

Growing Blueberries



Found all over the island, blueberries are native to Newfoundland, and are widely used for baking, cooking, and preservatives. Below is a quick guide for growing blueberries.

Category	Directions and Notes
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full sun and protected from any strong winds. • Avoid areas that collect water and drain poorly.
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low pH soil in between 4.5 and 5.2. • Newfoundland soils are generally acidic enough, however if the area was limed recently (within 8 - 12 months), test your soil using the Rapitest Soil Tester kit available at Murray's. • If the soil is heavy clay, amend it with compost or peat moss.
Planting Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Container grown plants are best planted in the spring, but summer and fall planting are also fine. • Dig a hole two times the diameter of the root ball. • Mix the removed soil with compost or peat moss in a 1:1 ratio. • Plant blueberries slightly deeper than they are grown in the pots. This is different from how you would plant other fruit bushes. • Prune out any dead or weak branches. • Water the plant thoroughly after planting. • Spread 2-3" of mulch to conserve moisture. Reapply mulch when the old layer breaks down.
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four weeks after planting apply 2oz. of balanced fertilizer around your plant. Apply in a circle around the blueberry 15-18" from the base of the plant. • In following years, apply fertilizer once in spring, or split application for half in spring and half six weeks later.
Harvesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick when blue in late summer to early fall
Special Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most cultivated varieties grow 2 to 3 ft high.
Varieties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polaris, Northland

