



Welsh Fruit Stocks

Stoc Ffrwythau Cymreig



Grown and packed in Radnorshire, Wales

From: Welsh Fruit Stocks, Bryngwyn, Kington, Powys. HR5 3QN Website: www.welshfruitstocks.co.uk
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Thank you for your order, which is now enclosed.

PLEASE UNPACK IMMEDIATELY and follow the instructions:

Strawberry plants will require a good soaking before immediate planting. If this is impossible then soak and place in a cool, frost-free place, wrap the roots with polythene, and do not allow them to dry out. They will keep like this for 3-4 days.

Raspberry canes need careful attention. Ideally they should be planted out straight away. If this is impossible, unwrap and then wet the roots well (but don't soak) and dig into the ground as a temporary measure making sure that all the roots are covered by 4" of damp soil (check the middle of the bundle is not open to the air), and firm well in. They will keep like this for a couple of weeks provided that the soil is damp and they don't dry out. Or, as a **very** temporary measure, wet the roots, shake off any surplus, carefully re-wrap in polythene and leave in a cool, frost-free place. They should only be left like this for 1-2 days. Take care not to damage any buds.

Bush Fruit ideally should be planted straight away, but they can be unwrapped and carefully dug in as a temporary measure, making sure that even the top of the roots are covered with at least 4" of soil and firmed in well. If done properly they will keep like this for a couple of weeks. As an emergency measure the plants can be wetted and placed in polythene and left in a cool place for 1-2 days. Take care not to damage any buds.

Rhubarb should be unwrapped and damped down before planting. It mustn't dry out so keep it cool and damp until it is possible to plant out either in a temporary or permanent position.

PLANTING GUIDE

STRAWBERRY PLANTS Dig a hole in the loose tilth into which plenty of compost has been mixed. Place the roots against one side ensuring they are vertical and not curled up. Pull the soil back against the roots and firm in very well with your feet. It is very important that the crown lies at ground level after firming, with no roots exposed, but leaving the crown still clearly visible. Plant 18" (45cm) apart with rows 3' (90cm) apart. If dry, water well until established.

RASPBERRY CANES The canes should not be planted too deeply and need to be firmed in very well. Plant in a well-drained area so that when firmed in, the top of the root is about 2-3" (5-7cm) below ground level. Water well and continue to do so if very dry in the spring, but do not saturate, they do not like constantly wet feet! Plant 18" (45cm) apart with rows 5-6' (150-180cm) apart. Do not use too much wet compost or FYM around the roots. It is better to mulch from above, but try to keep it away from the cane base. **In the first summer** (at the end of May or early June) the *old* canes of *all* varieties (apart from Long Canes), should be cut down to about 2" (5cm) above ground level to encourage new canes to emerge. The canes sent up from summer fruiting floricanes will fruit the following summer. The autumn primocanes, **Autumn Bliss, Autumn Treasure and Joan Irene**, will fruit later in the year on the new canes that emerge earlier in the same year. These canes do not need wire supports and grow well as a bed system, and in the winter the fruited canes are simply cut off at about 1" above ground level ready for new shoots in the spring. Plant 24" (60cm) apart.

GOOSEBERRY, CURRANT AND CHUCKLEBERRY BUSHES Plant 4-5' (120-150cm) apart into soil that has had some well-rotted compost incorporated. Dig the hole big enough to accept the roots without bunching or curling. **Blackcurrant bushes** are grown as a stool and should be planted a little deeper than previously planted so that the lowest buds are just below ground level. Cut the shoots down to leave about 2-3 buds above ground level. **Gooseberry bushes, red and white currants** ideally need a clear leg of 4-6" (10-15cm) above ground level, so remove any low branches and trim the remaining branches to 3-4 buds, preferably to an outward facing bud. **Chuckleberry bushes** can also be grown on a short leg (see Gooseberry bushes), or as a stool (see blackcurrant bushes) if planting a *one-year-old bush*. The branches of *two-year-old bushes* should be trimmed back to 3-4 buds, but leave one full branch for taste of fruit in their first summer. All the bushes should be firmed well in and watered. If it is very dry, continue to water until established.

RHUBARB The sets should be planted into soil which has had plenty of well-rotted organic matter added. Dig a hole large enough to allow the top of the crown to be just visible, after firming in well. Plant 3-4' (90-120cm) apart. Do not pull any sticks in the first year.

We hope the plants do well for you and that you enjoy the fruit that they produce.

Any comments, suggestions and observations are always welcome.

Please report any shortages or problems with your plants immediately to the address below.

Welsh Fruit Stocks, Bryngwyn, Kington, Powys. HR5 3QN