

## **Gooseberries**

Gooseberries may be the easiest berry plant to grow.

Plants reach a mature size of 3-5' in width and height

**Sun exposure:** Full sun but can handle shade

**Soil:** Thrives in less fertile soils

**Planting:** Potted specimens can be planted as soon as soil thaws. Gooseberries are thorny, so allow for harvesting space between plants! Soil should not be compacted, loosen soil in a 2' radius for best results.

**Fertilizing:** Do not fertilize the first season though wood chips or mulch is OK. Plants can be fertilized in year 2 with manure or kelp meal for best results.

**Watering:** Do not tolerate standing water around their roots.

**Harvesting:** Gooseberries are self-fertile, flowers in spring and fruit is ready to harvest in early summer

**Winter care:** Will become gangly and thin if not pruned. In the early years prune dead branches, in later years prune out the thickest growth.