

VACCINIUM SPECIALIST

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Welcome





Dear colleague,

We are absolute experts in blueberries. For more than 30 years, we have been growing plants and collecting feedback on your difficulties and accomplishments with blueberry growing. We can therefore offer you advice based on your geographical location and goals.

The blueberry market has evolved and preferences for certain varieties have emerged.

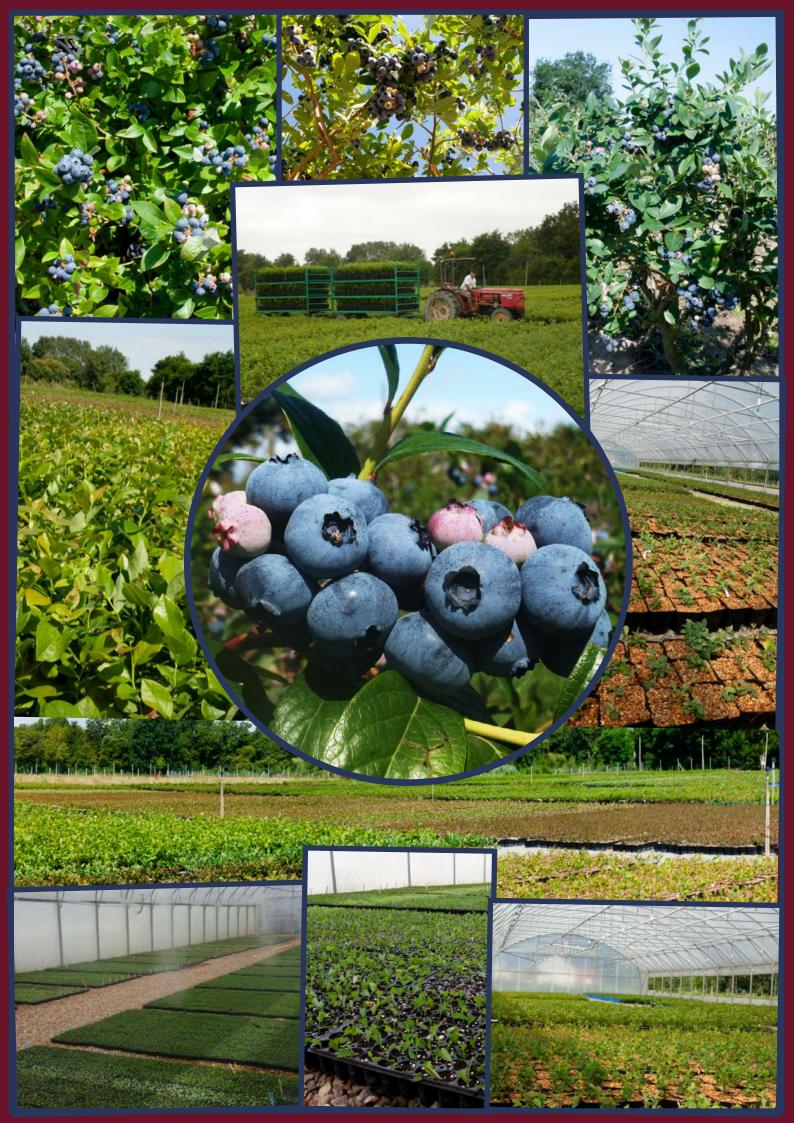
At the same time, there is an ever-growing demand for blueberries in the United States and throughout the world. As always, we continue to have excellent relations with the major developers of new cultivars in order to bring you the latest, most fashionable varieties.

Like our passion for blueberries, we are delighted to share this knowledge with you in our catalogue which we hope will have everything you need.

