

Georgia Gem Rabbiteye Blueberry Bush



A 1986, University of Georgia release, Georgia Gem southern highbush blueberry has an average, moderately vigorous, upright, bushy growth habit. The foliage is blue green in color. It attracts wildlife, visual attention and songbirds / birds and is resistant to insects, diseases, mildew and heat.

Vaccinium corymbosum 'Georgia Gem'

- **Use:** The Georgia Gem blueberry bush is a Southern High bush variety that grows well in the southern US. The Southern High Bush Blueberry plants were hybridized for their superior fruit, soil adaptability, and heat tolerance. Southern High bush blueberries do not require a second blueberry plant because they are self-fertilizing, which is great if you have limited planting space.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Prefers light, acid soils (pH 4.5-5.2) with high organic matter (20-50%) are preferred, unlike most fruit crops.
- **Growth:** Moderate, 4-10' tall and wide; best if pruned. **Google "UGA Home Garden Blueberries" for more info on pruning.**
- **Hardiness:** Zone 7a-9b; Shrub Unaffected by late winter or early spring freezes better than most other varieties.
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Bluish-green foliage.
- **Flower:** Lovely pink blushed white bell-shaped blossoms each spring. It is an early to mid season producer of medium size berries, having good color, a sweet (even tart) flavor, a firm texture, and a dry stem scar. Self-fruiting, so it doesn't require a pollinator to set fruit, but you will always get bigger yields if you with other blueberries blooming at the same time for larger crops. Fruit mature in about 90 days from bloom. Moderate chill hours requirement of 350-400 hours.

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