

2015 Idaho Native Plant Society

PLANT SALE AVAILABILITY

SATURDAY, APRIL 25: 10am-1pm (OR UNTIL OUT OF STOCK)

Friday, April 24: 5pm-7pm: INPS "Members Only Sale"

you may renew your membership or become a member at this Friday pre-sale!

Questions? Call Susan at 867-6188

SALE LOCATION: 600 S. Walnut, Boise (behind the Fish and Game Building)

We can accept only cash and checks.



Scientific Name	Common Name					Water Needs	Soil Preference	Community	Plant Form
TREES AND TALL SHRUBS (Shrubs greater than 6' tall)		Full Sun	Part Sun	Part Shade	Full Shade				
<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	Saskatoon Serviceberry		X	X		Moderate	Well drained, fine to coarse texture	Mountain	Tree/Shrub
<i>Amelanchier utahensis</i>	Utah Serviceberry	X	X	X		Moderate	Sandy soil- average soil, coarse - fine does not tolerate saline soil	Foothill	Tree/Shrub
<i>Cercocarpus ledifolius</i>	Mountain Mahogany	X	X			Low (Drought Tolerant)	Medium to coarse texture. Well drained.	Foothill	Tree
<i>Cercocarpus montanus</i>	Alder-leaf Mountain Mahogany	X	X			Low	Medium to coarse texture. Well drained.	Foothill	Tree
<i>Cornus sericea</i>	Red-Osier Dogwood	No afternoon sun	X	X	X	Moderate- High, can tolerate dry soil in late summer	Various types, but prefers rich, well drained soils.	Riparian Zone Early in the season	Shrub
<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>	Black Hawthorn	X	X			Low- Moderate	Fine to coarse texture, well drained.	Foothill	Tree
<i>Frangula purshiana</i>	Cascara	X	X	X		Moderate	Well drained medium to coarse textured.	Mountain	Tree/Shrub
<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	Rocky Mt Juniper	X	X			Low (Drought Tolerant)	Well drained dry, rocky, sandy or clay. Coarse to Medium textured	Dry mountains and Foothills	Tree/ Large shrub
<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	Twin Berry Honeysuckle	X	X	X	X	High	Fine to Medium textured soil	Mountain	Shrub
<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	Mockorange	X	X			Drought Tolerant – Low (More water in spring)	Well drained, coarse to medium textured	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Pinus flexilis</i>	Limber Pine	X				Low Water, moderately drought tolerant	Loams to sand, adapted to rocky slopes	Mountain, Rocky Ridges	Tree
<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Ponderosa Pine	X				Drought Tolerant Low-Moderate	Well drained medium to coarse textured.	Mountain	Tree
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Quaking Aspen	X	X			High	Tolerant of a wide variety of soils and textures	Mountain, streambanks, upland	Tree
<i>Purshia stansburiana</i>	Stansbury Cliffrose	X				Low- Drought tolerant	Rocky coarse to medium textured infertile soil	Semi-desert, foothills, woodlands	Shrub/ Tree
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Smooth Sumac	X	X			Low	Coarse to medium textured soils, well drained sand to sandy loam	Woodland, prairies, dry rocky hillside	Tall Shrub
<i>Rhus trilobata</i>	Oakleaf Sumac	X	X			Low- Drought Tolerant once established	Well drained sandy soil. Neutral to slightly acidic tolerant	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Sambucus caerulea</i>	Blue Elderberry	X Afternoon shade	X			Moderate-High	Firm sandy loam to clay, well drained	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Shepherdia canadensis</i>	Russet Buffaloberry	X	X			Moderate - Low	Adaptable, tolerates nutrient poor to firm loam to clay soils. Well drained coarse to medium textured.	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Sorbus scopulina</i>	Mountain Ash	X	X	X		Moderate	Moist, well drained, acidic Medium to coarse texture.	Mountain	Tree/Shrub
SMALL SHRUBS AND VINES (Shrubs less than 6' tall)		Full Sun	Part Sun	Part Shade	Full Shade	Water Needs	Soil Preference	Community	Plant Form
<i>Artemisia arbuscula</i>	Low Sagebrush	X				Low	adapted to dry, sterile, often rocky and alkaline clay soils	High Desert- Low Mountain	Shrub
<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Fringed Sagebrush	X	X	Afternoon shade		Low- short term drought tolerant	Poor to moderately fertile, well drained soil	Desert	Shrub
<i>Artemisia nova</i>	Black Sagebrush	X				Low- Drought Tolerant	Well drained medium to coarsely Textured soil	Foothills, Montane, Shrubland	Shrub
<i>Artemisia tridentata vaseyana</i>	Mountain Big Sage	X				Drought Tolerant to Low	prefers light (sandy) and medium (loamy), well-drained soil and can grow in nutritionally poor soil.	Mountain	Shrub/ Subshrub
<i>Atriplex confertifolia</i>	Shadscale Saltbush	X				Drought Tolerant- Low	well drained soils but tolerates a soil textures from fine to gravelly.	High Desert	Shrub
<i>Chamaebatiaria millefolium</i>	Fern Bush	X				Low- Drought tolerant once established	Coarse to medium soil, even grow in lava beds, adaptable	Semi-Desert	Shrub
<i>Chrysothamnus viciflorus</i>	Green Rabbitbrush	X				Low	Coarse to Medium- well drained	Desert-Semi Desert	Shrub
<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus (Ericameria nauseosa)</i>	Rubber Rabbitbrush	X	X			Drought Tolerant – Low to Moderate	Can thrive in poor dry disturbed soils. Lean, well drained soil.	Desert	Shrub
<i>Clematis columbiana</i>	Blue Clematis		X	X		Medium-Low to Moist	Sandy, loamy or clay soil	Foothill-Mountain	Perennial Woody Vine
<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	Oceanspray	X	X	X		Moderate	Variety of soil textures. Dry, rocky, talus to understory moist.	Foothill	Shrub

