

# Hazelnut cultivar trials at Nutcracker Ridge Farm: Nut maturity dates and yield in 2021



# Cultivars are being bred for hazelnut production in Ontario and Canada

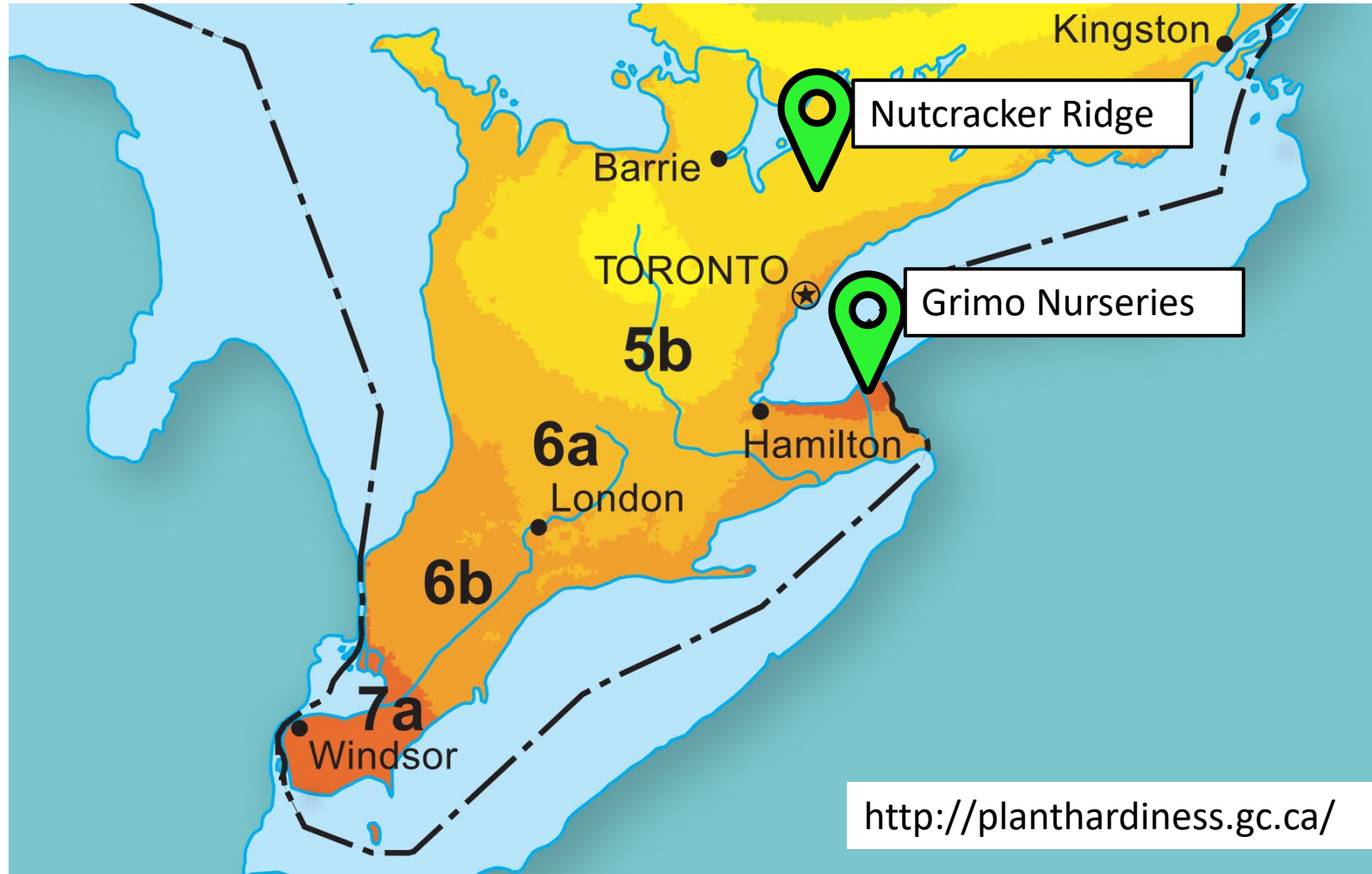
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	August		September			October		
	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
Grimo (Zone 7)					Alex Matt	Carmela Gene	Gene Slate	

- Asian/Quebec/Grimo source: Aldara, Andrew, Northern Blais
- Saskatchewan University/Grimo source: Marion, Frank

# Plant hardiness zones may affect cultivar performance in Ontario

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# We wanted to determine:

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- Timing of leaf colour change and loss
- Indicators of nut maturity
- Maturity dates at this farm
- Yield differences in cultivars

I surveyed the orchards weekly from Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>-  
Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>



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# Leaf loss ramped up in Early October for some cultivars, but while others held onto their leaves until mid-November

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- Leaf loss Starting Early October:  
Aldara, Andrew, Northern Blais,  
Dermis, Frank, Marion
- Leaf loss starting mid-November:  
Alex, Jefferson, Carmela, and  
Linda
- Younger trees as well as suckers  
tended to hang onto their leaves  
longer



# Everything was finished being harvested by Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>

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- Nut fall and release from husk were best indicators



	September			October		
	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
Grimo (Zone 7)			Alex Matt	Carmela Gene	Gene Slate	
Nutcracker Ridge (Zone 5b)		Aldara Northern Blais Frank Marion		Alex Carmela Gene	Dermis Linda Slate	
			Matt			

# Overall harvest was 409.98lb of nuts (in-shell)

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Cultivar	Year planted	Row-Orchard	lb/tree	Percent of Overall Harvest weight	Number of Trees
Gene	2015	C-Pond	7.26	49.6%	28
Carmela	2016	10-Hill	0.69	14.7%	87
Slate	2015	E-Pond	1.31	9.6%	30
Gene	2016	8 & 9-Hill	0.21	8.1%	156
Gene	2015	F-Pond	1.04	4.8%	19

- Remaining 13% of harvest weight came from 1508 trees with each combination of age, row, and cultivar producing less than 0.20 lb./tree
- The cultivars planted in that produced the fewest nuts and were not part of the Pick-Your-Own harvest were Alex, Matt, and Linda.

# Recommendations

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- Alex was not had a high rate of blanks, low yield per tree, and lost its leaves late
- Earlier maturing cultivars: Marion, Northern Blais, Aldara, and Frank all matured first
- Highest Yield: Gene, Slate, and Carmela

# Questions?

