

## **Bearss Lime**

Bearss Lime is believed to have originated in California from a seedling of Tahiti Lime. The tree and fruit are similar to Tahiti Lime. The fruit is triploid and has sterile pollen, few functional ovules and so rarely produces seed. Fruit are large for a lime, thin skinned, juicy and acidic. The tree is vigorous, of medium-large size and a spreading habit. Bearss is as resistant to cold as a lemon.

At Kerikeri Research Centre, Bearss has produced larger crops of superior looking fruit than several other selections of Tahiti Lime. It appears to be more precocious than other selections, typically bearing crops when trees are two or three years old.

Bearss Lime is grown on trifoliata rootstock in New Zealand. Unusual bud unions with large bulges above the junction often occur, although the trees are reported to live and crop steadily for 30 years or more. Bearss flowers throughout the year but mainly in spring and is harvested June to August, November and February/March.