

Ben Finlay



Breeder: SCRI

Breeder's number: SCRI 8872-1.

Parentage: [(SCRI P10/9/13 x Ben Alder) x EM B1834-67].

Flowering: Late flowering, ca. 6 days later than Ben Dorain.

Ben Finlay is a new gall mite-resistant blackcurrant from SCRI, producing good yields of high-quality berries.

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Technical Data

Variety	Date of 1st flower	Harvest Date	Yield (t/ha)	Berry Size (g)
Ben Finlay	19th April	18th July	8.17	1.16
Ben Gairn	16th April	12th July	8.38	1.19
Ben Starav	21st April	20th July	9.7	1.24
Ben Avon	11th May	31st July	9.9	1.01
Ben Dorain	28th April	28th July	8.42	0.94

From trial plots.

Budbreak and Winter Chilling: Ben Finlay breaks bud at a similar time to Ben Hope, but flowers around 3-4 days earlier. The chilling requirement has been assessed as relatively low, compared to other standard varieties.

Harvest: Ben Finlay harvests ca. 1 week earlier than Ben Hope, and has produced yields of up to 9-10 t/ha in trials. Berry size is generally around 1.2g, but suitable for both processing and fresh, with a good flavour. The fruit hangs on the bushes for over 1 week when ripe.

Fruit Quality: Fruit of Ben Finlay is high in vitamin C, with mean levels in the extracted juice above 200 mg/100ml. Acidity is generally high, and the anthocyanin content is higher than in juice of Ben Hope.

Agromony: Ben Finlay is resistant to blackcurrant gall mite and mildew, and shows some resistance to leafspot. The bush is fairly compact in the early years becoming more spreading with age. Yields were found in trials to increase rapidly as the bushes grow older. Ben Finlay requires good soil conditions to develop to its full potential.