SMALL SHRUBS & VINES contd.	(Shrubs less than 6' tall)	Full Sun	Part Sun	Part Shade	Full Shade	Water Needs	Soil Preference	Community	Plant Form
<i>Physocarpus malvaceus</i>	Mallow Ninebark	X	X	X		Low	Well-drained, variety of textures	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Cinquefoil		X			Moderate	Tolerant of all soil types, even poor soils.	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Purshia tridentata</i>	Bitterbrush	X	X			Low- Drought tolerant	Coarse to medium textured well drained, dry soils	Sagebrush Desert to dry forest	Shrub
<i>Ribes aureum</i>	Golden Currant	X	X	X		Low to Moderate	Sandy loam to medium textured well drained, moist soils.	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Ribes cereum</i>	Wax Currant	X	X			Low	Dry, rocky or sandy soils.	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	Red Flowering Currant		X	X		Low-Moderate	Well drained, moderately fertile to rocky soil	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Rosa woodsii</i>	Woods Rose	X	X	X	X	Drought Tolerant - Low	Sandy or light clay soils	Foothill	Shrub
<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	Thimbleberry		X	X	X	Moderate	Rocky soils, dry to moist.	Mountain	Shrub
<i>Spiraea douglasii?</i>	Pink Spirea	X	X			Moderate	Medium, loamy to coarse soils.	Mountain	Shrub
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Common Snowberry		X	X	X	Low	Tolerates variety of soil also infertile sands and gravels	Mountain	Shrub
<i>Vaccinium membranaceum</i>	Mountain Huckleberry			X		Moderate	moist, well-drained, acidic soil (pH 4.0-5.5) high in organic matter	Forest	Shrub
FORBS, SUB-SHRUBS and GROUNDCOVER	(a FORB is a perennial / herb)	Full Sun	Part Sun	Part Shade	Full Shade	Water Needs	Soil Preference	Community	Plant Form
<i>Antennaria microphylla</i>	Rosy Pussytoes	X	X			Low	Prefers well drained soil but can adapt to many types.	Foothill	Forb/ Ground-cover
<i>Aquilegia caerulea</i>	Blue Columbine			X	X	Moderate/moist	Needs medium texture to moist talus soil & adequate drainage.	Mountain	Forb
<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	Western Red Columbine		X	X	X	Moderate/moist	Medium to coarse soil and a cool afternoon location.	Mountain	Forb
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Kinnickinnik		X	X		Low-Moderate	Well drained soil is essential. Rocky, sandy, acidic	Mountain	Ground-cover
<i>Arenaria kingii</i>	King's Sandwort	X				Low (not drought tolerant)	Fine to Medium textured soil.	Semi desert, shrubland	Forb/ Subshrub
<i>Asclepias speciosus</i>	Showy Milkweed	X	X			Moderate	Well drained, fine to coarse textured soil	Mixed evergreen Forest	Forb
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed	X	X			High	Fine-medium textured slightly acidic soil, tolerates up to 8.0pH.	Streambanks, pond shores floodplains	Forb
