

## HORTRESEARCH SUMMERFRUIT VARIETY INFORMATION SHEET

**Variety:** Gabriel  
**Crop:** Apricot

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

**Bloom period:** Mid-season. Early to mid September in Central Otago, New Zealand. Bloom period overlaps with most varieties.

**Pollination:** Self-incompatible

**Chill requirements:** High

**Maturity:** Mid-January in Central Otago, New Zealand

**Fruit size:** Very large, 130 to 150 g

**Shape:** Round, oblate

**Skin colour:** Deep orange background, with 50% bright red overcolour

**Flesh colour:** Orange

**Flavour:** Good apricot flavour

**Texture:** Dense, meaty

**Stone:** Free

**Cropping:** Heavy

**Fruit storage:** Up to 3 weeks

**Tree vigour:** Medium

**Tree shape:** Upright, spreading



### General

Gabriel is a large mid-season apricot, maturing in mid-January in Central Otago, New Zealand. Flesh colour is orange and skin is deep orange with a bright red overcolour covering about 25% of the fruit surface. Best suited to a low humidity climate as the variety may show some cracking in wet seasons.

### 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 Gabriel is very firm at harvest, fruit should be handled with care through the harvest, sorting, grading and packing procedures.