



Strawberries

Four Types of Strawberries

- June Bearing—Short Day
- Everbearing
- Day-Neutral
- Alpine

June Bearing—Short Day

- Sensitive to day length and temperature
- Produces one large crop
- Large, flavorful berries, second year
- Mother plants produce new plants
- Rejuvenate each year after harvest

Everbearing

- Similar to short day
- Not sensitive to day length or temperature
- Two crops in spring and fall
- Fruit tends to be smaller than June bearing
- Remove first flower clusters the first year

Day-Neutral

- Produce spring through fall
- Heat sensitive
- Small berries of high quality
- Less prone to diseases
- Remove first flower clusters the first year

Alpine

- Small, intense flavor
- Tolerates some shade
- Prefers cool conditions
- No runners

Soil and Site Requirements

- Full sun, except Alpine
- Loose, fertile soil
- Compost, organic matter
- Slightly acidic, pH 6.5-6.8

Fertilizing

- Organically rich soil at planting time
- June Bearing
 - Feed twice
 - Lightly with new growth
 - Heavily after fruiting
- Everbearing
 - Consistent light feedings
 - Over feeding with nitrogen in spring results in excessive plant growth (big leaves)

Watering

- Newly planted—water immediately
- One inch a week
- Shallow roots
- Intense heat; water more
- Too much water during fruiting makes fruit bland

Mulching

Removing Blossoms

- Short Day—June Bearing
- First year to increase vegetative growth
- Increases fruit production

Training Systems

- Hill
- Matted Row
- Strawberry Planter

Harvesting

Rejuvenating the Beds and Removing Leaves

Pest Control and Critters

Pest Control and Diseases

Blueberries

Varieties of Blueberries

- High Bush
- Low Bush
- Pink Lemonade (high bush)
- Rabbiteye

Soil and Site Requirements

- Easy to grow once established
- Test soil

- Acidic soil: pH 4.5-5.5
- Full sun to partial shade
- Soil mix for containers

Planting

- Spring for El Dorado County
- Space highbush 5-6 feet apart
- To create a hedge space 3 feet apart

Fertilizing

- Acid-loving or fruit/berry fertilizer
- Fertilize established plants in late winter
- Wait 2-3 weeks after planting to fertilize new plants

Watering

- Keep plants moist after planting
- Consistent moisture from blossom to fall color
- When weather cools reduce water

Pruning New Plants

- Remove blooms first year
- Plant becomes well established
- Produces fruit in the following years

Raspberries

Types of Raspberries

- Summer Bearing
 - Majority are summer bearing
- Everbearing *aka* Fall Bearing

Soil and Site Requirements

- Brambles *aka* Cane Berries
- Not picky about soil but needs organic matter
- Good drainage
- Full sun; some afternoon shade

Fertilizing Raspberries

- Heavy feeders
- Use composted manure
- Organic slow release

Watering Raspberries

- 1 inch - 1 ½ inch per week
 - Regular watering is most beneficial
- From spring until after harvest

Blackberries

- Adapted to California—heat tolerance
- 1885--Himalayan blackberry introduced
- Became invasive species
- Canes are vigorous; larger than raspberries

Three Basic Types of Blackberries

- Erect
- Semi-erect
- Trailing

Erect

- Stiff, arching canes
- Can be self-supporting
- Excellent fruit
- Thorny & thornless cultivars

Semi-erect

- Stiff canes
- Longer than erect
- All semi-erect cultivars are thornless

Trailing

- Longer canes, not self-supporting

Soil and Site Requirements

- Full sun—at least 8 hours
- Deep, well-drained soil
- Optimum pH of 6.5
- Good supply of organic matter
- Don't plant near wild blackberries

Pruning Similar to Raspberries

- No fruit first year
- Primocanes
- Floricanes

Fertilizing

- Organic fertilizer in late fall, early winter
- Organic, granular fertilizer in spring

Watering

- Regular moisture throughout growing season
- Generally water twice a week
- More often during fruiting or during hot, windy conditions

Pest Control

- Buy healthy, certified disease free stock from a reputable nursery