

## Blueberry Management Guide

Variety: Duke

Planting/Site Selection	Should not be planted in low wet areas, and rows must be hilled as it does not do well with wet feet. Use caution when planting in Surrey and Cloverdale areas because of heavy wet soils. Space plants 2' apart, with rows 11' apart. Requires optimal pH and fertility
Young Plant/Establishment Needs	No specific requirements
Appearance/Plant Habit	Upright, stocky, open Does not initiate basal canes readily
Pruning/Maintenance	Requires proper vigorous pruning to promote cane rejuvenation Prune heavy to maintain fruit size If vigour is lost, hard to bring back
Fertilization	Extra Nitrogen is not needed to promote foliage growth, variety naturally has less leaves. Young and mature plants should be fertilized differently.
Pollination	More easily pollinated than many varieties
Frost Susceptibility	Blooms early and is susceptible to frost damage. Blooms later than other early varieties
Excessive Moisture Tolerance	Needs dry, well drained rooted areas, low areas will suffer.
Disease/ Insect Susceptibility	Areas prone to frost will have higher incidences of Bacterial blight ( <i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> ). Susceptible to root rot

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Trellising	Trellising is recommended if machine harvesting and for food safety
Machine/Hand Harvest	Potential to be machine harvested for the fresh market. Check with your packer before proceeding
Yield/Timing	Early yield, concentrated ripening and high producing 2-4 picks depending on crop load and market
Market	Fresh & Processed
Berry Flavour	Mild
Fruit Size and Consistency	Large
Firmness	Firm
Shelf life	Good
Colour	Light blue

Scar Quality	Small Scar
Other Comments	Good for shipping and IQF