<i>Astragalus utahensis</i>	Utah Milkvetch	X				Low, drought tolerant	Well drained	Desert and Foothill	Forb
<i>Balsamorhiza hookeri ?</i>	Hooker's Balsamroot	X				Low to Moderate	Deep, sandy or gravelly soils.	Foothill	Forb
<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>	Arrowleaf Balsamroot	X				Low to Moderate	Deep, sandy or gravelly soils.	Foothill	Forb
<i>Camassia quamash</i>	Small Camas	X	X	X		High in spring then lower	Fine to coarse soil with very moist spring and dry summer.	Moist-Meadow	Forb
<i>Castilleja integra</i>	Whole Leaf Indian Paintbrush	X				Moderate	Gravelly soils	Semi-Desert	Forb
<i>Clarkia pulchella</i>	Elkhorns	X	X			Low to Moderate	Sandy to loamy well drained soils. It cannot grow in shade	Shrub Steppe- Forest	Annual Forb
<i>Cleome serrulata</i>	Rocky Mountain Beeplant	X	X	X		Moderate	Well drained light sandy and medium loamy soils.	Prairie to Mountain	Annual Forb
<i>Erigeron compositus</i>	Cutleaf Daisy	X	X	X		Low	Exposed slopes with good drainage, granite gravels	Foothills	Forb
<i>Erigeron filifolius</i>	Threadleaf Fleabane	X				Low, drought tolerant	Dry, Rocky, Sandy, Lava well drained	Foothills	Forb
<i>Erigeron linearis</i>	Desert Yellow Fleabane	X				Very Low	Sandy or loamy well drained garden soil	Desert	Forb
<i>Erigeron speciosus</i>	Aspen Fleabane	X				Low	Mostly sandy to some clay	Mountain	Forb
<i>Eriogonum heracleoides</i>	Wyeth Buckwheat (Hercules)	X				Low	Coarse, rocky well drained soils	Semi-Desert	Sub-shrub
<i>Eriogonum thymoides</i>	Thymeleaf Buckwheat	X				Low, drought tolerant	Dry, rocky soil	Semi-Desert Shrub steppe	Forb/ Subshrub
<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	Sulfur Buckwheat	X				Low	Moderately coarse, well drained soil	Foothill	Forb
<i>Eriophyllum lanatum</i>	Woolly Sunflower	X				Low	Well drained to coarse textured soil.	Semi-Desert	Forb
<i>Erysimum capitatum</i>	Sandune Wallflower	X	X	X		Low	Tolerates dry, rocky and shallow soils	Semi-desert to Alpine	Forb
<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	Indian Blanket flower	X				Low-Moderate	Moderate to well drained soils	Varies	Forb
<i>Geranium viscosissimum</i>	Sticky Purple Geranium		X			Moderate	Dry mesic to moist soils- Is not adverse to rich soil	Foothill	Forb
<i>Geum triflorum</i>	Prairie Smoke	X	X			Moderate	Rich prairie loams clay and sand, well drained	Foothill	Forb
<i>Helianthella uniflora</i>	One Flowered Helianthella	X	X	X		Low-moderate Semi- drought tolerant	Coarse textured soil	Foothill - Mountain	Forb
<i>Heuchera cylindrica</i>	Coralbells, Roundleaf Alumroot		X	X	X	Low	Coarse soils, adapted to high elevation rocky areas.	Foothills	Forb
<i>Hymenoxys acaulis</i>	Sundancer Daisy	X				Low	Lean, well drained soil	Desert	Forb

