

# Blueberries

Blueberries are a great addition to any landscape. Not only do they produce delicious, anti-oxidant-rich berries during the summer months, but they also get pretty white bell-shaped flowers during spring months and an excellent red-orange fall color. Blueberries are native to most areas of the United States and gardeners just about everywhere can grow them.

## Soil

Blueberries have shallow roots, with no root hairs; therefore need loose, well-drained, moist soil so they can get enough oxygen.

## Acidic

Blueberries **need** acidic soil. They thrive at a pH of 4.5-5, so regular applications of soil acidifier is crucial. Products such as HollyTone, Cottonseed Meal, Sulfur tablets (**avoid Aluminum Sulfate**)

## High in Organic Matter

Adding organic matter will help add nutrients, acidify the soil, and hold in moisture

## Mulch

Mulch is necessary for keeping the shallow roots cool and moist, it also helps suppress weeds and add organic matter to the soil.

## Sun

Blueberries need **FULL SUN** in order to produce fruit. Some varieties can tolerate more shade, like Low Bush varieties.

## Do I need more than one?

Most blueberry varieties are **self-fertile**, meaning that you will get fruit with only one plant.

### But...

When planting multiple varieties not only will you get better fruiting but you will extend your blueberry season, seeing as different varieties have different ripening times.

\*We suggest picking 3 varieties with different ripening times (early, mid, late)

## Protection from Wildlife

Blueberries are a favorite for birds, deer, and many other critters. If you want your blueberries all to yourself we suggest using netting and/or fencing to keep the birds and other wildlife away from your berries.

Once your blueberry bush is at **full production** you can get anywhere from **5-15lbs per bush** depending on variety.



Bristol's Garden Center  
7454 Victor-Pittsford Rd  
Victor, NY 14564  
(585)924-2274  
bristolsgardencenters.com

# Blueberry Varieties

## Early Season

### **Earliblue**

The earliest variety to ripen. Produces medium, light blue berries that are full of flavor. Adaptable and easy to grow.

### **Duke**

Heavy, consistent producer with a large, firm, light blue, high quality berry that is savory and sweet. Blooms late but ripens early.

### **Patriot**

Consistent producer of large, delicately sweet berries, this variety is adaptable to many soil types and does well in wetter soils compared to other varieties.

### **Polaris**

A half-high variety, reaching 3-4'. A very cold hardy, early ripening, medium berry that has a wonderfully sweet taste.

### **Sweetheart**

A NEWER variety known for being vigorous and highly productive. A heavy producer of large-medium, firm, extremely sweet, juicy berries.

## Early-Mid Season

### **Northland**

Easy to grow and very adaptable, this very productive variety, has very high yields once mature. This fresh, sweet, medium size berry is great for jams or baking due to its high sugar content.

### **Bluejay**

Fast growing and easy to establish this variety produces long, loose clusters of light blue fruit will hang on the plant for awhile without losing quality, which makes it an excellent berry for freezing and storing.

## Mid Season

### **Bluecrop**

One of the best all-around varieties due to its adaptability, long production period, high quality fruit, and disease resistance. Large, crisp berries with that classic sweetness.

### **Bluegold**

A variety that is a heavy, reliable produce with superior quality fruit. The berries are very firm, flavorful and evenly sized. Medium to large fruit in large clusters make 'Bluegold' an easy to harvest selection.

### **Blueray**

A classic and versatile favorite, producing very large, high quality berries, with that sweet, fresh, traditional blueberry flavor.

## Mid-Late Season

### **Chandler**

Produces one of the largest blueberries on the market, with an excellent full and robust flavor. Has a long ripening season, providing fresh berries for up to 6 weeks.

### **Bonus**

Another producer of some of the largest berries on the market. These large berries are medium blue, firm in texture and have an excellent flavor. A vigorous grower and highly productive.

## Late Season

### **Brigitta**

A high quality, medium-large berry with a perfect balance of sweet and slightly tangy, this berry has an amazing shelf life and will remain crisp in the refrigerator for up to a month.

### **Elliot**

Reliable producer, with berries ripening well into September. Medium to large berries with a slightly tangy, zesty flavor.

### **Jersey**

One of the oldest and widely grown varieties. Easy to grow and a consistent producer of medium to small sweet tasting fruit.

### **Liberty**

Liberty is a vigorous and productive variety that tends to grow more upright. Berries are consistently large and uniform, with a crisp, sweet flavor and an excellent shelf life.