

# JOSTABERRY



- Jostaberries are a hybrid between gooseberries and black currants. The plant has the appearance of a currant bush, and can grow up to 2m tall and wide. It is a vigorous plant and will produce a good sized crop earlier than currant and gooseberry bushes. The good thing is that despite it having gooseberry heritage, it is completely spine-free.
- The fruit are bigger than black currants, not quite as large as gooseberries. They are usually ready to harvest in July / August, and I've found that they don't all need to be picked at the same time, allowing smaller berries to continue growing and ripening. They freeze well and are great eaten fresh or put into pies / jams.
- Being a hybrid, the jostaberry are resistant to most of diseases that the parent plants can sometimes be susceptible to, such as American Gooseberry Mildew, Blackcurrant Big Bud Mite and Blackcurrant Leaf Spot.
- As with any fruit plant, it likes a fertile soil and good sunlight, but keep well watered if it is particularly dry, and mulch with well-rotted manure.