# Blackcurrant Breeding in New Zealand

## History of NZ Breeding

Originally: based on Magnus and older English varieties (Daniels Sept, Baldwin)

1980's: Added Malcom Anderson's seedlings, SCRI. Key selections:

- Ben Rua

1992: Geoff Langford starts breeding

1990's: Importation of key parent material East Malling gall mite resistance

1997: 1st selection: Murchison; still grown

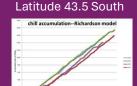
2010: Nardjanardja imported, aiming for clearwing resistance but not found

2024: Geoff Langford is still breeder!



of one of his selections after a low-chill





Lucky to get >900 hours under 7°C

Highest per capita ice cream consumption in the world (28 litres/person)

#### Outline of program

Small scale:

- \$25,000/year (€14000)
- 300-500 seedlings annually
- Seedlings and parents evaluated on farm (Waipuna)
- Tight focus on key objectives
- Goal is 1 release every 3

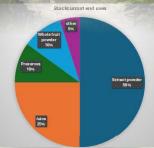












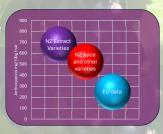
## Releases to date:

- Ben Ard Ben Rua
- Blackadder
- Isobel
- Kepler
- Murchison
- Stewart
- Victoria Lyford

- Breeding targets:
  - 1. High Yield (10+ Tonne/ha) 2. Consistent Yield-means adaptable to low chill
  - 3. High Anthocyanins
- 4. Pest and Disease Resistance

# Secondary targets

- 5. Spread of flowering and harvest
- 6. Manageable bush habit
- 7. Versatility for end uses







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