

August 20, 2015

Dr. Elizabeth Duewer vendor at Farmers Market at Platteville provided this information. She decided to offer this handout at her booth at Farmers Market because she has many requests from customers asking about how to grow blueberries.

She emphasized planting two different kinds for cross-pollination. The ones that she is growing are listed. The Corville is a later species and she believed her Patriot has the larger berries over the Blueray and Northland.

Instructions for Planting and Caring for Blueberries

1. Completely remove the soil for a 2' X 2' x 2' cube.
2. Replace the soil with *Sphagnum* peat moss. Note: it MUST be *Sphagnum* peat moss, not just peat moss or peat.
3. Mix some of the soil in with the peat moss, but not too much.
4. In order for berries to be produced, there needs to be cross-pollination.
5. Varieties of highbush blueberries recommended for this part of the country are:

Blueray, Northland, Patriot, and Corville (a variety that helps extend the season)

6. Be sure that they are planted in full sun. They will survive in partial shade, but they do best in full sun.
7. As with most fruiting plants, it takes 7 – 10 years for a crop.
8. As the plants mature, remove branches that cross other branches; it makes it easier to pick the blueberries. If there are upright, young shoots (leaves far apart and elongated stems), remove them because they rarely produce berries.

Happy Eating!