

Blueberries Characteristics and New Releases

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EST. 1958



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On the Shore of Lake Michigan



Cranberries



Nursery



Varieties

- Early Ripening
 - Early July
- Early-Mid Season
 - Mid July
- Mid Season
 - Late July
- Mid-Late Season
 - Early-Mid August
- Late Season
 - Late August-Sept



Early Season

- Old Timers

- Weymouth
- Early Blue
- Bluetta

Newer Releases

- 'Duke' Chanticleer, Sweetheart

'Duke'

- The best early variety released
- Late blooming
- Large fruit
- Excellent quality
- Good consistent yields
- Great for early fresh market and U-pick
- Machine harvest



Sweetheart, Chanticleer

- New Releases from USDA
- Not widely planted
- Winter Hardiness
- ??



Early-Mid Season

- 'Huron'
- 'Patriot'
- 'Bluejay'
- 'Spartan'



Early-Mid Season 'Huron'

MSU release

- Very productive
- 4'-5' bush
- Large berry
- Very Firm with excellent quality
- Great cold storage



'Patriot'

- Half high cross
- Winter Hardy
- Large fruit
- Very productive as a young bush
- Early bloomer

Soft fruit if left too long on bush

Virus issues.



'Bluejay'

- #1 variety for machine harvested for fresh market
- Fruit is firm, round and has a loose clusters.
- Large bush
- Vigorous grower



Northland

- MSU release in 1950's
- Selected for the U.P. in Michigan
- Cold hardy
- Very productive
- Used for processing in MI

'Spartan'

- Large fruit
- Good production
- Site specific
- Great variety if you can grow it



Mid Season

- 'Bluecrop'
- 'Blueray'
- 'Draper'
- Toro



Mid Season 'Bluecrop'

- #1 planted variety in the world
- High productivity
- Large excellent quality fruit for fresh market sale



'Blueray'

- Sister seedling to 'Bluecrop'
- High productivity
- Very winter hardy
- Good grower
- Needs to be handpicked the first picking



'Toro'

- Ripens with 'Bluecrop'
- Large firm fruit
- Shorter stockier bush
- More erect with fruit load
- Appears to be very hardy



Draper MSU release

- Ripens with Bluecrop
- Excellent Berry
- Very firm Crisp
- Long term storage in cooler.

Mid Late Seasons

- 'Bluegold'
- 'Bonus'
- Chandler
- Nelson'



'Bluegold'

- Cross of 'Bluehaven'
- Small rounded bush
- Very productive
- Medium size, high quality fruit
- Early blooming

'Bonus'

- DeGrandchamp Farms release
- Discovered in 'Elliott'
- Largest fruit
- Great for U-Pick and Farm sales
- Consistent yields



Chandler

- USDA release
- Large berry
- Some plantings
in Southern
region of Quebec

'Nelson'



- Released in the mid 80's
- Excellent fruit quality
- Good productivity
- Winter hardy
- Medium fruit size
- Machine harvest

Late Season



'Elliott'

- Latest ripening
- #1 producer
- Machine harvest for fresh fruit
- Very flavorful fruit



What's New?

- 'Legacy'
- 'Aurora' MSU release
- 'Liberty' MSU release
- 'Draper' MSU release
- 'Huron' MSU release 2009
- 'Superior' Minnesota 2008

'Legacy'

- Mid- Late Season
- 25% Southern Highbush
- 'Medium to large size fruit
- Good yields excellent quality
- Used as pollinator for 'Aurora' and 'Liberty
- Winter hardiness ??

'Aurora'

- MSU release Fall 2003
- 'Elliott' X 'Brigitta'
- Late season with 'Elliott'
- Excellent berry quality fruit
- Good production
- Winter hardy
- Good cold storage
- Mechanical harvest for fresh fruit

'Liberty'

- MSU release Fall 2003
- 'Elliott' X 'Brigitta'
- Ripens 5 days before 'Elliott'
- Excellent fruit quality
- Excellent cold storage
- Upright bush
- Mechanical Harvest for fresh fruit

'Draper'

- MSU release Fall 2003
- Cross Duke X G751
- Ripens with 'Bluecrop'
- Excellent fruit quality
- Great potential

Replacement for Bluecrop

'Huron' (MSU-47)

- MSU release in 2009
- Early Mid-Season ripening with Patroit
- 85% Highbush, 12% Southern, 3% Lowbush
- Excellent yields, fruit quality and flavor, winter hardiness

'Superior'

- Univ. Minnesota release 2009
- Half High bush for USDA Zone 3-4
- Mid- late season ripening
- Good productivity
- Extends picking season for Northern Growers in Zones 3-4

Proprietary Varieties

- Blueberry Breeding Programs
 - In the past
 - USDA
 - Universities
 - Future
 - Private Companies

Merci !!
Quebec