FORBS, SUB-SHRUBS and GROUND COVER (contd)	(a FORB is a perennial / herb)	Full Sun	Part Sun	Part Shade	Full Shade	Water Needs	Soil Preference	Community	Plant Form
<i>Illium rivularis</i>	Mountain Hollyhock		X			Moderate	Moist, rich soil	Mountain	Forb
<i>Ipomopsis aggregata</i>	Scarlet Gilia	X				Low	Sandy, sandy loam, Medium texture to igneous.	Mountain	Forb
<i>Iris missouriensis</i>	Rocky Mountain Iris	X				Moist in spring, then drier in summer	Wet soils, drier in summer	Meadows	Forb
<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Blue Flax	X	X			Low-moderate	Prefers sandy soils	varies	Forb
<i>Lupinus argenteus</i>	Silvery Lupine	X	X			Low - moderate, slightly drought tolerant	Fine to Coarse textured soils, well drained, non saline.	Foothill to Mountain	Forb/ Subshrub
<i>Lupinus sericeus</i>	Silky Lupine	X	X	X		Low	Medium to coarse and moist to dry soils	Sagebrush grasslands- Mountain	Forb/ Subshrub
<i>Mimulus lewisii</i>	Purple Monkey-flower			X		High	Moist or wet soils	Mountain	Forb
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Wild Bergamot	X	X	X		Moderate	Thrives in a wide range of soils, from acid to lime to rich to poor to sand to clay.	Mountain	Forb
<i>Monardella odoratissima</i>	Mountain Monardella	X				Moderate	Rich, well drained soil	Mountain	Forb
<i>Oenothera caespitosa</i>	Evening Primrose	X				Drought Tolerant	Dry, infertile, well drained soil and give them room to spread.	Semi-Desert	Forb
<i>Penstemon attenuatus</i>	Sulphur Penstemon	X	X			Low	Well drained	Foothills	Forb
<i>Penstemon cyananthus</i>	Wasatch Beardtongue	X	X	X		Low to Moderate	Gravelly well drained loam to sandy	Foothills, low mountain	Forb
<i>Penstemon deustus</i>	Hot rock Penstemon	X				Moderate	Dry, rocky soil	Semi-Desert-Foothills	Forb
<i>Penstemon fruiticosus</i>	Shrubby Penstemon	X	X			Low to Moderate	Dry gravelly soils, to sandy loamy	Mountain	Forb/shrub
<i>Penstemon payettensis</i>	Payette Penstemon	X				Low	Rocky, talus and good drainage.	Foothills- sub alpine	Forb
<i>Penstemon procerus</i>	Littleflower Penstemon	X	X			Low to moderate	Tolerates a wide variety of soils but needs good drainage.	Desert	Forb
<i>Penstemon rydbergii</i>	Rydberg's Penstemon	X	X			Low-Moderate	Medium to fine textured soil	Mountain	Forb/ subshrub
<i>Penstemon venustus</i>	Lovely Penstemon	X				Moderate	Gravelly to well drained soils	Mountain	Forb
<i>Penstemon wilcoxii</i>	Wilcox Penstemon	X				Low	Coarse to medium textured soil, sandy rocky well drained	Foothill to Mountain	Forb/ Subshrub
<i>Sidalcea oregana</i>	Oregon Checkerbloom		X	X		Moderate to High Do not overwater	Coarse to medium	Meadow, Shrubbe Steppe to Mountain	Subshrub, Forb
<i>Sisyrinchium idahoense</i>	Idaho Blue Eyed Grass		X	X		Moderate-High	Moist sites in spring with well drained soil	Forest-Riparian	Forb
<i>Sisyrinchium montanum</i>	Strict Blue Eyed Grass	X	X	X		Moist in Spring, moderate dry summer	Sandy, moist rich soil with good drainage	Moist meadow, seeps	Forb
<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i>	Scarlet Globemallow	X				Low	Medium to coarse well drained soils	Desert, Semi-desert, pinyon juniper, scrub	Forb/ subshrub
<i>Sphaeralcea grossularifolia</i>	Gooseberry Globemallow	X	X			Low	Coarse to medium texture, well drained.	Desert	Forb/ subshrub
<i>Sphaeralcea munroana</i>	Orange Globemallow	X				Drought tolerant - Low	Adapts to a variety of soil, even heavy clay	Desert	Forb
<i>Stanleya pinnata</i>	Desert Princes' plume	X				Low	Well drained. Adapted to dry, stony slopes and sandy washes	Semi-Desert	Forb
<i>Viola glabella</i>	Yellow Wood Violet (Stream Violet)			X	X	Moist to Wet	Cool moist woodland	Mountain Forest	Forb

