

## 2021 Fruit Plant Descriptions

**Thornless Blackberries:** are grown in 5 in plugs shipped dormant pictured to right

- ✓ Floricane varieties produce fruit earlier in the year but require selective pruning.
- ✓ Primocane varieties can be cut to the ground each spring, don't produce fruit until fall.
- ✓ Primocane varieties are easiest for beginners.
- ✓ All are self-fertile, do not require 2<sup>nd</sup> variety for fruit.
- ✓ For more information on pruning and planting [see https://rubus.ces.ncsu.edu/rubus-home-gardeners/](https://rubus.ces.ncsu.edu/rubus-home-gardeners/)



Variety	Season	Description
'Ouachita'	Mid July/early August <b>Floricane</b> (Produces fruit on previous season's growth) Prune selectively.	Large, firm, sweet, attractive berries, very erect canes, resistant to anthracnose, and double blossom/rosette. Our favorite in the garden at the office. With proper summer pruning needs minimal trellising.
'Natchez'	Early-mid July <b>Floricane</b> (Produces fruit on previous season's growth) Prune selectively	A recent release from the University of Arkansas breeding program. This is the earliest ripening thornless variety with very high production potentials. Very large and good tasting berries can be harvested during a 3-5 week season. Due to its semi-erect growth habit, Natchez performs best with a trellis.
'Prime Ark Freedom'	Fall <b>Primocane</b> (Produces fruit on new growth, can be cut to ground each year)	Newer introduction by University of Ark. med-large berries. To produce earlier fruit, manage height, and increase yield, tip an inch off each new stem as the new growth reaches 12-15". Tip again when branches reach 30". Can produce very large berries if pruned as a floricane variety to produce summer crop.

### Blueberries: 2-3 year-old plants in 1 gal pots

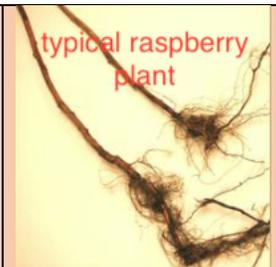
- ✓ Plant 2-3 different varieties for increased production. Space 5 ft apart.
- ✓ Consider using in the landscape as a shrub to provide spring flowers, summer berries, and fall color.
- ✓ pH 4.5-5.0, For more information on growing blueberries [visit https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook/14-small-fruits-section-heading-8163](https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook/14-small-fruits-section-heading-8163)

Variety	Season	Description
'Duke'	Early	Open erect habit 4-6 ft., uniform medium to large firm fruit, excellent for fresh eating, maintain flavor well in storage.
'Blue Ray'	Early midseason	4-6' high. Vigorous upright spreading habit. Large firm, dark blue berries with excellent sweet flavor.
'Blue Crop'	Mid-season	The leading commercial blueberry variety grown. Known for its hardiness, vigor and consistent production. The plant is upright and grows to a height of 4-6 feet. High yields of large, bright blue berries that are firm, with superb flavor and grow in large cluster.

<b>Blue Jay</b>	Mid-season	Extremely vigorous fast growing, open, medium spreading. Medium size fruit with mild flavor, resists cracking and can hang on bush for long period without losing quality (which can help when you don't have time to pick often)
<b>Blue Gold</b>	Late Mid-season	The plant grows compact, with a spreading habit making a great addition to any landscape. The mature height is 4-6', with yellow fall foliage. Highly productive, Fruit ripening is concentrated, with harvesting in 1 or 2 picks making it ideal for freezing or processing into jams. Large berries with small scar and very good flavor. The favorite of our grower.
<b>Jersey</b>	Beginning Late season	One of the oldest heirloom varieties. A tall 6-8 ft. well-shaped bush with a vigorous upright habit, excellent ornamental value. Adaptable to varied soils. Easy to grow and high-yielding. Berries, dark blue, medium in size, and very sweet.

### Raspberries: bare root

- ✓ Primocane varieties produce fruit on the current season's growth and can be pruned non-selectively each year for easy maintenance. Canes of Floricane varieties must grow the first season, then will flower the following summer, so must remain during spring pruning, then be removed after fruiting.
- ✓ For more information on growing raspberries visit <https://rubus.ces.ncsu.edu/rubus-home-gardeners/>



