

## *Benmore*



**Variety:** Benmore

**Crop:** Apricot

**Origin:** Benmore is a selection from the Riwaka series of apricots, which were derived from open-pollinated progeny of Cluthagold.

**Bloom period:** Early to mid September in Central Otago, New Zealand. Flowering at same time as most varieties.

**Pollination:** Self-incompatible

**Chill requirements:** High, similar to Cluthagold

**Maturity:** Late season. Typically late January to early February in Central Otago, New Zealand.

**Fruit size:** Medium sized, 80 - 90 g

**Shape:** Round, oblong

**Skin colour:** Light orange background, with 0 – 20% red overcolour

**Flesh colour:** Orange, tending to be dull, similar to Moorpark

**Flavour:** Good apricot flavour

**Texture:** Firm juicy

**Stone:** Free

**Cropping:** Heavy

**Fruit storage:** Up to 3 weeks

**Tree vigour:** Medium to high

**Tree shape:** Spreading

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### **General**

Benmore has medium sized fruit of round-oblong shape. The colour is more similar to Moorpark than other Riwaka selections. Colour tends to improve in storage.

### **Cultivation**

The variety is best grown in typical apricot-growing regions with a cold winter and low frost risk in spring or sites that are frost-protected in spring. Sites should be well drained with adequate irrigation. Best grown as vase shaped trees planted from 3 – 4 metres within-row and 4 – 5 m between rows. Pruning and training of young trees to a standard multi-leader (5 – 6) will give best results. Other training systems not tested, but may be grown as a single leader or on trellis. Requires a polliniser such as Cluthagold or Sundrop.

### **Harvest**

Fruit should be picked at least 12° Brix for optimum eating experience with higher brix giving best results. Although Benmore is very firm at harvest, fruit should be handled with care through the harvest, sorting, grading and packing procedures.

**Taken from New Zealand Data**



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