

Welcome to the Great Plains Vegetable Growers Conference

Fulkerson Conference Center
Missouri Western State University
St. Joseph, MO
January 7-9, 2009



Growing & Selling Blueberries

By: Doug Grimm from Grimms Gardens
Hiawatha, KS

Let's Plant Blueberries



- Site Location
- North facing slope
- Windbreak South & West
- Water Supply
- Low Soil PH - 5,5 or lower



Loading Mulch

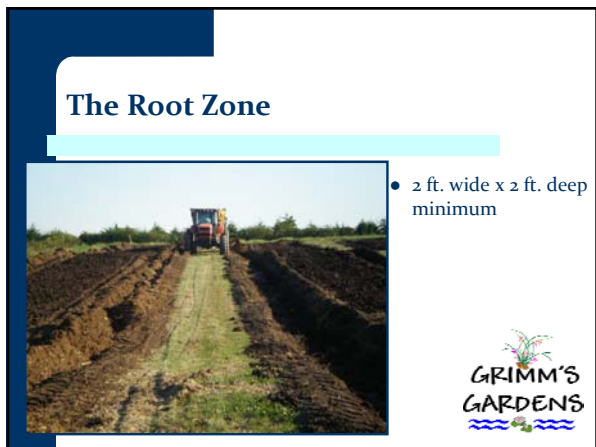


- Organic Mulch
- Wood Chips
- Pine Bark



Filling the Mixer





Keep your Ducks in a Row!



- Fertility
- N.P.K. sulfur
- Soil test
- 75 - 30 - 0 - 1800



New Planting



- Duke
- Jersey
- Nelson
- Patriot
- Elliot
- All eliminated after 14 years



New Planting



- Bluecrop
- Bluejay
- Blueray
- In 2007



Bluecrop – People’s Favorite



- Big size
- Sweet flavor
- Most vigorous
- Least chlorites



This is what we're after!



15 lbs/plant in the Midwest



- Yellow leaves
- Iron chlorosis
- Fish emulsions
- Foliar fed



Big & Juicy



- 1st picking not all ripe
- Close patch
- End of Season all ripe



Simply Beautiful



- Red ones will ripen after picking



Picking Time



- Young & old alike enjoy the experience
- Open @ dawn
- Close @ dark



Picking Time



- Hand weed
- Pesticide free



Patch is Filling Up!



- 7:30 a.m.



The Early Bird Gets the Worm



- 8 a.m.
- Still coming!
- Robins become a problem



We Love it When the Patch is Full



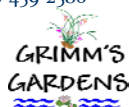
Great Family Fun



More Ripe Berries



- Later in season
- Season begins last week in June
- Picking lasts 1 month
- Call toll free
1-888-459-2586



A Bucket Full



Eat Fresh or Freeze



- 1st we wash to clean berries of leaves, etc.



Dry Overnight



Bag & Freeze



- Bags, buckets, or boxes



Fall Color! Wow!!!



Fall Color! Wow!!!



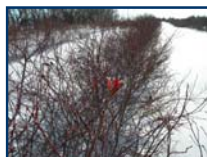
Pruning Time



- 5 years vacation
- Leave 20-25 best canes
- Prune out small twigs
- Prune out oldest
- They bare on the most vigorous canes



Color can rival Red Twig Dogwoods



- Ornamental use can be unlimited
- Buds for next years fruits are very obvious
- Great living snow fence



Take time to Enjoy the Fruit & Customers



Rose Trial



- Dusty Road
- Killed the first row



Pollination/Blueberry Honey

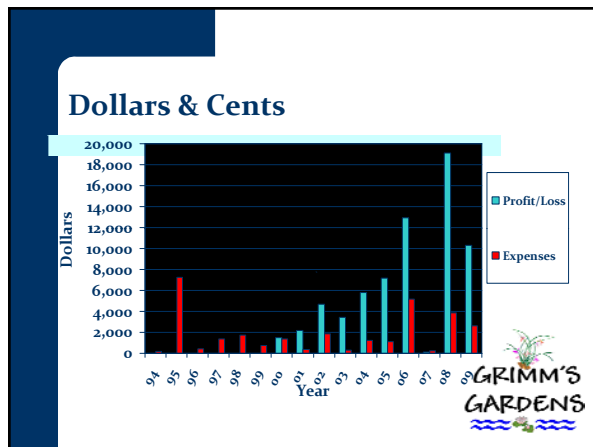


- 25 hives
- Sell lots of honey
- Many bumble bees in patch



Small Wild Alaskan Blueberries





Grimm's Gardens

Fruits, Flowers, Berries, & More



2991 Goldfinch Road
 Hiawatha, KS 66434
 (785) 459-2586
 (888) 459-2586

www.grimmsgardens.com
info@grimmsgardens.com
 Garden Center, Nursery, &
 Landscaping