

## Ozarkblue

**Type** - Southern highbush.

**Date of Release** - 1996; plant patent #10,035.

**Area of Adaptation** - Areas of traditional rabbiteye production in Arkansas and as far south as I-20 in other southern states is the anticipated area of adaptation.

**Maturity Date** - Approximately June 10 at Clarksville, Arkansas, and June 5 at Hope, Arkansas; ripening date is usually 7 to 10 days before Climax rabbiteye blueberry.



**Berry Size** - Large, averaging 1.8 to 2.4 grams/berry.

**Berry Color/Scar** - Excellent light color; stem scar rated very high (indicating a small stem scar and limited to no tearing of the fruit skin at the point of attachment).

**Berry Flavor** - Sweet and subacid.

**Yield** - Very high in research trials, up to 15 pounds/plant on four- and five-year-old plants.

**Plant Vigor** - Moderate to high vigor, and more vigorous than all other southern highbush varieties in research plantings.

**Comments** - Chilling requirement is estimated to be approximately 800 hours (hours below 45 degrees Fahrenheit during the winter); very consistent cropping even in years when rabbiteye blueberry crops were lost to freeze or frost and Ozarkblue breaks bud and blooms later than other southern highbush.