



GROWING *edibles* IN PERTH

Growing Blueberries

Delicious, nutritious and surprisingly easy to grow, there is no reason why you shouldn't try growing blueberries at home!

Blueberries are a semi-deciduous to deciduous shrub that can reach up to 2 m high, depending on the variety. The attractive, small bell-shaped pink-white flowers are followed by the delicious small blue-purple berries. Blueberries are best grown in Perth in a sheltered sunny position with protection from the hot afternoon sun and winds. They like acidic, well-drained soil rich in organic matter so they do well in pots with 'Camellia & Azalea Potting Mix'. Pots also let you move them around your garden to suit the season.

Blueberries are relatively shallow rooted and like a cool root zone. A good layer of mulch, kept clear from the trunk of the shrub, will help keep the soil cool and moist throughout the warmer months.

Fertilise in spring and early autumn with a premium quality, mineral-rich controlled release fertiliser suitable for acid loving plants such as a 'Camellia and Azalea' blend. Seasol can be used as a tonic throughout the year.

Prune at the beginning of autumn. Fruit is borne on the tips of the previous season's growth. Remove any spindly or weak older growth to make way for new vigorous shoots.

Blueberries are generally self-fertile but crops can improve when different varieties are planted together.

Blue Rose – Produces large berries mid-season. Taller growing variety, up to 2m high. Prune well.

Burst – Australian bred compact variety to 1 m. Heavy cropper with very large fruit early in the season.

Climax – Medium sized fruit early in the season. Suitable for coastal areas as well as the general Perth area.

Legacy – Produces medium sized fruit, mid-season. Suitable for coastal areas. Vigorous and upright growing.

Northland – Tolerant to extremes of heat and cold. Long harvest period from December – March.

Sunshine Blue – Compact growing variety producing high yields early in the season. Suitable for coastal areas as well as the general Perth area.

General advice only. Please ask one of our Horticulturists if you require specific advice for your situation.