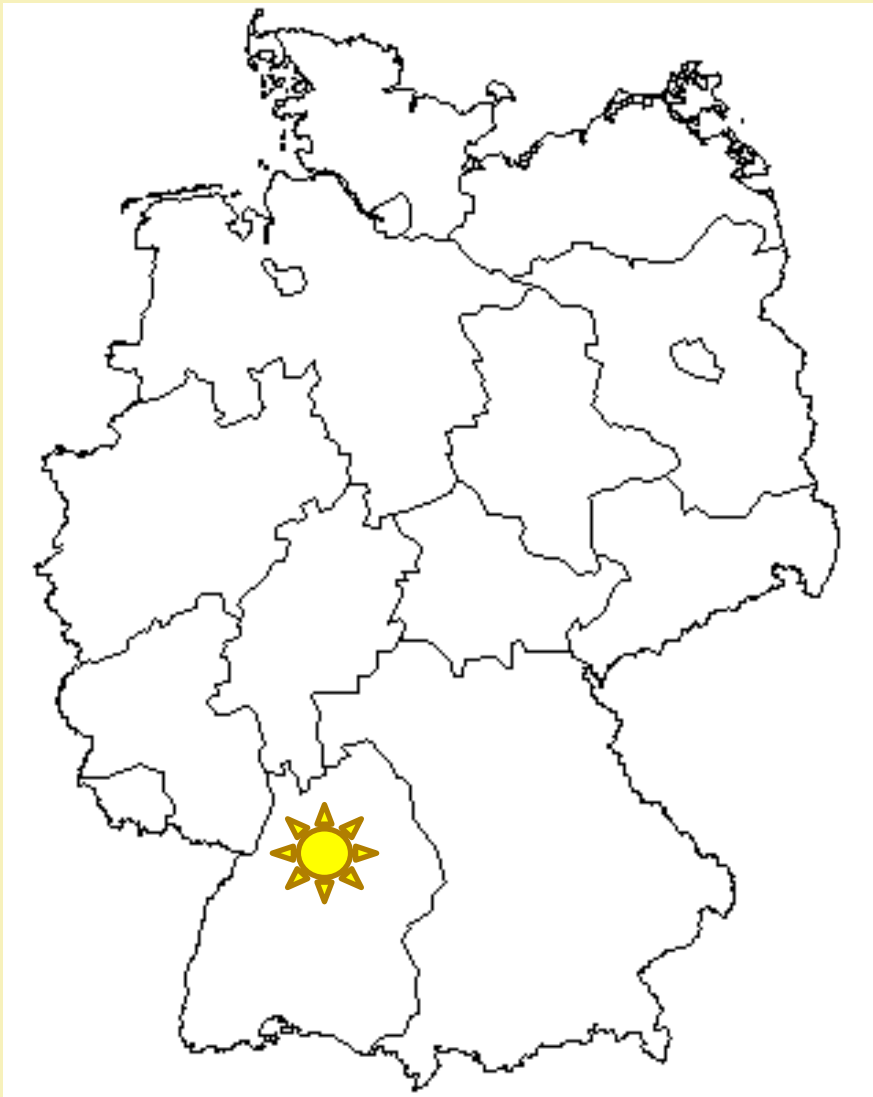


# Black Currant Conference 2013



# Germany



≡ 1835 ha



≡ 1596 ha

610 ha in Baden Württemberg  
with 237 ha in the area of Heilbronn



≡ 937 ha

source: Statistisches Bundesamt



# Research station Weinsberg



**14 ha pome fruits**

**3,5 ha stone fruits**

**2,5 ha small fruits**

**5,0 ha nut fruits**

**loam soil**

**index of land quality 65/75**

**humus ~ 1,9 %**

**yearly mean temperature 9,5 °C**

**annual precipitation 647 mm**

**open position without wind protection**

**200 m above sea level**



# Black currants – techniques of pruning

## Questions:

Is there a need for pruning the shrubs manual?

How does mechanical pruning by using a mower influence the vitality and yield of the shrubs in comparison to a manual pruning?

Is a combination between manual and mechanical pruning by using a mower better for the vitality and yield of the shrubs?



## Variants:

- mechanical pruning + manual pruning once a year
- mechanical pruning and manual pruning in rotation  
→ view chart
- mechanical pruning once a year
- manual pruning once a year

year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
mechanical	X		X		X
manual		X		X	

Ben Alder and Ben Hope, planting as cuttings in 2003,  
planting distance: 0,6 x 3 m



# Ben Alder



sprouting: 18.03.

flowering: 01.05.

harvest date: 13.07.

Ø yield: 1,9 kg/shrub

sugar: 17,3 °Brix  
sourness: 41,7 g/liter  
vitamin C: 1340 mg/liter



# Ben Hope



sprouting: 13.03.

flowering: 19.04.

harvest date: 13.07.

Ø yield: 2,2 kg/shrub

problems with sun burn

sugar: 15,9 °Brix

sourness: 51,1 g/Liter

vitamin C: 1660 mg/Liter





Staatliche Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt  
für Wein- und Obstbau Weinsberg



# mechanical pruning



# manual pruning



# manual pruning



# Harvesting



# Ben Alder

yield in t/ha	mechanical pruning + manual pruning	mechanical pruning /manual pruning in rotation	mechanical pruning	manual pruning
2010	9,1	8,5	10,4	10,3
2011 (frost)	8,5	5,4	5,1	3,9
2012	6,7	5,5	4,7	4,2



# Ben Hope

yield in t/ha	mechanical pruning + manual pruning	mechanical pruning / manual pruning in rotation	mechanical pruning	manual pruning
2010	8,5	9,3	11,7	11,8
2011 (frost)	5,9	5,9	5,4	5,5
2012	12,7	12,8	13,7	13,0



# Time for pruning

	mechanical pruning + manual pruning	mechanical pruning / manual pruning in rotation	mechanical pruning	manual pruning
	3,5 h + 20h/ha = <b>23,5 h/ha</b>	<b>3,5 h</b>	<b>3,5 h/ha</b>	<b>22 h/ha</b>
	3,5 h + 20h/ha = <b>23,5 h/ha</b>	<b>40 h/ha</b>	<b>3,5 h/ha</b>	<b>22 h/ha</b>
<b>Sum after two years</b>	<b>47 h/ha</b>	<b>43,5 h/ha</b>	<b>7 h/ha</b>	<b>44 h/ha</b>



# Summary



1. Ben Alder is more sensitive to drought than Ben Hope.
2. Ben Hope is more productive than Ben Alder.
3. The influence of the technique of pruning is not clear after three years.
4. The efficiency of mechanical pruning with a mower is best in these years.
5. The trial will be continued.







Thank You!

