## BLUEBERRIES 2024

## NAME 10YR SIZE CHARACTERISTICS

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EARLY SEASON		
BLUE RIBBON	4-6'hxw	Large berry with good shelf life
DUKE	4-6'hxw	Productive plant, large berry. Popular for Puget Sound
EARLIBLUE	4-6'hxw	Sweet & juicy medium-large berry
MISTY	4-6'hxw	Sweet spicy medium-large berry; semi-evergreen
PATRIOT	5-6'hxw	Ripens early & bears consistent crops of large fruit
REKA	4-6'hxw	Excellent rich flavor medium-large berry
SPARTAN	4-6'hxw	Robust & fruity large berry
MID SEASON		
BERRYBUX	2-3'hxw	Boxwood appearance with tasty blueberries
BLUECROP	4-6'hxw	Classic sweet large berry
BLUEGOLD	3-5'hxw	Delicately sweet medium-large berry
BLUERAY	4-6'hxw	Hi yielding large sweet berry. Semi-evergreen.
CABERNET SPLASH	4'hxw	Burgundy foliage with sweet medium sized berries
DRAPER	4-5'hxw	Firm & robust berries; compact plant
EMERALD	5-6'hxw	Prolific berries for this Southern highbush variety. Semi-Evergreen
JELLY BEAN	1-2'hxw	Super sweet, large berries; dwarf plant
JEWEL	5-7'hxw	Large tangy berry
NORTHLAND	4-7'hxw	Sweet & Productive Large berry
PATRIOT	4-7'hxw	Classic flavor. Partially self fertile.
PEACH SORBET	2'hxw	Sweet blueberries w/evergreen foliage; compact plant
RAZZ	6'hxw	Sweet medium sized berry. Taste resembles a huckleberry
SAPPHIRE CASCADE	1-2'hxw	Weeping blueberry. Partially self fertile. Classic flavor
STAR	6-8'hxw	Great commercial crop
SWEETHEART	3-5'hxw	Re-fruiting. Sweet berries in summer and fall
TOP HAT	1-2'hxw	Delicious med-sized light blue fruit; dwarf habit
TOP SHELF	4-6'hxw	High producer with large and flavorful berry
TORO	4-6'hxw	Mildly sweet extra large berry
MID-LATE SEASON		
CHANDLER	5-7'hxw	Full robust large berry. Popular for Puget Sound
MIDNIGHT CASCADE	1-2'hxw	Weeping blueberry. Partially self fertile. Hint of vanilla
PINK LEMONADE	4-5'hxw	Deliciously sweet and mild w/firm texture
SILVER DOLLAR	2-3'hxw	Eucalyptus-like foliage with pineapple flavored blueberries
SUNSHINE BLUE	3-4'hxw	Rich sweet medium berry. Semi evergreen. Nursery favorite
LATE SEASON		
AURORA	5-5'hxw	Large delicious berry
DARROW	4-6'hxw	Tart juicy robust large berry
ELLIOTT	4-6'hxw	Zesty medium-large berry
JERSEY	6-8'hxw	Spicy distinctive old time blueberry flavor
JUBILEE	4-5'hxw	Medium super sweet berry. Semi-evergreen
LEGACY	4-6'hxw	Med-Lg robust flavored. Semi-evergreen
LIBERTY	7-8'hxw	Balanced robust juicy large berry

## **HOW TO GROW BLUEBERRIES**

The Pacific NW climate and soils are perfect for growing this versatile plant. Make sure to choose a site that has as much sun as possible. Blueberries can tolerate some shade, but not too much as the vigor of the plant and fruit production declines. Plants should be spaced 2'-6' apart (or same distance as the height of the plant). Most varieties are high bush and grow around 4-6' tall. Count on 5-15 pounds of berries per plant depending on variety. Blueberries can tolerate wet feet in winter.

Our PNW soils are acidic – perfect for blueberries! Still, add ample organic matter to maintain high moisture content throughout the summer. Amend an area 4'x4' around each plant, rather than just in the planting hole. You can also use your amendment as mulch around the base of the root zone to protect roots from drying out and minimizing weed growth.

Blueberries are easy to care for. As with rhododendrons, they like consistent, even soil moisture. A little summer watering is normally needed, since they have shallow roots. Watering at the base will get the moisture where the plant needs it most and will minimize fungus problems on the foliage. Use light surface application of rhododendron fertilizer, ammonium sulfate or cottonseed meal in March and again in May.

After the first year, follow these pruning steps in February or March:

- 1) Remove low growth around the base.
- 2) Remove the dead & twiggy wood. Keep the brightly colored wood with long laterals (at least 3 inches). Cut out any short, discolored branches.
- 3) Remove blotchy colored short growth.
- 4) Continue pruning until you have removed 1/3 to ½ of the wood out of your plants each year. This will promote growth and berry production.

