

MAKING THE MOST OF FRUIT IN YOUR GARDEN

TALK BY JOANNA GOUGH ON JANUARY 11 2017 TO HGHS

KEY NOTES FOR CULTIVATION RECOMMENDATIONS:

LINGONBERRY: Key cultivation tips

- They need a pH of about 5, high OMC , good drainage and a mulch of moss peat
- No fertilisers required
- Planted in March they will start producing after a couple of seasons growth
- They flower twice in a season and can produce two crops each year - the second is the main crop end August - September
- They spread by underground runners - therefore easily propagated by offsets
- Keep plantation weed free
- Mainly pest free
- The standard cultivar is 'Koralle'. RV Rogers lists several other cultivars: Red Pearl; Rund; Sanna; Susi

OUTDOOR VINES: Key cultivation tips

- Prune in spring before the leaves emerge
- Flowers are initiated on young canes - current season's shoots
- Flowers are self fertile but pollination by insects assists fruit set
- Allow about 6ft apart
- Recommended cultivars: Phoenix; Cascade; Regent

GOJI BERRY: some facts

- A very large deciduous shrub
- Fully hardy & good in coastal location
- At maturity will reach 10ft tall x 12ft spread
- Takes 2 -3 years to start cropping
- Widely available as plants and seeds
- Protect from birds
- Minimal pruning
- Recommended cultivar: Shanghai Express (Moles Seeds)

JOANNA'S TOP TEN FRUIT TIPS

Top Tip No 1: Choice of apple cultivar

Choose Katy for reliable cropping

- Ready in late August
- Group 3 pollination group: excellent pollinator of other varieties
- James Grieve X Worcester Pearmain
- Very attractive, bright shiny red skin
- Does not store

Apple rootstocks: only 2 recommended: M26 & MM106

The must have culinary apple cultivar = Bramleys seedling

- **Top Tip no 2: Blackcurrant:** protect flowers from frost
- **Top Tip no 3: Blueberry:** mulch with shredded conifer litter to reduce pH

Blueberry: use the best cultivar = Bluecrop

- **Top Tip no 4: Gooseberry:** fertilise annually with sulphate of potash

Gooseberry; grow a red fruited cultivar, such as 'Hinnomaki Red'

- **Top Tip No 5: Redcurrants** as cordons: economic of space
- **Top Tip no 6: Pears:** grow a culinary variety 'Gieser Wildeman'
- **Top Tip No 7: Strawberry:** buy 60 day prepared runners for planting in April, and re-plant each year
- **Top Tip No 8: Raspberry:** try a primo cane variety e.g. All Gold
- **Top Tip No 9: Bramble** - try a thornless cultivar e.g. Merton or Adrienne
- **Top Tip No 10: Rhubarb** – forced is tastiest; eg Timperley Early or Red Champagne