

BUSHEL *and* BERRY®

— Transplanting Blueberry Plants into Containers —

Use a bark based planting media and make sure that no lime or dolomite of any type has been added.

Blueberries do best at pH 4.5-5.5.

SUGGESTED MEDIAS:

80% - Medium/coarse fir bark*
10% - Peat
10% - Perlite or Pumice

OR

85% - Medium/coarse fir bark*
15% - Peat

*Pine bark is also acceptable. Avoid using cedar.

MEDIA GUIDELINES:

- Must provide good drainage and be kept uniformly moist—not overly wet.
- Irrigation scheduling—frequency and amount need to be adjusted according to changes in weather, stage of plant growth and root development.
- Depending on availability and cost, other options for media mixes might be used.

SUGGESTED SOIL AND WATER DETAILS:

- **Soil pH:** 4.5-5.5 (no dolomite or lime in the mix)
- **Water pH:** 5.5-6.5
 - More importantly, bicarbonate level 100ppm or less.
 - Acid Injection: Sulfuric Acid, Phosphoric Acid or Citric Acid to lower bicarbonate level.
- **Fertility:** Liquid Nitrogen must not be from Nitrate. This can be deadly to blueberries and raises pH.
 - Urea, Sulfate, Ammoniacal work well.
 - Acid based fertilizer with minors.
 - 1x per month.

Many growers use a slow release fertilizer as a top dress or incorporate into their bulk blended mix.

- Multi-cote slow release is good (slow release nitrate is ok).
- Timed for region: 3, 6 or 8 month.
- Low rate incorporated per label per cubic yard; medium rate as a top dress.
- Saturate media extract (SME)—preferred soil testing method.