

# Raspberries and Blackberries

Raspberries and Blackberries have the same basic cultural requirements. They prefer deep, well drained soil, but plenty of water and sun during fruit development. These cane fruits are very hardy and easy to grow. They produce new canes every spring, which grow vigorously and must be supported either with a stake or along a wire.

**Raspberries** can be red, yellow or black and are either one-crop or ever-bearing. One-crop raspberries produce fruit on previous years' canes, while ever-bearing produce one crop at the top of current year canes and a second crop on the rest of the cane the following year.

**Blackberries** come in upright or trailing forms. Trailing blackberries require support.

## Planting Instructions

Raspberries should be planted in well drained, fertile soil with a Ph of 5.8-6.5. For best results work two inches of compost or manure into the top 12 inches of the soil. Space the canes 2 to 3 feet apart to provide room to grow. Canes may also be planted at the top of a raised mound to ensure adequate drainage. After planting cut back canes to 15 cm (6 inches) and let them grow for the first year. The following spring select the best canes and cut back all growth. These canes will bear fruit and after harvesting cut back these canes to the ground. Repeat this cycle for the following year.

## Fertilizing

Fertilize new canes with 6-8-6 granular fertilizer and water well. Feed in early spring (March-April) with a Fruit Tree and Berry Food (4-20-20) or a top dressing of compost to promote fruit development. Make sure established canes receive a sprinkling of fertilizer again during June as the fruit develops.

## General Care

As new canes grow, be sure they are tied to the support wire. Protect your canes from overwintering insects and fungus by using a Lime Sulphur and Dormant Oil spray during winter (December-February).

## Raspberries Varieties

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Ever-Bearing</b>   | <b><i>Produces berries on canes that come up each year so cut them right back to the ground at the end of the season</i></b>                                       |
| Autumn Bliss          | Attractive red berries with good size, firmness, and flavour. Plants are very disease resistant.   |
| Fall Gold             | Produces a late summer crop. Fruit is golden yellow, medium sized, and sweet. Tastes like the red varieties.   |
| Heritage              | Produces a heavy crop of firm, medium sized, red berries from September to the first frost, strong and vigorous plants that are disease resistant and winter hardy |
| <b>Summer Bearing</b> | <b><i>Produces berries on last years canes so at the end of the year prune out canes that have fruited</i></b>   |
| Black                 | Produces a mid season crop of large, firm, sweet black berries. Plants are hardy and very productive.  |
| Boyne                 | Extremely hardy for our coldest winter climates, fruit is medium sized and tender, strong sturdy canes yield a heavy crop in early to mid season                   |
| Latham                | Mid season variety that produces medium sized sweet fruit, winter hardy, and a great variety for cooler areas  |
| Purple                | A late season variety that has purple-red fruit, is large, sweet and good for eating fresh, cooking or preserving  |
| Tulameen              | One of the newest varieties for outstanding quality in flavour, juiciness, and preserving, strong upright canes bearing fruit into late July                       |

## Blackberries

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|-----------------------|--|
| Thornless Black Satin | - Heavy crop of large, black berries, that are good for fresh eating or cooking, the canes are vigorous, thornless, semi-upright |
| Thornless Apache      | Large, black fruit very firm and sweet, late maturing, and disease resistant, but it may revert back to having thorns            |

## Other Berries

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Boysenberry | Large, aromatic fruit, soft and sweet, deep purple, trailing, late season berry   |
| Josta Berry | A cross between black currant and gooseberry that produces tasty large black berries on thornless canes that is vigorous and disease resistant  |
| Loganberry  | Large reddish-maroon berry is tangy and used for jams, pies and syrup, Trailing thorn-less Logan may revert back to thorny type                 |
| Tay Berry   | This is a cross between a blackberry and a red raspberry that has large deep purple berries on long canes is excellent for canning and freezing |

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