Yours sincerely,







The main characteristics of the differents V accinium corymbosum varieties featured in the catalogue :

		VARIETIES FEATURED IN THE CATALOGUE.							
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		R ека	A PARTY	* *	*	ML	7		ok
		SUNSET BLUE [®]	fife	**	es es	ML	10	ok	
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		BLUECROP	ffe	* *	**************************************	MIL	10	ok	ok
		DRAPER	*	*	1	XL	15	ok	
		Osorno	fife	茶		XL	15	ok	
		Katahdin	the file	**	100 mgs 100	XL	15	ok	ok
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*This notation is to understand only as an indication

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ABOUT THE VACCINIUM GENUS



The genus Vaccinium belongs to the Ericaceae (or heather) family and includes a large number of different species. Likened to the native European species of blueberry (or bilberry), Vaccinium myrtillus, all of the various kinds of blue-fruit-bearing vaccinium (V. corymbosum, V. ashei, V. darrowii, V. angustifolium, etc.) are grouped together under the generic name 'Blueberry'. Blueberries are widely grown in North America.

The Vaccinium corymbosum species (Lit: fruits in cluster) or Highbush blueberry has been cultivated in the US for around a century. This is because the original wild V. corymbosum produced the best compromise between vigour, yield and fruit quality.

The wild Vaccinium corymbosum is naturally well adapted to oceanic and temperate continental climates. However, in response to market needs and in order to extend the production season, other vaccinium have been introduced in cultivar selection programmes to permit growth in hot climates and to produce earlier varieties. The cultivated blue berry can be distinguished into four major groups:

- Northern Highbush: Vaccinium corymbosum (tetraploid), requires extensive chilling of approximately 1000 hours.

- Southern Highbush: Vaccinium corymbosum hybrid, has a proportion of genetic material derived from other hot climate species (V. darrowi, V. ashei). Requires chilling of about 150-500 hours.

- Rabbit-eye: Vaccinium ashei (hexaploid), developed principally to extend the growing season and allow later harvesting. Chilling requirements are generally low.

Lowbush angustifolium, developed blueberry: Vaccinium essentially mechanical chilling for harvesting and processing. Ιt has high needs.







Blueberries Northern Highbush

VACCINIUM CORYMBOSUM

Early varieties



PATRIOT:

Patriot is a robust and high-yielding blueberry bush. It is very resistant to severe winter cold (up to -29°C) and blooms early. Patriot bears large, light blue fruit. These ripen in stages and the quality of flavour is good. Good insect pollination is required.

Of the early varieties, Patriot is particularly recommended for the family garden due to its hardiness and its spectacular, vibrant orange foliage in autumn. It is worth noting that this is one of the few varieties that is

resistant to phytophthora.



At last an early variety that rivals Duke! Blue One is a vigorous shrub, with good-sized fruit of excellent firmness. It produces slightly less than the Duke variety, however its fruit are much more aromatic. It is the variety that we have been waiting for, for a very long time!





DUKE:

This early variety, identified in 1985, has undeniable qualities. The Duke blueberry bush is vigorous and the blooming season starts relatively late. Fruit are light blue, with a good size, and a long shelf life. It is a strong producer and harvest is concentrated during 2-3 weeks. The erect shape of the bush and the firmness of the berries make the Duke variety one of the most suitable for mechanical harvesting.







REKA:

This variety of New Zealand origin has many advantages. It is very vigorous and can thus adapt in less favourable soil conditions. Its blueberries are known for having a pleasant woody aroma. Its upright, naturally branching shape makes it a beautiful plant.

SUNSET BLUE®:

The Sunsetblue® cultivar was developed by PFR (Plant and Food Research), in New Zealand. Fruit are medium to large, with a thick bloom and good flavour. The Sunsetblue® bush is very vigorous and upright with an open growth. Its fruit ripens early, similar to the Duke variety. Tests performed by breeders have shown it to be very productive.



Mid-early varieties



Collins:

Collins is a vigorous and productive plant with an upright and slightly spread out bush. It is a variety that is capable of adapting to more challenging soils. Fruit are of a good size with a flattened shape, and quite dark in colour. They are very aromatic and have a slightly tart taste that consumers tend to like. Its stems turn red in winter, making it a very attractive plant.

