Patriot Blueberry

Vaccinium corymbosum 'Patriot'



Patriot Blueberry fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 7 feet

Sunlight: ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Highbush Blueberry

Group/Class: Fruit bush

Description:

A favored shrub for its large and sweet dark blue fruit in early summer, pretty bell-shaped flowers and good fall color, bushy and upright, an amazing producer; blueberries need highly acidic soil, perfect drainage and mulch, plant with peat moss

Ornamental Features

Patriot Blueberry is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent blue berries from early to mid summer. It features dainty clusters of white bell-shaped flowers with shell pink overtones hanging below the branches in mid spring. It has green deciduous foliage. The glossy oval leaves turn an outstanding scarlet in the fall. The smooth brick red bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

This plant is primarily grown as an ornamental, but it's also valued for its edible qualities. The round sweet fruit is most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Cooking
- Baking
- Preserves



Patriot Blueberry fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Patriot Blueberry is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Patriot Blueberry is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Orchard/Edible Landscaping

Planting & Growing

Patriot Blueberry will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 7 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years. This is a self-pollinating variety, so it doesn't require a second plant nearby to set fruit.

This shrub should be grown in a location with partial shade or which is shaded from the hot afternoon sun. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have sandy, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species.

Pollinator partner:

While this plant is self-fertile, planting another one nearby can help lead to greater yields.