



Soft Fruit Pruning

BLACKCURRANTS fruit best on stems grown the previous season, so it is necessary to prune annually with the aim of promoting new growth.

On plants older than two years, remove one third of the oldest stems almost to ground level. So over successive years, no stems should be more than three years old.

RED and **WHITE CURRANTS** fruit best on older wood. Winter pruning of these plants therefore involves reducing the length of the main shoots by half and pruning new, lateral shoots back to within 2cm to 5cm of last year's growth.

GOOSEBERRIES are straightforward to prune because they fruit on spurs from wood older than two years. Prune crossing, weak or over vigorous shoots to keep an open and easily harvested habitat.

RASPBERRY pruning falls into two categories. Note : please be sure you know which canes are Summer and which are Autumn fruiting as a mistake will result in no fruit for the coming season.

Summer fruiting varieties carry their berries on on spurs coming off stems grown the previous summer. Pruning involves removing to ground level any cane that has carried fruit, leaving the new fresh canes to fruit next year.

Autumn fruiting varieties, however, produce berries on growth made that season, so in winter remove ALL stems to just above ground level.