

## Plant Data Sheet

**Species (common name, Latin name)**

Golden Currant, *ribes aureum*

**Range**

East slope of the Cascades, north Central Washington to California east to the east side of the Rocky Mountains, Saskatchewan and South Dakota to New Mexico

**Climate, elevation**

Golden currant grows on fine- to course-textured loam soil at elevations up to 8,000 feet (2,400 m).

**Local occurrence (where, how common)**

East slope of the Cascades, north Central Washington

**Habitat preferences**

Streambanks and washes in grassland or sagebrush desert to ponderosa pine forest

**Plant strategy type/successional stage (stress-tolerator, competitor, weedy/colonizer, seral, late successional)**

Golden currant can be used to revegetate roadsides and disturbed areas

**Associated species**

*Ribes aureum* gracillimum, [Ribes cereum](#), [Ribes sp.](#), [Ribes viscosissimum](#)

**May be collected as: (seed, layered, divisions, etc.)**

Seed, cuttings semi-hardwood simple layering and transplanted.

**Collection restrictions or guidelines**

Prick out the seedlings into individual pots when they are large enough to handle

### **Seed germination (needs dormancy breaking?)**

Seed germination is generally enhanced by scarification. About 63 percent germination was obtained in the laboratory by stratifying golden currant seeds at 28 and 36 degrees Fahrenheit (-2.2 and 2.2 deg C) for 60 days without scarification

### **Seed life (can be stored, short shelf-life, long shelf-life)**

Under normal storage conditions the seed can remain viable for 17 years or more

### **Recommended seed storage conditions**

Stored seed requires 3 months cold stratification at -2 to +2°C and should be sown as early in the year as possible

### **Propagation recommendations (plant seeds, vegetative parts, cuttings, etc.)**

Seed - best sown as soon as it is ripe in the autumn in a cold frame. Very tolerant of being transplanted. Cuttings of half-ripe wood, 10 - 15cm with a heel, July/August in a frame. Cuttings of mature wood of the current year's growth, preferably with a heel of the previous year's growth, November to February in a cold frame or sheltered bed outdoors

### **Soil or medium requirements (inoculum necessary?)**

6.6 to 7.5 (neutral)

### **Installation form (form, potential for successful outcomes, cost)**

Prick out the seedlings into individual pots when they are large enough to handle and Grow seeds in a cold frame for their first winter, planting them out in late spring of the following year

### **Recommended planting density**

Adequate space for a deciduous shrub growing to 2.4m. Space plants 3 to 4 feet apart in rows 6 to 8 feet apart

### **Care requirements after installed (water weekly, water once etc.)**

Sun or partial sun, remove flower blossoms from plants in the first year to encourage plant establishment and growth for future years. Give some afternoon shade here, amended soil and regular summer water. Also give adequate drainage.

### **Normal rate of growth or spread; lifespan**

Golden currant reproduces vegetatively by rhizomes; it sprouts after cutting and fire. Plants can also be grown from cuttings

### **Sources cited**

<http://www.cwnp.org/photopgs/rdoc/riaureum.html>

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Data compiled by (student name and date)

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