

**Geezer Lael**

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**From:** "Bethany Lael"  
**To:** "Undisclosed\_Mailing\_List"  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 14, 2009 3:53 PM  
**Subject:** Will sell plants for food!

## **Will Sell Plants for Food**

Last year, we noticed a surge in requests for fruit bearing trees and shrubs. We never met a demand surge we didn't like, so we re-supplied fruit trees and blueberries three times last year and still sold out. Apple, cherry, fig, filbert, pear and peach trees and blueberry bushes have always been sold at Lael's Moon Garden. But for 2009, we have greatly increased our offerings of fruiting plants to include varieties of raspberries, blackberries, strawberries hardy kiwis, and seedless table grapes.

As always we have selected varieties that research shows to produce well in the cool summers and soggy winters of western Washington. We always try to get larger size trees that will bear fruit earlier than the smaller trees more commonly available. Quantities of some new offerings will be limited, so please shop early to avoid disappointment. Re-supply may not be feasible this year.

We are currently open Saturday and Sunday 10 AM to 5 PM, other times by appointment. Beginning March 5 we will be open Thursday through Sunday 10 AM to 6 PM.

### **Here's what we have in Stock Right Now**

**Apples (Semi-Dwarf Tree):** Chehalis (mid), Enterprise (mid-late), Gravenstein (early), Honeycrisp (late), Jonagold (mid), Liberty (mid), and Wynoochee (early). Note: the Wynoochee trees are somewhat small; all the others are much larger.

**Apples (dwarf tree):** Mutsu/Crispin (mid)

**Apples (Espalier):** For training along a fence or wall. Three varieties on one tree-Akane (mid), Liberty (mid), and Spartan (mid-late).

**Apples (Columnar):** No limbs, apples grow on fruit spurs directly on trunk: Northpole (mid), Golden Sentinel (mid), and Scarlet Sentinel (mid). They are very narrow at maturity, great on a patio or in large pot.

**Blueberries:** Bluecrop (mid), Bluejay (early-mid), Blueray (mid), Darrow (late), Duke (early), Northland (early-mid), and Patriot (early).

**Cherries (Sweet, Dwarf Tree):** Angela (dark red mid-July), and Rainier (yellow skin with pink blush).

**Cherries (Sweet, Dwarf Combo Tree):** Four varieties on one tree-Angela (dark red mid-July), Bing (large, black), Lapins (dark, crack resistant), Rainier (yellow skin with pink blush) or Sweetheart (bright red).

**Cherries (Pie, Dwarf Tree):** Montmorency (bright red and tart), excellent in jams, cobblers and pies, freezes well.

**Figs:** Desert King (green) and Vern's Brown Turkey (mahogany). Both are hardy to 5 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Filberts/Hazelnuts (Semi-Dwarf Trees):** Barcelona, Duchilly and Ennis

We also have some ornamental filbert varieties: Contorta or Harry Lauder's Walking Stick and Red Majestic which is contorted with red leaves. All filberts produce drooping racemes of pollen in the winter adding winter interest to the garden. The contorted varieties also have twisting branches which add structure and just plain coolness.

**Peaches (Semi-Dwarf Trees):** Frost. The *only* one for western WA due to its leaf curl resistance. Medium to large fruit with yellow flesh; semi-freestone.

**Pears (European, Semi-Dwarf Tree):** Comice (yellow sweet, Oct.), Orcas (yellow with carmine blush, Sept.)

**Pears (European, Dwarf)** Ubileen (yellow skin with red blush), very disease resistant.

**Pears (Asian, Semi-Dwarf Combo Tree):** Four varieties on one tree-Chojuro, Kosui (Old World), Nijiseiki (20<sup>th</sup> Century), Shinko or Shinseiki (New Century).

**Pears (Asian, Espalier):** For training along fence or wall. There are three varieties on one tree-Chojuro, Nijiseiki (20<sup>th</sup> century), or Shinseiki (New Century).

**Plums (Japanese, Semi-Dwarf Tree):** Beauty (red skin, yellow flesh) and Shiro (yellow skin and flesh).

**Plums (European, Semi-Dwarf Tree):** Brooks (early Italian strain purple), Seneca (red-purple skin-yellow flesh), and Stanley (blue skin-yellow flesh).

**Grapes:** Jupiter (red blue to blue seedless Muscat variety) and Mars (blue seedless, large grapes). Both are table grapes that ripen in Western WA.

**Kiwi Vines (Hardy) Actinidia arguta:** Anna/Ananasnaya (green skin purple-red blush) and Issai (green fruit) both ripen in Sept. and male pollinator. They have smooth skinned fruit in clusters like grapes. You can eat like grapes right off the vine.

### Here's what's coming by March 1

**Blackberries:** Chester (thornless) and Darrow.

**Raspberries:** Caroline (fall bearing) and Heritage (everbearing)

**Strawberries:** Firecracker (late June) and Quinault (everbearing)

**Blueberries:** Larger sizes of Bluecrop, Darrow and Duke.

### Pollination

- Apples, some sweet cherries, filberts, pears, many plums and blueberries require pollination by a different variety (cross pollination) to set fruit.
- Jonagold, King, Gravenstein and Mutsu apples are poor pollinators so plan to have at least two apple varieties other than those. Or plant any apple with a crabapple for pollination.
- With the combination or espalier trees, the multiple varieties ensure pollination.

- Sweet cherries Lapins and Sweetheart are self-fruitful, no pollinator needed.
- For Blueberries, plant one from each ripening period (early, mid and late) to extend the season of berry harvest. Blueberries also have great fall color.
- Some European plums are partially self-fruitful (Brooks and Stanley, for example) but they produce better crops if cross pollinated.
- Japanese plums and European plums do not pollinate each other; you will need two varieties of each kind.
- Asian pears in general bloom earlier than European pears, although there is some cross-pollination between late blooming Asian pears and early European pears. It is best to have at least two varieties of Asian pears or two European pears for pollination.
- Pie cherries, figs, peaches, grapes, black berries, raspberries, and strawberries are all self-fruitful, plant enough to enjoy fresh and frozen of any variety.
- Kiwis - are mixed. Issai is reported to be self-fruitful, Anna requires a pollinator. The fruit on Anna and Issai is different so consider planting one of each with a single male for a pollinator.

For more on growing fruit in Western Washington, see WSU site <http://gardening.wsu.edu/> Extension bulletin 0937 Fruit Handbook for Western WA, available as a free adobe download at: <http://cru84.cahe.wsu.edu/cgi-bin/pubs/EB0937.html> or Extension Bulletin 1640 Small Fruit <http://cru84.cahe.wsu.edu/cgi-bin/pubs/EB1640.html>



Beauty Plum, photo from WSU EB0937



Anna Kiwi, photo from WSU EB0937





Desert King Fig, photo from WSU EB0937

Blueberries in fall, Lael's Moon Garden

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