

# BLUEBERRY CULTIVARS

Cultivar	Characteristics	Harvest Time	Primary Use
<b>Northern Highbush</b> ( <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> )			
<b>Bluecrop</b>	Medium-sized, firm, sweet, abundant fruit. Zone 4, -30°F	Mid-July to Mid-Aug	Fresh, Cooking, Freezing
<b>Blue Ray</b>	Extra large, sweet fruit. Scarlet fall color. Zone 5, -20°F	Mid-July to Mid-Aug	Fresh
<b>Chandler</b>	Enormous, sweet, juicy fruit. Zone 6, -10°F	Mid-July to Mid-Aug	Cooking, Baking, Freezing
<b>Darrow</b>	Large, robust, abundant, lightly sweet fruit. Zone 4, -30°F	Early to Mid-Aug	Fresh
<b>Duke</b>	Medium-large, firm, light blue, flavorful, abundant fruit. Blooms after early spring frosts but fruit ripens early. Zone 5, -20°F	Early to Mid-July	Fresh, Baking, Cooking
<b>Elliot</b>	Medium, lightly tart, firm, abundant fruit. High antioxidant levels. Zone 5, -20°F	Aug to Sept	Fresh, Cooking
<b>Peach Sorbet</b> (dwarf)	Sweet, fragrant, juicy, firm fruit. Foliage ranges from pink-orange to emerald-green, turning rich purple in fall. Zone 5, -20°F	Mid-July	Fresh
<b>Spartan</b>	Large, tangy-sweet, firm fruit. Tall, upright form. Zone 5, -20°F	Early to Mid-July	Fresh
<b>Southern Highbush</b> ( <i>V. corymbosum</i> × <i>V. ashei</i> × <i>V. darrowi</i> )			
<b>Sunshine Blue</b> (semi-dwarf)	Small, sweet, juicy dark- blue fruit. Tolerant of higher pH and a range of climate conditions. Zone 6, -10°F	Mid-July to August	Fresh, Cooking
<b>Half-Highbush</b> ( <i>V. corymbosum</i> × <i>V. angustifolium</i> )			
<b>Northblue</b> (compact)	Delicious, dime-size, dark blue berries. Zone 3, -40°F	Mid-July to August	Fresh
<b>Perpetua</b> (compact)	Violet-blue, lightly sweet, tiny fruit. Fruits on new growth! Zone 4, -30°F	July, October (repeat)	Baking, Ornamental
<b>Wild Lowbush</b> ( <i>V. angustifolium</i> )			
<b>Top Hat</b> (dwarf)	Small berries with a dusky flavor. Excellent hardy container plant. Zone 3, -40°F	Mid- to Late July	Fresh, Baking
<i>In addition to producing wonderful fruit, blueberry shrubs have elegant little lantern-shaped flowers and brilliant red fall color. Most cultivars are self-fertile (produce fruit with other bushes of their same cultivar or with themselves), but will produce larger and more abundant fruit if planted near a bush of a different cultivar. Plant no more than 5 ft. apart for optimal pollination. A mature, non-dwarf plant produces about 8 quarts of berries. Pruning strategy influences berry size and quantity: aggressive pruning translates to bigger but fewer berries. Prune in late winter third year after planting. Monitor and maintain soil acidity for plant survival and correct water absorption. Ideal pH range is 4 to 5.2.</i>			