

**Cultural Tips For The Successful Grower**  
**Duke**

**Duke** - Highbush; early season. Medium to large light blue berries. Mildly tart flavor. The Duke berry is very firm and retains its fresh quality longer than most other varieties. Blooms late but ripens early, protecting blossoms from late frosts. Heavy, consistent producer. Upright growth but branches will droop to the ground when laden with fruit. Yellow-orange foliage in the fall. Zone 4-7.



**Planting Instructions: Highbush**  
Start with selecting a sunny location in well drained soil free of weeds and well worked. Locate in an area where irrigation water is available as best results will be obtained by keeping the root zone moist throughout the growing season. Where the soil is poor or marginally drained, raised beds 3-4 feet wide and 8-12" high work very well for blueberries. Blueberries can be planted as close as 2-1/2 feet apart to form solid hedgerows or spaced up to 6 feet apart and grown as individual specimens. If planted in rows, allow 8-10 feet between the rows depending on equipment used for mowing or cultivating.  
**Mulching** - Blueberries do best with a 2-4" mulch over the roots to conserve moisture, prevent weeds and add organic matter. Bark mulch, sawdust, grass clippings, etc. all work well. Repeat every other year.

Variety	Zone	Season	Size	Classification	Exposure	Flavor	Spacing
Duke	4-7 	 ↑ Early Season	 Medium-Large	Northern Highbush	Full Sun 	Mild Flavor	6 Feet

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