Mountains in Oregon.**

Propagation Goal: **Plants**

Propagation Method: **Seed**

Product Type: **Container (plug)**

Stock Type: **1-gallon containers**

Time To Grow: **2 Years**

Target Specifications: **Multiple-stemmed, branched tops, well-developed root system filling container.**

Propagule Collection: **Red-ripe fruit collected in August; hand picked into plastic bags and kept in cooler for transport.**

Propagule Processing: **Depulped in water in a blender with filed / dulled blades; pour off pulp / strain seeds and spread on paper toweling to dry. One lb berries yielded about 70 grams seed; seed weights average 201,400 to 283,600 / lb.**

Pre-Planting Treatments: **Fresh seed germinated after 12 weeks cold-moist stratification; in our collections older, stored seed**

germinated much better after 25 weeks cold-moist stratification. Seedlings sown directly into standard "1040" flats in peat / perlite / Fisons Sunshine #3 fine starter potting mix, watered-in and placed inside polyethylene bags in walk-in cooler at 34 to 38°F for stratification.

Growing Area Preparation/

Annual Practices for Perennial Crops: **Seedlings started on greenhouse bench when stratification was complete, transplanted into 3.5" square pots filled with Fisons Sunshine #1 soil-less potting mix with about 10% extra perlite. Monitored new growth for aphids; treated with Safers' insecticidal soap when necessary.**

Establishment Phase: **Kept in poly greenhouse until mid to late May; then moved outdoors to shadehouse for summer. Plants also did well in full sun but pots should be kept shaded to keep roots cool. Many were ready for repotting into 1-gallon cans in June of 1st year. 1-gallon cans held in shadehouse, on raised open benches to allow for air-pruning of roots and good drainage.**

Length of Establishment Phase: **6 to 10 weeks in greenhouse.**

Active Growth Phase: **After potting up, plants were fertilized at 2 to 3 week intervals with Peters' 9-45-15 NPK starter fertilizer at half strength for the first two fertilizations; then with Peters' Triple 20 NPK at 2 week intervals until July. Plants maintained with drip irrigation system which helped to keep foliar diseases down. New growth headed back in early June if needed to control top growth and encourage branching.**

Length of Active Growth Phase: **May to July**

Hardening Phase: **Plants flushed with water in July to reduce excess salt build-up in pots; fertilization ceased and watering intervals lengthened in August to encourage vegetative maturity. Shade cloth removed in September to allow full sun acclimation.**

Length of Hardening Phase: **August - September**

Harvesting, Storage and Shipping: **Plants held over winter in unheated poly greenhouse; repotted and shoot / root pruned if necessary following spring. Transported in August via refrigerated van to Crater Lake to a holding facility near park headquarters for a few weeks acclimation prior to outplanting in September**

around refurbished lodge.

Length of Storage: Seeds - length of storage not known but older lots did require longer stratification to break dormancy.

Outplanting performance on typical sites: 1-gallon cans had well-developed root systems and required root scoring at planting time. Plants survived well over first winter or outplanting at Lodge.

Other Comments: Cuttings also successful; hardwood cuttings collected in October, treated with 0.8% IBA and held in mist bench rooted by January.

Due to changing labels, laws, and regulations, the authors and USDA NRCS assume no liability for pesticide information. Any use of a pesticide contrary to current product label instructions is neither legal nor recommended.

The use of manufacturer and trade names in this document is for clarification only. No discrimination is intended and no endorsement is given by the USDA NRCS.

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Citation:

Trindle, Joan DC; Flessner, Theresa R. 2003. Propagation protocol for production of container *Ribes cereum* Dougl. plants (1-gallon containers); USDA NRCS - Corvallis Plant Materials Center, Corvallis, Oregon. In: Native Plant Network. URL: <http://www.nativeplantnetwork.org> (accessed 6 January 2010). Moscow (ID): University of Idaho, College of Natural Resources, Forest Research Nursery.