GRASSES		Full Sun	Part Sun	Part Shade	Full Shade	Water Needs	Soil Preference	Community	Plant Form
<i>Achnatherum (orzyopsis) hymenoides</i>	Indian Ricegrass	X				Drought Tolerant	Deep sandy or rocky soils. Short lived in wetter soils	Desert	Grass
<i>Calamagrotis rubescens</i>	Pinegrass			X	X	Moderate	Fine to medium texture in wooded areas	Mountain-Forest	Grass
<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	Idaho Fescue	X	X	X		Low	Medium to moderately fine deep soils	Semi-Desert	Grass
<i>Hesperostipa comata</i>	Needle and Thread Grass	X				Drought Tolerant	wide variety of soil with stones & rock fragments, well drained	Desert	Grass
<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	Prairie Junegrass	X	X	X		Low- Moderate well drained soil	Deep, moderately coarse well drained soil	Foothill - Mountain	Grass
<i>Leymus cinereus</i>	Great Basin Wildrye	X	X			Drought Tolerant	Dry to moist sandy soils, adapts to a variety of soils	Desert	Grass
<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i>	Bluebunch Wheatgrass	X	X			Low- Moderate Drought Tolerant	Medium to coarse textured soil over 10" deep.	Semi Desert-Foothill	Grass

