Grow Blueberries at Home!

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Nothing says summer like fresh-picked blueberries. Good news! If you’ve got a sunny spot, there’s a blueberry plant for you.

Most blueberries are highbush varieties that eventually grow 4’-7’ tall and wide. Some popular varieties include ‘Bluecrop’, ‘Jersey’, and ‘Patriot’. Lowbush and half-high types like ‘Brunswick’ typically grow about a foot tall and spread out several feet. Southern highbush types like ‘Sunshine Blue’ often stay under 4’ tall, and are evergreen. The smaller types grow well in pots.

Blueberries prefer full sun—at least 6-8 hours per day in the spring and summer. They do best in well-drained soil amended with lots of compost. They also need an acidic soil (pH of 4.5 to 5.5). Our native soils are slightly acidic, but fertilizing with an organic acid plant food (such as for azaleas) will help maintain the right pH. For blueberries in pots, use a planting mix formulated for acid-loving plants.

Blueberries need lots of water in the summer. Mulch around the base of the plant with wood chips or compost to help retain moisture.

Blueberries are self-fertile, but you will get more fruit if you plant at least two different varieties. Depending on the type, blueberries can produce fruit from early to late summer, so if you choose carefully, you can have fruit all season!

For more information on selecting and growing blueberries, please visit www.portlandnursery .com, or stop by either of our locations for expert advice. Happy snacking!