Variety	Season	Description
<b>Red 'Prelude'</b>	Early summer <b>Floricane</b> (selectively prune)	The earliest ripening summer red raspberry, ripens around mid-June then producing a smaller crop in the fall. Round cohesive berries with good flavor.
<b>Gold 'Double Gold'</b>	Late summer/fall <b>Primocane</b> (can cut to the ground in late winter)	release from Cornell University. The plant grows vigorously, suckers freely, and shows tolerance to diseases. With pruning can be grown as both a floricane (summer) and primocane (fall) producer. The deep blush, golden champagne color berries are medium in size and have a conic shape. Excellent, sweet flavor.
<b>Red 'Polana'</b>	Late summer/Fall <b>Primocane</b> (prune all canes to ground in late winter)	Highly productive, medium/large, glossy in appearance, cohesive, with good flavor. This variety has short canes that are vigorous. One of the earliest fall berries, usually mid August, leaving plenty of time to harvest before frost.
<b>Black 'Niwot'</b>	<b>Primocane</b> (Prune to the ground in late winter)	Introduced by a private breeder in Colorado, Niwot will produce berries in the fall, ripening in late August until frost. It can also produce a good floricane crop with pruning. Vigorous, needs trellising recommended spacing is 3-4 feet apart in the row. Plant will come as a plug, see photo under blackberries.

### Grapes: Bare root

- ✓ Seedless, but note that they are slip skin, meaning the skin separates from the pulp, and is thicker than the grapes you buy at the grocery store. Similar to 'Concord' but without seeds.
- ✓ Breeding is being done at several universities to develop a non-slip skin seedless grape, but at this point there is not a variety that also provides other desirable characteristics such as cold hardiness and disease resistance needed in our climate.
- ✓ For more [information https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/grapes-and-berries-for-the-garden](https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/grapes-and-berries-for-the-garden)



Variety	Season	Description
<b>Mars</b>	Mid-Season	Highest producing grape in NC State table grape study. Medium-sized clusters of med-large slipskin berries that turn from crimson to deep blue at maturity. Thick slipskin, resistant to cracking. Fruit holds well on the vine and is suited for extended periods of harvest. Resistant to black rot, not sensitive to sulfur.

### Asparagus: Bare root plants 12 per bundle (1 yr. plants that meet standards for 2 year plants)

- ✓ Perennial crop, do not harvest first year, harvest lightly the 2<sup>nd</sup>
- ✓ Likes a high pH between 6 and 7, test soil, add lime

Visit for more info <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/asparagus>

Variety	Season	Description
<b>Millennium</b>	Spring	Developed by Univ. of Guelph, Canada. High quality spears, tender, and has good flavor. Can tolerate a wide range of soil conditions

### Strawberries: Bare root 25 per bundle

- ✓ June bearing varieties produce one heavier crop for 2-3 weeks in summer, and produce more runners, requiring yearly stand maintenance.
- ✓ Everbearing will produce less fruit at one time but fruiting will continue from about 12-14 weeks after planting until frost.
- ✓ 12"-15" between plants

For more info <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook/14-small-fruits-section-heading-8163>



Variety	Season	Description
<b>Sparkle</b>	June bearing: one large crop for 2-3 weeks, in mid to late June.	Best for freezing, canning and making preserves. Large berries with superb flavor. Heavy producer, adaptable to a wide variety of growing conditions. Junebearer bloom are susceptible to late frost, for this reason we chose a later season Junebearer. Plants need to be cut and thinned after bearing. Matted row bed expected to last 3-5 years, remove blooms the first year
<b>San Andreas</b>	Everbearing: late summer, less fruit at one time over a longer period	Some people prefer this type of bearer for fresh eating because they produce over a longer period. Large berries with nice firmness, some berries tend to be asymmetrical, excellent overall disease resistance. Do not require yearly bed renovation. Recommended to replace planting every 1-2 years. Produce fruit the season they are planted.

**Pears: Bare Root**

- ✓ Grafted on OHxF87 semi-dwarf rootstock, tree will be about 23% smaller than seedling tree, resistant to fire blight, crown rot, woolly pear aphids, and pear decline, a precocious and well anchored pear rootstock
- ✓ Approximately 4 ft. tall, 7/16-5/8" diameter at time of purchase
- ✓ Must have 2 compatible trees for pollination. 'AC™ Harrow Crisp' and 'Sunrise' are compatible. see <https://www.acnursery.com/resources/pollination-charts/pear-chart> if you already have pears

Variety	Season	Description
'Sunrise'	Mid-August	A disease-resistant pear introduced by USDA-ARS and OSU, has shown impressive resistance to fire blight. The fruit color is yellow, often finishing with a slight blush and very little russet. Will store for two to three months.
AC™ Harrow Crisp	Mid to Late August	Developed by the Harrow Research Station in Ontario, Canada. Fruit has a very attractive finish with a red blush over smooth, yellow skin and the flavor is mildly sweet. The tree is hardy, productive and has proven resistance to fire blight.