Sun exposure key:

- Full sun:** 6 or more full hours of direct sunlight
- Part sun:** 3 to 6 hours of sunlight, tolerates afternoon sun
- Part shade:** 3 to 6 hours of sunlight, avoid afternoon sun okay
- Full shade:** less than 3 hours of direct sunlight, filtered sun for the rest of the day.

Precipitation key:

- Desert:** less than 10" annual precipitation (low)
- Semi-Desert:** 10"-15" annual precipitation (low-moderate)
- Foothill:** 15" – 20" annual precipitation (moderate)
- Mountain:** 20" – 30" annual precipitation (moderate- high)
- Riparian:** more than 30" annual precipitation (high)
- Wetland:** saturated most of the year

NEW SPECIES THIS YEAR!



Pinus flexilis **Limber Pine**

Small-medium pine with uneven crown: 30-40' tall x 15-30' wide. Dense, pyramidal when young becoming flat-topped when mature with very flexible branches. **FULL SUN, LOW WATER** (somewhat drought tolerant). Loam-sandy soil, adapted to rocky slopes. A great windbreak or specimen tree. *Used for cover & nesting by morning dove & as a food source by a variety of birds, squirrels, & porcupine.*



Erigeron filifolius **Threadleaf Fleabane**

Attractive perennial. flowers all pointing in the same direction with threadlike leaves. Up to 18" tall with 1" flowers. A colorful addition to a dry prairie or rock garden. Blooms May - July. **LOW WATER USE**, drought tolerant- **FULL SUN- DRY, ROCKY, SANDY, LAVA, WELL DRAINED SOIL.** *Attracts, butterflies, wasps, solitary bees & syrphid flies for nectar & pollen.*



Eriogonum thymoides **Thymeleaf Buckwheat**

A natural bonsai sub shrub 6"-10" tall, very showy in bloom. Cushion forming, later branching into short shrub. Showy poms mid spring, pink as buds then open to creamy yellow then to rusty yellow. Perfect for rock gardens. Zone 5. **FULL SUN VERY LOW WATER**, drought tolerant - **DRY ROCKY SOILS** *Attracts native bees and insects that prey upon pest insects.*



Helianthella uniflora **One Flowered Helianthella**

AKA false sunflower, cheery perennial wildflower suitable for woodland or xeric gardens. Single flowers bloom in May & continue flowering all summer long. 2'-4' tall. **FULL- PARTIAL SHADE LOW-MODERATE WATER USE**, drought tolerant **COARSE, TEXTURED SOIL.** *Pollen source for many bees including tntive mason bee. Plants browsed by deer & seeds eaten by birds and small mammals.*



Asclepias incarnata **Swamp Milkweed**

Under utilized lansdscape plant for butterfly or habitat gardens. 3-5' tall, light pink-light purple flowers. **FULL-PART SUN**. High water use. Moist, slightly acidic, fine-medium textured soil, tolerates boggy clay soil. Bloom time mid June to September. *Nectar attracts many species of butterflies, insects, native bees & hummingbirds. Essential host plant for the Monarch butterfly.*



Vaccinium membranaceum **Mt. Huckleberry** zone 4

A northwest delicacy! 3-5' understory shrub: pink, purple edible berries found in dry to moist coniferous forests, open areas. Orange-red-maroon fall color. Require freezing temperatures in winter & do best with snow cover. **MODERATE WATER, not drought tolerant!** **PARTIAL SHADE**, moist, well-drained, acidic soil. *Berries are a significant part of grizzly & black bear diet, & many birds enjoy the fruit as well.*

Vaccinium membranaceum **Mountain Huckleberry** (more info below on how to grow them)

Growing huckleberries in the field or garden bed

Preparing the soil: Adding rotted sawdust or bark to the soil a year before planting will improve huckleberry performance. Spread a layer of sawdust or bark about 6 inches deep in the row or planting bed and till it into the soil with a rototiller or shovel. Include 1 pound of 10-10-10 fertilizer for

every cubic foot (13 pounds) of sawdust or bark. One authority recommends partially burying 12-inch-diameter or larger, rotted conifer logs (except cedar) in the rows alongside where the huckleberries will be planted. The rotting wood enhances huckleberry growth. Also, the huckleberry rhizomes tend to grow along and within the logs, creating narrower, more easily managed rows.

Planting

When the plants you've grown from seeds or cuttings are about 6 inches tall, transplant them into the field or garden bed. You may also choose to grow the huckleberries for an additional year in 1-gallon containers if you want larger plants for setting into the field. Containerized plants grown or overwintered outdoors can be transplanted any time from early spring through late fall, although spring or fall planting is generally recommended. If the soils on your site frost heave, plant in the spring. Greenhouse-grown plants or those coming out of refrigerated storage should be planted after the danger of a killing frost (28oF) is past. Plants that have been growing in partial shade will sunscald and suffer stress if transplanted directly to a full-sun location. To reduce sunscald, gradually decrease the shading of your containerized plants beginning 2 weeks before transplanting.

