

***Ribes spp.* and White Pine Blister Rust**

In the early 1900's in the eastern United States, large quantities of white pine seedlings were imported from Europe for massive reforestation efforts. Some shipments were infected with a fungal disease called white pine blister rust (WPBR), *Cronartium ribicola*, a potentially devastating disease of White Pine trees. By 1922, WPBR infected as much as 50% of white pine trees in some areas in New Hampshire.

WPBR cannot spread directly from tree to tree. It requires an alternate host, *Ribes spp.* (currants and gooseberries) to produce spores that can then infect white pine trees. To prevent the spread of WPBR, several states, including New Hampshire, decided to prohibit the sale or planting of any ribes species and started aggressive *Ribes* eradication programs. *Ribes* plants were uprooted or treated with herbicides in widespread forestry efforts in New Hampshire from 1917 until the late 1970's.

While WPBR infection is not uncommon in present day New Hampshire, the severity of the incidence of infection has declined dramatically. This drop in WPBR infections is partly attributed to the *Ribes* eradication programs, which reduced the number of *Ribes spp.* available as an alternate host for WPBR.

When research and selective breeding produced *Ribes* plants resistant to WPBR, the state of New Hampshire began to allow limited sales of these resistant varieties via a *Ribes* permitting program. The selection of desirable varieties was initially fairly limited, but several varieties of currants and gooseberries have been recently added to the list of approved resistant species. A link to that list is provided below, along with a list of potential suppliers with contact information, and the permit application for growing *Ribes spp.* in New Hampshire.

State of New Hampshire
2009 List of Dealers for Approved Resistant Ribes

BLACK CURRANTS

'Consort'

'Coronet'

'Crandall'

'Crusader'

'Lowe's Auslese' (Added in 2009)

'Polar' (Added in 2009)

'Titania'

'Willoughby' (Added in 2009)

RED CURRANTS

'Rondom'

WHITE CURRANTS

'White Currant 1301'

BLACK CURRANT-GOOSEBERRY CROSSES

'Josta'

GOOSEBERRIES

'Captivator' (Added in 2009)

'Careless' (Added in 2009)

'Clark' (Added in 2009)

'Crown Bob' (Added in 2009)

'Downing' (Added in 2009)

'Howards Lancer' (Added in 2009)

'Jahns Prairie'

'Sabine' (Added in 2009)

State of New Hampshire
2009 List of Dealers for Approved Resistant Ribes

BLACK CURRANTS

'Consort'

Edible Landscaping Online	Forest Farm	Indiana Berry
Miller Nurseries	Nature Hills Nursery	Rolling River Nursery
Weeks Berry Nursery	Whitman Farms	

'Coronet'

Forest Farm	Whitman Farms	
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'Crandall'

Edible Landscaping Online	Forest Farm	High Country Gardens
One Green World	Raintree Nursery	Rolling River Nursery
Weeks Berry Nursery	Whitman Farms	

'Crusader'

Indian Berry	Rolling River Nursery	
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'Lowe's Auslese'

(Added to list in 2009)

No Sources Found		
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'Polar'

(Added to list in 2009)

No Sources Found		
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'Titania'

McGinnis Berry Crop.	Raintree Nursery	Rolling River Nursery
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'Willoughby'

(Added to list in 2009)

Whitman Farms		
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RED CURRANTS

'Rondom'

Whitman Farms	Victoriana Nursery Garden	
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WHITE CURRANTS

'White Currant 1301'

Whitman Farms		
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BLACK CURRANT-GOOSEBERRY CROSSES

'Josta'

Gurney's Seed & Nursery	Miller Nurseries	One Green World
Raintree Nursery	Rolling River Nursery	Weeks Berry Nursery
Whitman Farms	Victoriana Nursery Garden	

GOOSEBERRIES

'Captivevator'

Raintree Nursery	Weeks Berry Nursery	Whitman Farms
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'Careless'

(Added to list in 2009)

Whitman Farms		
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'Clark'