Mid-season varieties

BLUECROP:

Bluecrop is still one of the most commonly planted varieties in the world. It is a relatively vigorous and very upright bush. Fruit are medium to large in size with a slightly frosted appearance. Ripening is staggered over 5-6 weeks. In Angers (France), it crops about 2 weeks after the Bluetta variety. Bluecrop is considered to be an

excellent mid-season variety and a go-to for high-yield production.



DRAPER:

Variety released by the Michigan state university. Draper has set a new standard in terms of fruit quality for long distance export. Berry size, firmness, color and scar are great. In areas with sever winter frost, Draper might not be hardy enough. Overall vigor is only average and might be a limiting factor where soils are not optimal.





Osorno:

Osorno is a new mid-season variety from the MSU breeding program. Osorno is an interspecific hybrid with excellent fruit quality. High heat during harvest is not an issue for the fruits but the cold hardiness of Osorno is limited. Therefore, it is not recommended to plant Osorno in very cold winter areas.

KATAHDIN:

New release of the Michigan state University. Katahdin is a mid-season alternative to Draper for professional growers. The berry size is in-between Bluecrop and Draper. Cold hardiness and vigor are both superior to Draper. Berries are firmer, larger and with a much better scar than Bluecrop.



Mid-late varieties

ATLANTIC/JERSEY:

This upright and slightly spread-out variety is extremely hardy and vigorous, growing up to 2.5 meters tall. Developed especially for the family garden, it can adapt suitably in difficult growing conditions. Its blueberries are small, black and very sweet. Our Atlantic and Jersey plants are twin varieties. The varieties were probably mixed in the past by one of our peers and are nowadays indissociable.





CHANDIER:

Chandler is a vigorous, upright bush, and is the variety producing THE largest fruit. Its berries are both flavoursome and very attractive, remaining a good size throughout the harvest. The ripening period is very staggered and several stages of harvesting are required to collect the entire crop. These characteristics make the Chandler variety an ideal choice for growing «pickyour-own» fruit.

LEGACY:

The Legacy is an upright, vigorous and spread-out bush. It is a «warm blooded» variety, and only partially loses its leaves in our climate (Angers, France). It has many qualities, including a high yield of fruit which ripens within a short period of time. The berries are medium sized, light blue and have a good quality flavour. The fruit stay very firm, even in periods of hot weather. Their shelf life is one of the best.







Blue Pearl™:

Bluepearl™ is a new variety developed for its ornamental characteristics. It is very compact, with semi-persistent, bluetinted foliage. It blooms abundantly with flowers in the form of lovely small pink bells. It also produces consistently and its fruit has top-class flavour. It is the first variety with both an equally high quality of fruit and ornamental attractiveness. Because of its compact size, it makes an excellent potted plant for patios.

LIBERTY:

Variety released by the Michigan state university. Liberty has been on the market for over 10 years. It has been a great alternative in areas where Brigitta wasn't productive enough. Fruit quality is just as great as Brigitta. Liberty is vigorous and very productive.





CALYPSO:

Calypsoisanewmid-season variety from the MSU breeding program. Calypso is very vigorous and productive. Overall fruit quality is excellent. The variety should be easier to handle and pruning easier to manage as it is for Liberty.

Late varieties

OZARKBLUE[®]:

Ozarkblue® is a «hybrid» cultivar combining characteristics of both the Southern and Northern Highbush. It was developed by the University of Arkansas. It is a versatile variety that can be planted in very different latitudes. The bush is vigorous and hardy, producing large, light blue fruit with top-class flavour. The firmness and shelf life are remarkable for fruit of this size. When planted in the right place, with good cross pollination, Ozarkblue® is a very productive variety.





