

# Blue Duchess (TH1876)

Evergreen blueberry variety delivering  
outstanding fruit quality



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# BLUE DUCHESS BENEFITS

- **Performs well in evergreen blueberry production**
- **Crisp, sweet, premium flavour with excellent eating quality**
- **Large, 1.8 - 2.2g berries averaging 18 – 22mm in diameter**

The fruit -

Blue Duchess evergreen low chill blueberry is an outstanding addition to the market. The fruit quality is exceptional. Large berries averaging 18-22mm in diameter are extremely firm and have the ability to be shipped internationally. The flavour of the Blue Duchess is crisp and sweet with a good acid balance, delivering premium eating quality. Blue Duchess is medium to light blue in colour with a strong bloom and a small dry scar. The plants of Blue Duchess would be described as vigorous and upright. In fruit production Blue Duchess would benefit from tip pruning similar to the technique used for Biloxi. Yields of 20 - 25 tonnes per hectare can easily be achieved.

Background -

Blue Duchess (TH 1876) was bred at the University of Georgia by Dr Scott NeSmith. Blue Duchess will position itself as a world-leading evergreen blueberry variety. In initial trials, Blue Duchess was outstanding in terms of flavour, firmness and berry size. The plant has chilling requirements of approximately 250 - 350 hours but demonstrates strong evergreen tendencies. This variety is the jewel in the crown for blueberry growers in evergreen, low chill blueberry regions, where improved fruit quality is required by growers, packers and consumers worldwide.







# BLUE DUCHESS IN ACTION



[Click to play video](#)

# BLUE DUCHESS OVERVIEW

## Firmness

Very firm with a crunch feel when eating.  
Excellent shelf life

## Chilling

Blue Duchess requires 250 - 350 hours chill units but is a strong Evergreen producing blueberry cultivar

## Fruit Colour

Medium to light blue in colour. Harvested with a small dry scar

## Flavour

Superb flavour.  
Crisp sweet berries with a good acid balance

## Fruit Size

18 - 22mm berries are consistently produced with 25mm being achieved in the first harvests

## Agronomy

A vigorous plant with a strong disease resistance demonstrating little signs of rust. Flowers 2 weeks later than Star and benefits from tip pruning in Evergreen growing conditions

## Yield

20 - 25 tonnes per hectare





# BLUE DUCHESS OVERVIEW

## Market

- Blue Duchess is an excellent choice for low chill evergreen blueberry production regions
- Blue Duchess is a premium blueberry variety with exceptional fruit quality and good yields
- This Fresh Market blueberry variety is firm and can be shipped internationally with a great shelf life

## Offer

- Blue Duchess is licensed for trials and commercialization in a number of key blueberry growing areas internationally
- For all other Blue Duchess licencing enquiries please contact Rupert [rupert@globalplantgenetics.com](mailto:rupert@globalplantgenetics.com) - see last page





# EVALUATION RESULTS

	Chill Hours	Berry Size	Berry Scar	Berry Colour	Berry Firmness	Berry Flavour	Plant Vigour
<b>Blue Duchess</b>	250-350	8.5	8	7	8	7.5	9.5
<b>Star</b>	400	7	7	7.5	7.2	7.2	7.5
<b>Suziblue</b>	300	7.5	7	7	7.5	7.5	6.5
<b>Sweet Duchess</b>	<< 100	8.5	7.5	7	8	8	6.2
<b>Early Duchess</b>	<< 100	9.3	7.5	7	8	7.5	8.5





## BLUE DUCHESS REVIEWS

"Blue Duchess blueberry is a mid-season ripening variety with a low to medium chilling requirement. This is a strong upright growing variety that needs shoot manipulation (tipping) during the shoot growth period to enhance bearing units. The fruit is large with excellent bloom, good eating qualities and stores very well. It has a sweet tangy taste and a crunchy bite to it."

Pieter Zietsman. Top Fruit, South Africa



If you are interested in the Blue Duchess blueberry,  
please make contact with us for more information



GPG Blueberries



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# CONTACT US



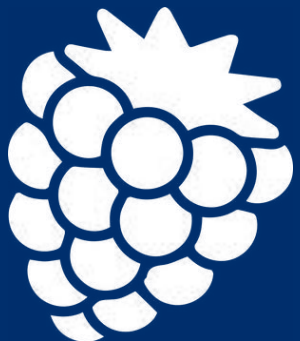
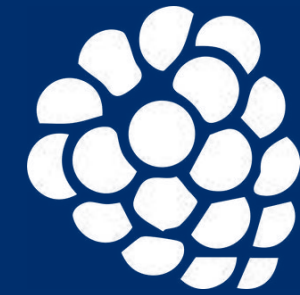
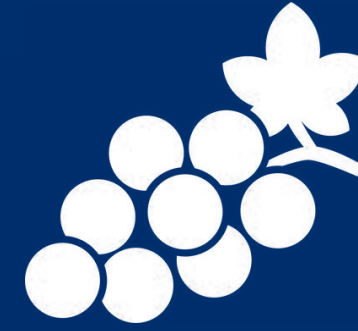
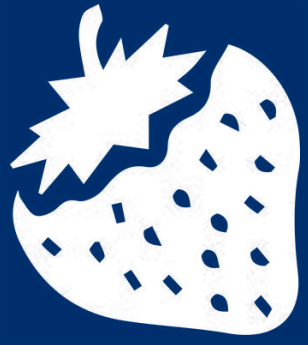
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