(Added to list in 2009)

Whitman Farms		
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'Crown Bob'

(Added to list in 2009)

Whitman Farms		
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'Downing'

(Added to list in 2009)

No Sources Found		
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'Howards Lancer'

(Added to list in 2009)

Whitman Farms		
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'Jahns Prairie'

McKeone Orchard & Nursery	Raintree Nursery	Rolling River Nursery
Whitman Farms		

'Sabine'

(Added to list in 2009)

No Sources Found		
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Directory for all Sources listed for all Ribes species

Edible Landscaping Online

361 Spirit Ridge Lane, Afton, VA 22920
Orders: (800) 524-4156

Fax: (434) 361-1916

<http://www.ediblelandscaping.com>

Forest Farm

990 Tetherow Road, Williams, OR 97544-9599
Phone Orders: (541) 846-7269
<http://www.forestfarm.com>

Fax Orders: (541) 846-6963

Email: plants@forestfarm.com

Gurney's Seed & Nursery Co.

PO Box 4178, Greendale, IN 47025-4178
Phone Orders: (513) 354-1491

Fax Orders: (513) 354-1493

<http://gurneys.com>

High Country Gardens

2902 Rufina Street, Santa Fe, NM 87507-2929
Phone Orders: (800) 925-9387

Fax Orders: (800) 925-0097

<http://www.highcountrygardens.com>

Indiana Berry & Plant Co.

5218 W. 500 S., Huntingburg, IN 47542
Phone Orders: (800) 295-2226

<https://indianaberry.com>

McGinnis Berry Crop

3583 Dove Creek Road, Courtenay, B.C., Canada V9J 1P3
Phone Orders: (250) 338-8200
<http://www.berrycrops.net>

Fax Orders: (250) 338-1678

Email: mcginnis@berrycrops.net

McKeone Orchard & Nursery

709 North Hollow Road, Coudersport, PA 16915
Phone Orders: (814) 274-7715
<http://www.mckeeonenursery.com/>

Email: mckeeonenursery@yahoo.com

Miller Nurseries

5060 West Lake Road, Canandaigua, NY 14424-8904
Phone Orders: (800) 836-9630
<http://millernurseries.com/>

Email: info@millernurseries.com

Nature Hills Nursery, Inc.

3334 North 88th Plaza, Omaha, NE 68134
Phone Orders: (402) 934-8116
<http://www.naturehills.com/>

Fax Orders: (402) 991-0778

Email: info@NatureHills.com

One Green World

28696 S. Cramer Road, Molalla, Oregon 97038-8576
Phone Orders: (877) 353-4028

Fax Orders: (800) 418-9983

<http://www.onegreenworld.com>

Raintree Nursery

391 Butts Road, Morton, WA 98356
Phone Orders: (360) 496-6400

Fax Orders: (888) 770-8358

<http://www.raintreenursery.com>

Rolling River Nursery

PO Box 332, Orleans, CA 95556
Phone Orders: (530) 627-3120

Fax Orders: (530) 627-3120

<http://www.rollingrivernursery.com>

Victoriana Nursery Garden

Buck Street, Challock, Ashford Kent, TN25 4DG. UK
Phone: +44 (0)1233-740529

Fax: +44 (0)1233-740030

<http://www.victoriananursery.co.uk>

Weeks Berry Nursery

6494 Windsor Island Road, Keizer, OR, 97303
Phone Orders: (503) 393-8112
<http://www.weeksberry.com>

Email: plants@weeksberry.com

Whitman Farms

3995 Gibson Rd NW, Salem, OR 97304
Phone Orders: (503) 585-8728
<http://www.whitmanfarms.com>

Fax Orders: (503) 363-5020

E-mail: lucile@whitmanfarms.com

Anyone wishing to cultivate those Ribes species listed above where plant stock sources cannot be found may contact the NCGR Corvallis Ribes Catalog at: <http://www.ars-grin.gov/cor/catalogs/ribspec.html>