



BLUEBERRIES



Fruit will be produced on shoots of the previous year's growth at the top of the bush. It does not cross-pollinate to fruit ~ there you will need to plant more than one variety.

- **3 Different Varieties are recommended for Best Pollination & Yields.**

LOCATION:

Choose any area that is Sunny, well drained soil.

SOIL:

Blueberries do not tolerate alkaline, clay soils. The soil PH must be between 4.5 to 5.5. It is recommended to have your soil tested, and add amendments if needed. If needed, amend the soil with Peat Moss, or Soil Sulfur.

PLANTING:

In the Ground or Raised Containers ~ Plant with a mixture of Peat Moss, and Pine Bark **OR** Azalea Mix (Pre-Mixed & Naturally Acidic)

Since plants can reach 10' Tall at maturity (7-8 Years) ~ Space the plants 6' apart, and in rows of 12' apart.

FERTILIZING:

Blueberries are sensitive to excessive fertilizer, and some types of fertilizers. Use fertilizers with nitrogen in the form of Urea or Ammonium. The most effective and most commonly used nitrogen fertilizer for Blueberries is **Ammononium Sulfate (21-0-0)**. Soils can sometimes become too acidic over time – If that does occur, us a fertilizer that the nitrogen is derived from Urea.

Fertilize in Early Spring (beginning of bud growth) and early summer (after harvest is complete)

**** DO NOT FERTILIZE NEWLY PLANTED BLUEBERRY PLANTS** – Use a Root Stimulator for the 1st year. Beginning the second year after planting, fertilize the plants with 21-0-0 at a rate of 1 ounce per year up to a maximum of 8 ounces per plant per year for those 8 years old & older.

Interesting >> Rabbiteye Blueberry plants do not produce the root hairs that are needed to take up water and nutrients. Instead, they depend entirely on a fungus that acts as root hairs for the plants. The plant provides nourishment for the fungi called mycorrhizae. When the Blueberries are planted in an unsuitable soil or irrigation, the fungi usually die and the blueberry plant exhibits many symptoms of nutritional deficiencies.



Twin Oaks Nursery – 2107 Hwy 691 Denison, Texas (903) 463-2205

BLUEBERRIES

MULCH:

Mulch is very important – It helps acidify the soil, control weeds, conserve soil moisture, and moderate soil temperatures. Use: Peat Moss, Pine Bark, Pine Straw. Do Not use: Barnyard Manure

IRRIGATION:

Blueberries should be watered when planted, then apply water according to the season, and size of plant. Drip form of Irrigation works extremely well.

PRUNING:

Blueberries need occasional pruning. Thin out the lower limbs to keep the fruit from touching the soil. As the shrubs begin to age & thicken, begin thinning about 20 % of the branches at ground level every year. This encourages new, productive shoots to emerge from the crown area.

HARVEST: In Texas the harvest season is usually May through July. * Berries do not ripen further after harvest ~ therefore for maximum flavor and minimal bitterness, allow them to ripen on the bush.