

Blueberry Varieties for the Inland Northwest & Intermountain West

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<p>Expected yield: half-highs: 1-3 pounds per bush highbush: 8 to 20 pounds per bush Age to maturity: 6 to 8 years after planting Productive life: more than 50 years Hardiness: -15 to -40 F, depending on cultivar Optimal pH: 4.2 to 4.8 Exposure: full sun Plant spacing: lowbush: 1 foot between plants half-highs: 2 to 3 feet apart in rows 6 to 8 feet apart highbush: 4 to 5 feet apart in rows 8 to 10 feet apart</p>	<p>Download our how-to guide! <i>Growing Blueberries in the Inland Northwest and Intermountain West</i></p>
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Cultivar (listed in order of ripening)	Hardiness zone	Height (feet)	Fruit				Comments
			Size	Color	Flavor	Yield	
Earliblue	5-7	4-6	M-L	light	good	8-15	Earliest ripening blueberry. Upright canes. Hand or mechanical harvesting. For fresh and U-pick markets. Susceptible to phomopsis canker.

Bluetta	4-7	3-5	S-M	dark	tangy	10-20	Better than Earliblue for cold areas or sites with late spring frosts. Compact. Excellent for landscapes. Large stem scar. Mostly hand harvested.
Duke	4-7	4-6	M-L	light	mild, sweet	15-20+	Good for areas with late spring frosts. Heavy, consistent yields. Hand or mechanical harvest. Attractive, firm fruit with good shelf life.
Spartan	5-7	5-6	L-VL	light	tangy, sweet	8-12	Large, attractive fruit. upright canes. Hand or mechanical harvest. Partially resistant to mummy berry. Particularly sensitive to high soil pH.
Patriot	3-7	4-5	L	dark	excellent	10-20	Cold hardy. Spreading shape requires extra side pruning. Hand harvest. Resistant to root rot and adaptable to wetter, heavier soils than most blueberries. Consistent yields. Popular with home and U-pick growers.
Bluejay	4-7	6-7	M	light	mild	10-20	Extremely vigorous, fast growing, tall canes. Fruit hangs well after ripening. Hand or mechanical harvest. Fresh or process markets.
Northland	3-7	3-6	S-M	dark	sweet, wild	15-20+	Very cold hardy and adapted to high snowfall areas. Tolerates many soil types. Hand or mechanical harvest. For fresh, U-pick, or process markets. Produces numerous suckers and requires more pruning than most cultivars.
Blueray	4-7	4-6	L	bright	excellent	10-20	A leading U-pick cultivar. Adapted to areas with hot summers and cold winters. Upright. Hand harvest.
Meader	4-7	5-7	M-L	medium	good	10-20	Cold hardy and tolerates heavy snow loads. Tends to overcrop. Hand or mechanical harvest. Fresh or process markets.

Toro	4-7	5-6	L	medium	good	10-20	Stocky, compact. Tolerates fluctuating winter temperatures. Consistent yields. Most berries ripen at once. Hand or mechanical harvest. Primarily fresh and U-pick markets.
North Country	3-7	1-2	S-M	light	wild, sweet	2-5	Half-high blueberry. Very cold hardy. Hand or rake harvest. Fresh and U-pick markets. Compact bush to 3 feet in diameter. Excellent ornamental.
Northsky	3-7	1-1.5	S	light	wild, sweet	1-2	Half-high blueberry. Most cold hardy cultivar. Has survived -45o F, but does best with snow cover. Hand or rake harvest. Ideal for containers and ornamental plantings. Spread of 2 - 3 feet.
Northblue	3-7	2-3	L	dark	good	3-5	Half-high blueberry. Hardy to -35° F, but does best with snow cover. Compact, spreading to 3 feet. Very good fruit quality with good shelf life. Hand or rake harvest. Fresh or U-pick markets. Excellent ornamental.
Hardyblue (formerly 1613A)	4-7	4-6	L	bright	excellent	10-20	Adapted to heavy soils and a wide range of sites. Hand or mechanical harvest. Fresh or process markets.
Bluecrop	4-7	4-6	L	bright	excellent	10-20	Leading commercial cultivar in North America. Consistent yields of high quality fruit. Disease resistant. Upright. Hand or mechanical harvest. Fresh or process markets.
Nelson	4-7	5-6	L	dark	excellent	10-15	Excellent for fresh and U-pick markets. Hand harvest.
Friendship	3-7	2	S-M	dark	wild, excellent	3-5	Half-high cultivar. Small, compact. Very cold hardy and tolerates heavy snow loads. Noted for wild blueberry flavor. Hand harvest. Fresh and U-pick markets.

Jersey	4- 7	5- 7	S- M	dark	excellent	7- 10	Widely grown. Leading processing blueberry in North America. Hand or mechanical harvest. Ripens late. For areas with long growing seasons.
Elliott	4- 7	5- 7	S- M	light	tart, good	10- 20	Ripens very late. Only for areas with long growing seasons. Good for areas with late spring frosts. 70 - 80% of fruit ripens at once. Hand or mechanical harvest. Fresh or process markets.
<p>Hardiness zones refer to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Hardiness Zone Map. Fruit Size: S = small, M = medium, L = large, VL = very large.</p>							