

BLACKBERRIES



The Blackberries of the West are bred from those of the East and Midwest. They are shrubs with long, trailing branches. The fruit flavor is influenced by the wild blackberries of the Northwest.

PLANTING: Plant erect varieties 2-4 feet apart and trailing varieties 5-6 feet apart. Prune heavily at planting to encourage new growth. The roots are very sensitive to sunlight, so plant on a cloudy day.

CULTURE: Blackberries prefer rich soil, full sun and ample water (about one inch of water per week). Blackberry roots are perennial, the canes biennial: they fruit on second year growth. Each cane produces only once. The roots will produce for about ten years. Feed with a complete fertilizer at bloom time. Keep the area well weeded.

STAKING AND PRUNING: Blackberries grow best on a trellis. String 2 wires 5 feet high with 18 inches between the wires. Train 1 year old canes on the trellis. Remove canes that have fruited after harvest and train canes of the current season onto the trellis. Prune these between 6 - 8 feet and remove all but 12 - 16 canes. In early spring, prune side branches to 1 foot.

VARIETIES for 2021

BLACK SATIN	Large, firm, glossy black fruit is sweet. Great for jam, pie, fresh eating and stores well too. Heavy yields, thornless, ripens in July.
BOYSEN-BERRY	Thornless! Popular for high yields and sweet-tart flavor. Eaten fresh, canned or frozen. Hardy to -14°F. Ripens in May and June.
LOGANBERRY (thornless)	Thornless! Large to medium fruit, juicy and tart. Berries are light reddish, not darkening when ripe. Excellent for canning, wine, and pies. Very vigorous and bushy, needs trellis for support.
MARION-BERRY	Medium to large fruit, excellent all-purpose berry. High yields over a long period of time. Trailing and upright canes which are very thorny. Excellent in the PNW. Ripens July-Aug.

Questions? Stop by our Information Desk. *We're happy to help!*