



BLUEBERRIES

PLANTING:

Early spring and fall are the best time to plant Blueberries, and you can add them all year round, just be sure to water them regularly. Prepare the soil for your beds or containers by adding compost. Incorporate a granular organic fertilizer into the soil and work in well.

Water well before transplanting. Dig a hole that is twice as wide and as deep as your plant's root ball or container.

Containers: Gently loosen the root ball. If the root ball is tight and crowded, slash, or spread or cut roots so they branch into the soil. Cut off any roots circling the bottom of the container. Place so that the top of the root ball is at the same height as the surrounding soil.

Bare root: The roots of bare root shrubs must be kept moist. Soak for one to two hours before planting. Most shrubs have a bud or graft union at the base of their trunks. This union must remain above soil and mulch level.

Space full-sized bushes based on their mature width, usually 6 to 8 feet apart.

Firm the soil gently around your transplants and water in well. Level soil so water runs away from the base, but not away from the root area. Mulch with compost, avoiding contact with the base of the bush.

After planting, remove all blossoms as they appear for the first year. This will help your Blueberries focus on strong root development.

FEEDING/WATERING:

In March, feed once with an organic fertilizer for acid-loving plants.

Water both new and established bushes deeply and regularly, especially ones in containers.

GROWING TIPS:

As your berries ripen, consider covering bushes with netting. Birds might pick your berries before you do!

PRUNING:

Late winter to early spring is the best time to prune Blueberries, after the chance of severe cold has passed and before new growth has begun.