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*WE forward the attached as
a matter of mutual interest.*

N. W. AYER & SON

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Wild Blueberries May Be Raised in Home Gardens Now

Washington, D. C. April 4—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 berry's special requirements through 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 Whitesbog, N. J.

The spring planting season may make some of the now available information of interest to the home gardener.

These experiments have shown that blueberries prefer a light, sandy, acid soil containing an abundance of partially rotted vegetable matter of peat. If natural blueberry soil is not available, your garden may easily be prepared 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 peat and will benefit it.

The highbrush blueberry, which is the kind that is usually cultivated loves an abundance of moisture. The bushes must be planted in a dry location, a four inch mulch of leaves sawdust, lawn clippings, or other loose material should be placed around them. This mulch should be left on the year around and fresh material added every year. During extended periods of dry weather an occasional thorough watering will be very beneficial.

For the commercial culture of blueberries, a soil which naturally suits them should be selected. The commercial fields planted so far have been in an acid peat or muck soil that stays moist throughout the growing season. A soil containing some sand 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 suitable for blueberries is now lying waste and may be purchased cheaply.

