## BLUEBERRIES



Blueberries have grown in popularity and are widely available, but sadly they still cost so much in the shops. They can be grown in virtually any garden, large or small, in pots or in the ground.

Blueberries prefer an acidic soil, so if you plant into a container (the larger the better) then you have full control over this by using ericaceous compost / soil, although your plant will require more care to overcome the obvious limitation of container growing.

- If you have the space to plant your blueberry in the ground (they need around $3 \mathrm{ft} / 1 \mathrm{~m}$ each), you should dig in plenty of well-rotted manure into the planting hole, and regularly mulch the plant with the same as this will help increase the soil acidity. You should also use rainwater wherever possible as this is more acidic than tapwater.
- Each variety has a slightly different fruiting time so by planting several varieties you will ensure a longer harvest period, and also a greater crop as they will pollinate each other. Don't worry if you only have space for one, blueberries are self-fertile.


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