

Ndilo

Ndilo is the property of Joanne and Tony Cartland. The reasons and decisions for buying the property are as follows:

Semi retirement

Decided to grow nuts – easy care and harvesting – hazelnuts, chestnuts, walnuts.

Land profile

No more than 4.5ha, good water, reasonable house and buildings, soil, shelter and not far from Rangiora and City.

Decision

This place had all expectations except shelter. Took over 6 June 1997. The shape of the orchard made for easy set-up.

The orchard

4.6 ha, ex dairy run off block, Waimakariri silt loam (some shingle), good fertility ph 5.6 (5.7-6.3 optimum). Well drained. Good well and buildings.

Set up

Easy to plan – get shelter planted and irrigation installed. Two years growth expected before nuts were to be planted. Chose fast growing species.

Shelter

Planted in the spring 1997.

<i>North</i>	Dry hot North West to North East winds – Nitens and Fraxinoides plus tree Lucerne
<i>East</i>	Cold North East winds – Alnus Cordata (Italian Alder) and Crowsnest Poplar (remove 10 yrs) plus mixed natives
<i>South</i>	Cold South West winds – Leyland Cyprus (Leighton Green)
<i>West</i>	Variable North West / South West to South East winds – Nitens and Alder (not successful) plus Acacia Pravissima
<i>Internal</i>	Alder alternating mix Gean Cherry, A. Melanoxylin, Q.Coccinea, Paterea, Cannariensis. (A. Dealbata removed)

Changes Prefer all Alders with others as specimens in corners.

Nuts

<i>Hazels (931)</i>	Fields 2-4 planted May 1999, 5 - June 2000, 1 - June 2002. 828 Whiteheart and 103 Pollinators. Alexander, Auck.2, Lansing, Merveille de Bollwiller, Butler, Barcelona
<i>Chestnuts (80)</i>	Planted 2000: 1002, 1005, 1015, LB4, Crewena 3 Planted 2006: 3 x Lincoln Gold
<i>Walnuts (33)</i>	Planted November 2002: Rex, Meyric, G120

Other

A small home orchard with pears, apples, plums, peaches and berry fruits.