

Caldwell Extension Center

Edible Plant Sale

Planting Information Guide

The varieties in this sale are proven performers in Caldwell County. Strawberries will be delivered bare root (without soil) and blueberries will be in gallon containers. Plants will need immediate care after pick up. Care instructions will be available at pick up. All orders are due with payment to Caldwell County Extension by Friday, February 26. Please make arrangements to pick up your plants at the Caldwell County Cooperative Extension office located at 120 Hospital Ave, NE, Lenoir (828) 757-1290 on Friday, March 11 between 8am and 5pm.

Tips and Considerations

Site Selection

Proper site selection is critical in growing healthy, productive plants. Strawberries and blueberries produce best in full sun. However, blueberries can tolerate some shade. Good air circulation is important to minimize disease outbreaks. Avoid low-lying areas, or frost pockets, in order to protect spring blossoms. Good drainage is essential. If you have poorly drained soil and wish to grow fruit plants, create raised beds by mounding up the soil or by using some type of construction material for the sides.

Soil Testing

Once you select the site, take a soil sample and submit it to NCDA-Agronomic Division for analysis. Test results will provide recommendations on the amount of lime and nutrients needed. Strawberries perform best at a pH of 6.0, whereas blueberries need a more acidic soil. It is important to incorporate nutrients into the soil at the time of planting. Information on soil testing, forms, and boxes can be obtained from the Caldwell County Cooperative Extension Service office. Soil testing is free April through November. Samples received between December and March will be assessed a \$4 fee per sample.

Pollination

Blueberries require more than one variety for good fruit set. Strawberries are self-fertile and require no additional pollinator.

Summary: We advise that once you have selected a site for your new plants, take a soil sample and have it tested for nutrients and pH as soon as possible.

Note: These plants are offered at near wholesale, delivered prices. Therefore, we do not guarantee livability of plant material.

For more information consult the following publications online, or stop by the Caldwell County Center of the NC Cooperative Extension Service located at 120 Hospital Ave. NE, Suite 1, in Lenoir to pick up a copy.

Horticulture Information Leaflets

www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/hil/hfruitnew.html

Growing Blueberries in the Home Garden

Strawberries for the Home Garden

Extension Bulletins

www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/ag_publications.htm

Grapes and Berries for the Garden

Caldwell Extension Center Edible Plant Sale | 2016

BLUEBERRIES

\$8.00 each

18-24 inches tall, container plants

Blueberries require a well-drained soil with abundant organic matter and a pH of 4.8-5.3. They will bear well in full sun to light shade. A few inches of mulch helps reduce water stress. Under good conditions, plants produce in abundance. The following varieties produce best when at least two different varieties are planted together. Plant 6' apart.

| <i>Varieties</i> | <i>Ripens</i> | <i>Size</i> | <i>Comments</i> |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------|---|
| Climax | Early | Med-Lg | Upright; good flavor; concentric ripening; medium color; rabbiteye type |
| Premier | Early-Mid | Med-Lg | Excellent flavor and highly productive; rabbiteye type |
| Tifblue | Early-Mid | Med-Lg | Standard variety; productive; berries hold well; rabbiteye type |
| Powderblue | Mid-Late | Medium | Long season; no cracking; highly productive; rabbiteye type |

STRAWBERRIES

\$8.00 / 25 plants

1 yr. old, bare root plants

Strawberries are easy to grow and are typically grown as a matted row. Strawberries perform best with a soil pH of 6.0. June bearing types bear fruit in the spring of the second year and every spring after that.

| <i>Varieties</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Season</i> | <i>Comments</i> |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| Earliglow | June bearing | Early | Ripens late May-June; great for fresh eating, jams, and freezing; vigorous grower |
| Jewel | June bearing | Mid | Popular variety produces large, flavorful berries; great for eating, jams, and freezing |



ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Please help us save paper by giving us your e-mail, so we can send confirmations and pick up reminders to you.

| Fruit | Variety | Price | Number | Total Amount |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Blueberries | Climax (container grown) | \$8.00 | | |
| | Premier (container grown) | \$8.00 | | |
| | Powder Blue (container grown) | \$8.00 | | |
| | Tifblue (container grown) | \$8.00 | | |
| Strawberries | Earliglow (25 plants) | \$8.00 | | |
| | Jewel (25 plants) | \$8.00 | | |
| | | | | |
| Payment Due With Order | | | Order Total: | |

Send completed order form with check made payable to: **Caldwell Extension Center**

20 Hospital Ave. NE Suite 1

Lenoir, NC 28645

Phone: 828 757-1290

Website: <http://caldwell.ces.ncsu.edu>

***** Order pick-up is Friday, March 11 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm *****