



BLACKBERRY

Planting

Blackberries are large, trailing plants that require support. They may be grown in rows or clustered around a central stake. They thrive in moist soils but need adequate drainage. Blackberries will tolerate some shade but will perform and yield best in full sun. Plant them 4 feet apart allowing 8 feet in between rows. At planting cut them back to six inches high.

Feeding

Feed blackberries in early spring when new growth first starts to appear. A balanced all-purpose fertilizer or vegetable fertilizer will work best.

Pruning

Blackberries produce fruit on a two-year cycle. As new growth emerges allow it to trail. After harvest pick six to ten of the strongest canes and train them on to your support. Cut off all lateral branches below support, very long laterals can be trained upright in with the other chosen canes. Remove weaker stems and all the stems that fruited in the current year.

Pest & Disease Control

Blackberries can develop several disease and insect pests. Cleaning up dead plant material and proper pruning are the best preventative measures. See Spray Schedule for timed spraying.

Blackberry Varieties

Black Satin (Thornless) – Large firm, glossy black berries. Sweet flavor and excellent for preserves, baking and fresh eating. Heavy yields on semi-erect thorn-less vines. High disease resistance to prevalent fungal diseases. Ripens in July.

Boysen (Boysenberry) – Very large, matte dark maroon berries, with soft, very juicy flesh. The Boysen has a distinctive rich, tangy, flavor and very aromatic. Excellent for eating fresh, juices freezing, canning, baking and preserves. Vigorous trailing vines and among the largest fruits. Ripens Early July.

Boysen (Thornless) Cross between rasp- logan- and blackberries. Large reddish-black, seedless, juicy berries with a sweet tart flavor. Great for fresh eating, cooking and freezes well. Ripens in July.

Columbia Giant -- Enormous berries are mild and sweet. Thornless canes.

Columbia Star -- Top quality and flavor, with very high yields. thornless canes.

Columbia Sunrise -- Medium sized great tasting berries on thornless canes. A very early variety, produces mid-June.

Hall's Beauty -- Large, firm and with top rated flavor, berries are excellent fresh or frozen. High yields and early, producing at the beginning of July.

Shonnard's Nursery, Florist & Landscape

www.shonnards.com | 6600 SW Philomath Blvd. Corvallis, OR 97333 | 541-929-3524

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Loganberry (Thornless) – The berries are long, large dark red and highly flavored. The logan is often used for baking, juice and wine. Average yields. Ripens late June to July.

Marionberry – Named for Marion County in Oregon. Marionberries are large shiny black berries with an excellent flavor. Marionberries are great for fresh eating, jams, baking, and preserves. Vigorous thorny plant with strong canes. Ripens in July to Early August.

Tayberry – Berries are large long conical and red-purple with an excellent slightly aromatic flavor. Excellent for freezing, canning, and preserves. Ripens early July to mid-August.

Triple Crown – *Extremely large* berries on thornless canes heralded for its excellent productivity, vigor and flavor. Great for all uses especially preserves, pies and juices. Ripens July to August.

Table I: Blackberry Comparison Table

		FRUIT	FRUIT							
	Thornless	Color	Size	Bake	Can	Eating	Juice	Preserves	Wine	Ripens
Black Satin	Yes	Glossy Blk	Large	Yes		Yes		Yes		July
Boysen	No	Dk Maroon	Very Lg.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		July
Marion	No	Glossy Blk	Large	Yes		Yes		Yes		Lt. July
Logan	Yes	Dk Red	Large	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	July
Tay	No	Red-Purple	Large		Yes	Yes		Yes		Jul.- Aug.
Triple Crown	Yes	Glossy Blk	Very Lg.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Jul.- Aug.
Thornless Boysen	Yes	Glossy Blk	Large	yes		Yes				July

