

Pioneer Selection

Wineberry

Aristotelia x fruserrata

Hybrid wineberries occur naturally throughout New Zealand wherever the two parents meet –*Aristotelia serrata*, a small tree with larger leaves and *Aristotelia fruticosa*, a medium sized subalpine shrub with small leaves.

Six selections have been named after early pioneers of the Wakatipu region where the original parent plant was found and to reflect the toughness of these cultivars [can survive -9 degree frosts]. They enjoy an open or semi shaded site with free draining soil and will tolerate wind.



Kingsley Butler –male flowers



Abigail Gordon – spring growth

Their leaves are somewhat leathery and glossy; some exhibit winter colouration including burgundy shades.

Growing in a cold climate, they have adapted by being semi-evergreen when temperatures drop to low levels. This can produce a pretty effect when some of the leaves produce autumn colours of yellow or red.

The stem's fat buds refurbish the plant into full leaf again in spring.

Berries on female plants are enjoyed by birds. Berryless male forms are useful where no fruit is wanted.

The selections have been chosen for their compact form but they can be pruned; e.g. a light annual prune may encourage burgundy leaf colour of Kingsley Butler or hard cut back after 15 years will completely replenish a bush if desired.



Aristotelia cultivars

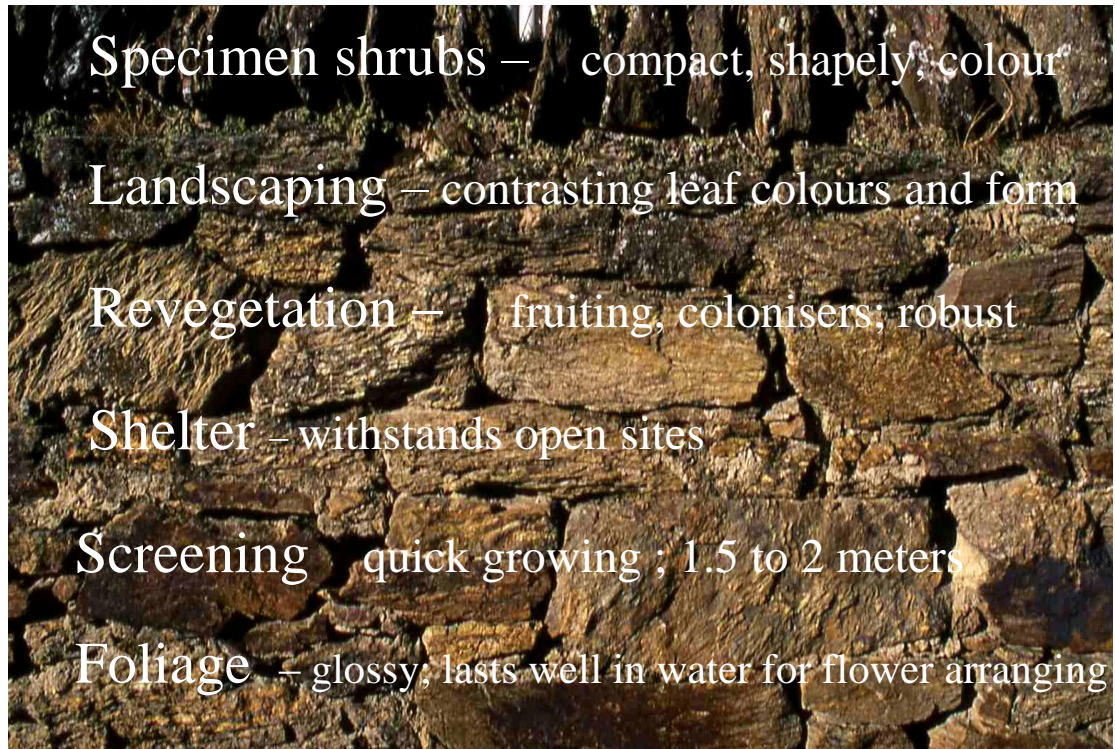


Jessie Cockburn: 1 x 1 m, light green leaves



Rosie Buckingham: 2 x 2m, dark green leaves
close-up photo of clusters of small pink berries
approx. 5mm – edible to birds [non-toxic].

Use for:



Wineberry, 'Aunt Nell' - used as shelter