Darrow:

A vigorous, medium-sized open bush and very high-yielding variety. Darrow crops one month after the Bluetta variety and harvest is staggered over 6-8 weeks. The fruit flavour is exceptional, although the size of the berries varies during the ripening season; they are very large at the beginning of the harvest, but diminish in size as picking advances.

ELISABETH:

Elisabeth is a vigorous, upright, open bush. It produces good-sized, light blue fruit which is very aromatic. The Elisabeth variety is a late bloomer that we recommend for cold regions.





AURORA:

Variety released by the Michigan state university. Aurora is the latest ripening Northern highbush and advantageously replace Elliott in most cases. As for Elliott, the berries are not sensitive to anthracnosis but fruit size of is greater. Shelf life is excellent.



Southern Highbush

VACCINIUM CORYMBOSUM HYBRID

Colibri®:

Colibri® is an early-season Southern Highbush with very low chilling needs of about 200 hours. It produces large quantities of pollen and is self-fertile. The overall quality of its fruit is excellent. The berries have a neat stem scar and their Brix-to-acid ratio is high. Fruit are considered to be of a good size (between 2.5 and 3 grams per berry) and conserve their light blue bloom after harvest. The upright shape of the plant and its spread-out fruit make for easy picking. Half of its fruit are generally picked before the Star variety bears fruit. Three stages of harvested are generally required.





New Hanover®:

The New Hanover® cultivar was developed by Jim Ballington for the University of North Carolina. New Hanover® is a mid-season variety requiring 500-600 hours of chilling. It produces remarkably high yields, but that is not its only advantage: the quality of its fruit is also excellent, both in terms of firmness, size and flavour, and shelf life is very good. Hand harvesting is recommended for this variety.







GUPTON:

Gupton is a new cultivar from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). The bush has an upright shape and is very productive. Its chill needs are probably lower than the 400 hours estimated by the breeder. In initial tests in a region with no real cold season, the fruit set was good. «Half the crop» is ready to harvest a week after the Star variety ripens. Gupton bears large, light blue fruit which is sweet and very firm. Tests performed by breeders have shown it to be very productive. In every year of assessment, it yields higher than the Star variety.





LEGACY:

The Legacy is an upright, vigorous and spread-out bush. It is a «warm blooded» variety, and only partially loses its leaves in our climate (Angers, France). It has many qualities, including a high yield of fruit which ripens within a short period of time. The berries are medium sized, light blue and have a good quality flavour. The fruit stay very firm, even in periods of hot weather. Their shelf life is one of the best.

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SKY BLUE®:

Sky Blue® is a new rabbit-eye cultivar developed by Plant & Food Research (New Zealand). It is a semi-upright plant, of medium to strong vigour. Fruits are firm and aromatic with a good balance of sugar and acidity. Fruit size is large, averaging 2.3 g per berry. The berries have a nice bloom and shelf life is excellent. Yields have been rated high in the Waikato and Hawke's Bay regions in New Zealand (test plots). Sky Blue® ripens together with the latest ripening V. corymbosum variety available, but shows overall superior characteristics. Sky Blue® requires a cross pollinator and is not suitable in regions with harsh winters.

PINK LEMONADE:

Pink Lemonade is a new pink-fruited Vaccinium ashei hybrid, from a cross produced by Mark Ehlenfeldt (USDA) in Chatsworth, New Jersey. Fruit are medium sized, bright pink, and have good firmness and flavour.

The plant is compact and upright. Foliage is bright green and semi-persistent. The Pink Lemonade variety is hardy and vigorous and thus promises to adapt well to many types of soils and climates. Its fertility is not precisely known, but like a number of other Rabbit-eye varieties, it is possible that the Pink Lemonade is not fully self-fertile. It is recommended to plant it alongside another Vaccinium ashei.











CENTRA BLUE®:

CentraBlue®isanewrabbit-eyecultivardevelopedbyPlant&Food Research (New Zealand) from the Centurion and Rahi varieties. It is a semi-upright plant, of medium vigour compared with its parents Rahi and Centurion which are very vigorous varieties. The flowering time is generally late.

