



Blueberry Planting Instructions

Give your new plant the best start!

You have just received DeGrandchamp's **virus-tested blueberry plants**. These plants were carefully grown in our nursery for several years. With proper planting and care, they will grow and produce fruit for many years.

1. Choose the Right Planting Location

- **Full sun** Blueberries will tolerate **partial shade**, but fruit production will be reduced.
- **Moist, well-drained soil**
- Areas **without standing water**
- Locations **not in frost pockets**

2. Prepare the Planting Hole

Proper soil preparation is the most important step.

- Dig a hole **at least 24 inches wide and 18 inches deep**
- Mix the removed soil with **50% acidic organic material**, such as:
 - Peat moss
 - Rotted sawdust
 - Composted pine bark
 - Acidic compost

The finished planting mix should have a **pH of about 4.5–5.0**.

Space plants **3–4 feet apart**.

3. Prepare the Roots

Before planting container-grown blueberries:

- Gently **loosen the root ball**
- Spread roots slightly outward

This encourages the roots to grow into the surrounding soil.

** If You Purchased Fertilizer Tablets With Your Plants

To apply:

1. Position the plant in the planting hole.
2. Backfill soil **halfway up the root ball**.
3. Place **one fertilizer tablet beside the root ball**, about **1 inch away from the root tips**.
4. **Do not place the tablet in the bottom of the hole.**
5. Finish filling the planting hole.

Do **not fertilize in fall**, as it may stimulate new growth before winter dormancy.

**** If You Purchased Soil Sulfur**

Apply sulfur as follows:

- Mix **2 ounces (about 2 tablespoons)** of sulfur into the planting soil for each plant. After planting:
- Spread **2 ounces (2 tablespoons)** in an **18-inch diameter ring** around the plant. Apply **once per year**.

4. Plant at the Correct Depth

Do **not plant blueberries too deep**.

- The top of the root ball should be **level with the soil surface**

If you have **heavy clay soil**, plant the root ball **slightly high** (up to half above ground level) and mound the prepared soil around it.

5. Fertilizing

If you did not purchase Fertilizer Tablets from us, granular fertilizer can be applied. Plan to apply fertilizer every spring to maintain optimal plant growth.

6. Mulch

After planting, apply **2–4 inches of mulch** around the plant.

Recommended mulch materials:

- Pine bark
- Rotted sawdust
- Straw

Maintain mulch yearly to retain moisture and control weeds.

7. Watering

Blueberries **do not tolerate drought**.

Keep soil **consistently moist but not waterlogged**, especially during the first growing season.

Final Tip

With proper planting, watering, soil acidity, and mulch, your blueberries will grow vigorously and produce fruit for many years.

Most Common Blueberry Planting Mistakes

- 1** Planting too deep
- 2** Not using acidic soil or sulfur
- 3** Allowing plants to dry out the first year