

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 erythrocarpum* Coville & Leib.**

Common Name: **Crater Lake currant**

Species Code: **RIER**

Ecotype: **Crater Lake National Park - in understory of firs and white-bark pine; around caldera rim at Sun Notch, and Vidae Falls, 6,500 ft.**

General Distribution: **In Southern Oregon; Douglas, Klamath and Jackson Counties; a localized species of the Cascade Mountains in Southern Oregon.**

Propagation Goal: **Plants**

Propagation Method: **Seed**

Product Type: **Container (plug)**

Stock Type: **1 gallon containers**

Time To Grow: **2 Years**

Target Specifications: **well-branched shoots with mature wood.**

Propagule Collection: **Red-ripe berries collected in August and kept in plastic bags in cooler for transport. Further increase made by taking softwood cuttings off of established seedlings at greenhouse in Corvallis (semi-hardwood cuttings collected from native stands in August did not root well). See comments, below.**

Propagule Processing: **Berries depulped in a blender with filed down / dulled blender blades in water; pulp poured off; seeds rinsed, drained and dried on paper toweling.**

Pre-Planting Treatments: **Seeds cold-moist stratified (moist chilled) for 12 to 16 weeks; seed sown into standard "1040" flats, watered in and placed in polyethylene bags in walk-in cooler at 34 to 38°F. Germination was spotty but established seedlings survived well.**

Growing Area Preparation/

Annual Practices for Perennial Crops: **Established seedlings transplanted into 1-gallon pots with a rich, organic compost-based potting mix with added peat and perlite. Held in poly greenhouse until mid may to establish; then moved outdoors to shadehouse (47% shadecloth) and held on raised benches, with drip irrigation, to allow for root pruning and good drainage. Established plants fertilized every 2 weeks with half-strength Peters' Triple 20 NPK in May and June.**

Establishment Phase: **Quick-growing from seed; 2 to 3 fertilizations at 2-week intervals with Peters' 9-45-15 NPK starter fertilizer.**

Length of Establishment Phase: **2 months**

Active Growth Phase: **Plants developed quickly from seed; canes long enough by mid-summer to be pruned back to encourage branching; these prunings were successfully used as softwood cuttings under mist for further increase.**

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

Hardening Phase: **Fertilizer ceased in July and watering intervals gradually lengthened; Shadecloth removed at end of August for full sun acclimation.**

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

Harvesting, Storage and Shipping: **Established plants held over winter outdoors in Corvallis in lathhouse. Plants were shipped via refrigerated van in August to a holding facility at park for outplanting in September. First year survival in outplanting was very good.**

Length of Storage: **Not known; but older seed lots did require longer seed stratification.**

Outplanting performance on typical sites: **Rootball should be scored at planting time; cane pruning not recommended for fall outplanting since It may stimulate bud break.**

Other Comments: **Additional softwood cuttings collected in spring from plants held over winter rooted well under mist; cuttings placed directly into 10 inch "containers" in May resulted in well-established plants by August: these would have been suitable for**

direct outplanting rather than repotting into 1-gallon pots for delivery as 2 -year old plants.

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.

References: **Corvallis Plant Materials Center Technical Report: Plants for Woodland and Rangeland Reclamation and Erosion Control 1980 - 1997 (includes Annual Reports to Mount Rainier National Park from 1990 – 1996).**

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Citation:

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