

BC Hazelnut
Growers Association



Why grow hazelnuts?

Growers in regions of south-western BC have an opportunity to take advantage of the many benefits of hazelnuts.

- Sustainable, low input and high value crop
- Long term profitability potential
- An attractive crop which can increase property value
- Suitable for small and large lots
- Can accommodate livestock grazing or other crops between rows

The global demand for hazelnuts continues to grow, with end uses such as in confectionery, snack foods, gluten and dairy replacement foods, feed meal, and oil-based products such as cooking oil and bio-fuel.
The world's largest buyer of hazelnuts, Ferrero SpA (buying approximately 25% of world production) has a Canadian-based plant which alone, quadrupled in size between 2004 and 2014. There is clear profitable potential for new growers.



New varieties available

Considerable research has gone into the development of new disease resistant varieties that show great promise for leading the way towards the revitalization of BC's hazelnut industry.

A challenge to the hazelnut industry in BC is the management of Eastern Filbert Blight (EFB). After the arrival of EFB in BC, most of the province's hazelnut orchards were removed, leaving the industry in a state of under-supply.

This, however, presents an opportunity.

Fifty years of selective breeding (at Oregon State
University) has produced several excellent, EFBresistant cultivars that look very promising in BC trials.

And the Oregon industry is currently booming.

Summary of New Varieties:

Size of Nut EFB Resistance	Small	Medium	Large	Jumbo
Highly Resistant	Yamhill		Jefferson	
Resistant		Lewis, Sacajawea		
Susceptible			Barcelona*	
Highly Susceptible				Ennis*

Nut Drop: early / medium / late * Historic cultivar for comparison







We're here to help!

The BCHGA supports growers of hazelnuts & enthusiasts in the hazelnut industry. We work with partner organizations to provide opportunities for research and innovation, and to conduct variety trials and promote the industry.

Partner organizations:







Ministry of Agriculture



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