

Ben Alder



Breeder: SCRI

Parentage: From a cross between the SCRI-bred varieties Ben More x Ben Lomond.

Flowering: Late flowering, ca 10 days after Ben Hope.

Ben Alder is a late-fruiting blackcurrant with outstanding juice colour.

Protected by Plant Variety Rights in the UK, Denmark, Canada and the Netherlands.

Technical Data

Variety	Date of 1st flower	Harvest Date	Yield (t/ha)	Berry Size (g)
Ben Alder	2nd May	31st July	10.28	1.02
Ben Gairn	16th April	12th July	8.38	1.19
Ben Starav	21st April	20th July	9.7	1.24
Ben Tirran	1st May	2nd August	7.3	0.92
Ben Avon	11th May	31st July	9.9	1.01
From trial plots.				

Cropping Season: The later flowering of Ben Alder means that it escapes many spring frosts during the flowering period, leading to consistency of cropping. Its flowering date is generally 8-10 days later than Ben Hope, and its harvest date is around 12 days later than Ben Hope.

Productivity: Ben Alder has produced yields of around 10t/ha in trials.

Growth Habit: Growth is fairly vigorous with bushes similar in habit and size to Ben Tirran. Growth in some regions (e.g. W. Midlands) can be dense. Bushes of Ben Alder are readily machine harvested.

Fruit Quality: Berries are medium sized (usually just over 1g), and ripe fruit will only hang on the bush for a limited time (less than a week). Fruit quality is excellent with high colour stability and the variety is recommended for juice production and processing outlets.

Disease and Pest Resistance: Pest/disease resistance - resistant to mildew and leafspot. Susceptible to gall mite and reversion, although cropping is only slowly affected.

Other Comments: Ben Alder has good resistance to foliar diseases, including mildew and leafspot. However, it is susceptible to gall mite, blackcurrant reversion virus and leaf-curling midge.