

**Botanical Name:** *Ribes aureum*,  
**Common Name:** Golden Currant  
*RHI-bees AR-ee-uhm*

## SHRUB



Spring



Summer



Fall



Winter

**Family:** Grossulariaceae  
**Origin:** Western inland regions to Canada  
**Climate Zone:** USDA 2-7, Sunset A2-3, 1-12, 14-23  
**Mature Height:** 3-6 feet  
**Mature Width:** 3-6 feet  
**Plant Type:** Deciduous  
**Growth Habit:** Upright, arching shrub  
**Growth Rate:** Moderate  
**Flower Color/Details:** Bright golden flowers, spicy fragrance, tubular flowering clusters  
**Flower Season:** Spring, March through June  
**Bark:** Gray to red-brown, no spines or thorns  
**Fruit:** Yellow berries in summer, turning to red then black, April through August  
**Foliage:** Light green leaves are deeply lobed and toothed at edges, hairy underside  
**Use:** Woodland, wildlife and native gardens  
**Floral:** Branches of berries in arrangements  
**Wildlife/Beneficials:** Flower nectar feeds pollinators; leaves feed butterfly larvae; berries feed songbirds, squirrels; shrub shelters birds.  
**Deer Resistant:** Yes  
**Fire Resistant:** Yes  
**Medicinal Uses/Edible:** Edible berries  
**Adverse Factors:** Host for white pine blister rust

**Soil:** Adaptable, dry to moderate, found in many soil types, near streams, clay and  
**Exposure:** Sun, tolerates shade  
**Water Requirements:** Low, drought tolerant  
**WUCOLS Water Needs:** L L L L L /  
**Description:** Easy, attractive, useful native. May not fruit after warm winters. Moderate water for best berries. Berries provide color for dye. Also referred to as Clove Currant. Ribes genus are hosts for the fungus white pine blister rust, may be banned if white pines grow in your area  
**Maintenance:** Prune only to maintain shape. Light mulch, no need to fertilize. Overwatering causes spreading by underground runners.

UC DAVIS  
ARBORETUM  
*All Stars*



#1 Nursery Container