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We forward the attached as
a matter of mutual interest.
N. W. AYER & SON

from Nashville Tenn.
Banner
Date 3/28/23

BLUEBERRY NOW IS CULTIVATED

Experiments Made as to Soil and Conditions Best Suited.

Washington, March 28.—(Special.)
—It is now possible for almost any-
one 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 ex-
perimental scientific work of Dr. F. V.
Coville, of the United States Depart-
ment of Agriculture, and the practi-
cal cultural methods developed, in con-
junction with the department, by Miss
Elizabeth C. White on the cranberry
property of her father at Whitesbog,
S. J.

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

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.

The highbush blueberry, which is the
kind that is usually cultivated, loves
an abundance of moisture. If the
bushes must be planted in a dry loca-
tion, a four-inch mulch of leaves, saw-
dust, 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 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 blue-
berries, a soil which naturally suits
them should be selected. The com-
mercial fields planted so far have
been in an acid, peat or muck soil
that stays moist throughout the grow-
ing 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 suit-
able for blueberries is now lying
waste and may be purchased cheaply.

