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WE forward the attached as
a matter of mutual interest.

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from Waukesha Wis
Freeman
Date 3/31/53

BLUEBERRY CAN NOW BE RAISED IN HOME GARDEN

MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH DIS-
COVERY OF BERRY'S REQUIRE-
MENTS BY U. S. GOVERNMENT

WASHINGTON—It is now possible
for almost anyone to cultivate in the
home garden the once exclusively wild
blueberry.

This has been made possible
through the discovery of the blue-
berry's special requirements through-
out the experimental scientific work
of Dr. F. V. Coville of the United States
department of agriculture, and the
practical cultural methods developed
in conjunction with the department
by Miss Elizabeth C. White on the
cranberry property of her father, at
Whitebog, N. J.

Prefer Sandy Soil

The spring planting season may
make some of the now available in-
formation of interest to the home
gardner.

These experiments have shown that
blueberries prefer a light, sandy, acid
soil containing an abundance of par-
tially rotted vegetable matter or peat.
If natural blueberry soil is not avail-
able, your garden may easily be pre-
pared by mixing with the surface soil
a liberal quantity of partially rotted
leaves, pine needles, sawdust or chip
dirt from an old wood pile. If the soil
is clay, the addition of some sand will
benefit it.

Loves Moisture

The highbush blueberry, which is
the kind that is usually cultivated,
loves an abundance of moisture. If
the bushes must be planted in dry lo-
cation, a four inch mulch of leaves
sawdust, lawn clippings, or other
loose material should be placed around
them. Such a mulch will conserve
the moisture in the soil and keep the
soil cool. This mulch should be left
in the year around and fresh material
added every year. During extended
periods of dry weather an occa-
sional thorough watering will be very
beneficial.

In Acid Soil

For the commercial culture of blue-
berries, a soil which naturally suits
them should be selected. The com-
mercial fields planted thus far have
been in an acid, peat or muck soil
that stays moist throughout the grow-
ing season. A soil containing some
acid is to be preferred. Land on
which wild highbush blueberries are
growing vigorously is undoubtedly
suited to the cultivated varieties. In
many parts of the country land suit-
able for blueberries is now lying
idle and may be purchased cheaply