Plant your huckleberries just deep enough to cover the potting soil with garden or field soil. Set the plants 3 feet apart. Immediately after planting, water to settle the soil. Mulch around each bush with about 4 inches of sawdust or fine bark.

Ensuring cross pollination

Huckleberries may produce more and larger berries when they are cross pollinated. Plant several individuals of the same species together to ensure cross pollination and good fruit set.

Encouraging symbiosis

Huckleberries appear to form symbiotic relationships (relationships in which both partners benefit) with soil fungi called mycorrhizae. You can provide these fungi for your plants by mixing a shovelful of soil collected from a native huckleberry site with the backfill from each planting hole. When collecting native soil, scrape off the duff layer and collect the soil from the surface to about 8 inches deep. Include pieces of buried, rotted wood from the site, if available. The downside of this practice is that you may be importing weeds along with the soil.

Fertilizing

Field-grown huckleberries respond well to granular, liquid, and slow-release fertilizers and also to manures. Do not use weed-and-feed fertilizers. For granular fertilizers, divide the yearly recommendation by three and apply one-third of the total amount at the beginning of May, June, and July. Apply manures anytime, preferably after the soil begins to warm in the spring. Split applications need not be made for manures. Follow label directions for liquid and slow-release fertilizers. If you incorporate sawdust or rotted logs into the soil, add extra nitrogen to offset that tied up by soil microorganisms as they decay the woody materials. Doubling the recommended amount of fertilizer for 2 years after incorporating sawdust or bark should suffice. Extra nitrogen is not usually required if sawdust or bark are placed on the surface as mulches. As a rule, if huckleberry leaves are red during the spring or summer despite proper irrigation, the plants are deficient in nitrogen and need more fertilizer.

Irrigating

Huckleberries do not tolerate drought and often die after becoming severely wilted. Install and test your irrigation system before planting. Irrigate enough to keep the soil evenly moist but not waterlogged. If possible, avoid overhead irrigation; rather, apply water directly to the soil at the bases of the plants. Keeping the leaves and fruit dry reduces disease problems. If you must use sprinkler irrigation, water

early in the morning to allow the plants to dry before evening. Note that irrigation increases berry size, but can reduce the intensity of the berry flavor.

Growing huckleberries in pots

Huckleberries can be grown permanently in 3- to 5-gallon pots. Protect the roots from freezing during the winter by placing them inside an unheated porch or garage or by burying the pots in sawdust, as described earlier. For all containerized huckleberries, use either liquid or slow-release fertilizers designed for container plants. Granulated fertilizers formulated for field use can injure or kill containerized plants. Follow label directions for application rates and timing.

Learn more at:

<http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/edcomm/pdf/BUL/BUL0821.pdf>

Market gardeners, home gardeners,

Imagine the luxurious ease of skipping the hike and instead picking cultivated huckleberries from your own backyard. Imagine growing a whole field of huckleberries for easy picking to sell at market. This vision is motivating Northwest researchers and growers to work out methods for growing the stubbornly wild huckleberry in backyard gardens and commercial fields. In *Growing Western Huckleberries* author Danny L. Barney, horticulturist and superintendent of the University of Idaho Sandpoint Research & Extension Center, shares the wisdom he has accumulated in 12 years at the forefront of work to domesticate the wild mountain huckleberry. Let his knowledge serve as a starting point in your own experiments with growing huckleberries.

Did you know?

- Western huckleberries contain more flavor chemicals than blueberries, explaining their more intense flavor.
- Although huckleberries thrive high in Northwest mountains, they often die of winter cold when transplanted to lower elevations. That's because they need an insulating layer of snow to survive cold snaps.
- Western huckleberries grow best in soils rich in organic matter and low in pH.
- Western huckleberries easily grow from seed, but take 2 to 5 years to flower.

The author

Danny L. Barney, Extension Horticulture Specialist and Superintendent of the University of Idaho's Sandpoint Research & Extension Center. © 1999 University of Idaho