Centra Blue® also crops very late, up to a month later than the Powderblue variety, depending on the geographical location. Fruit are generally well presented for ease of picking. Berries are large in size and very round. Some fruit can be slightly oblong in shape (but this is difficult to visibly spot without measurement). Fruit are light blue with good flavour and very little grittiness. Initial tests performed in New Zealand have shown it to be a very productive variety. Centrablue® requires a cross pollinator and is not suitable in regions with harsh winters.

BLACK HUCKLEBERRIES VACCINIUM OVATUM

Moris[®]:

We developed the Moris® cultivar from a historical collection originating in Oregon. It is a wild plant directly derived from North American nature. This variety was chosen for its «big fruit», which are similar in size to wild blueberries. Their slight grittiness indicates a very high level of anthocyanins. It is an ornamental, upright and slightly open bush. Its stems can soar up to 2 metres in height and have beautiful coppery ends. It blooms with very fine white flowers and has evergreen foliage. Its small leaves, resembling myrtle, are often used as florists' spray.

A very original heather plant that likes both the shade and the sun, in temperate climates.





PILGRIM:

A very vigorous, creeping plant. Its large red fruits, known as cranberries, are especially popular in North America. With regular pruning, it is possible to maintain a more or less upright bush. This is a significant advantage compared with other varieties, as plants can be kept more easily separated from one another.





RED PEARL:

A very ornamental, erect, compact and vigorous variety which can grow to up to 30 cm high. Its relatively large berries are red when ripe, offering a beautiful contrast with the deep green foliage. Red Pearl is a robust, evergreen variety, suitable for those seeking a nice, not too big ornamental bush. Although not reputed for its fruit, it nonetheless bears very characteristic lingonberries.



Our products





ROOTED CUTTINGS:

Grown in cells of 26 cc, our vegetal material originates from mother micro plants that produce a large quantity of homogeneous and vigorous micro cuttings. From a cutting repotted in June, a 1 litre plant can easily be obtained in the same year (in Angers, France).

32 Tray-plants:

A new format that we developed recently to meet the specific needs of producers overseas. This is the first format of plants that are suitable for direct planting. Don't be fooled by their small size! We have employed all of our expertise to bring you these small yet very productive plants. Whether shipped by air or road, each plant remains upright during the journey so as to ensure an optimal balance between protection of health, weight, volume and cost of transportation. A deep root ball (11 cm, 300 cc) facilitates the development and irrigation of plantlings.





P9 (9 CM POTS):

Destined for nursery gardeners, the P9 can be re-potted in containers of 2 or 3 litres. For mail-order nurseries, this ready-to-plant product offers an economic solution thanks to its small size and weight.

1 LITER POT $(11 \times 11 \times 12 \text{ cm})$:

Our best-selling format. Particularly suitable for shipping by road. We can load up to 26,000 plants per lorry. Cost of transportation is limited. Can be harvested in the second year after planting. Plants are shipped during their dormancy period.





2 LITRE CONTAINER:

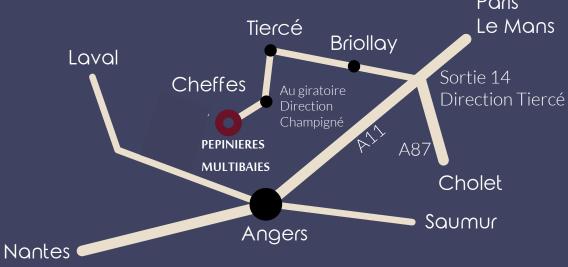
This format of plant offers a greater root volume. This ensures successful planting and reduces the time to harvest. This is especially true in parts of northern Europe where the vegetative growth period is short.

4 LITRE CONTAINER:

This format can produce quickly, or under tunnels where overheads are high. We generally stock a more limited quantity of this format, which is why we offer custom production.







La Loire



Production site

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