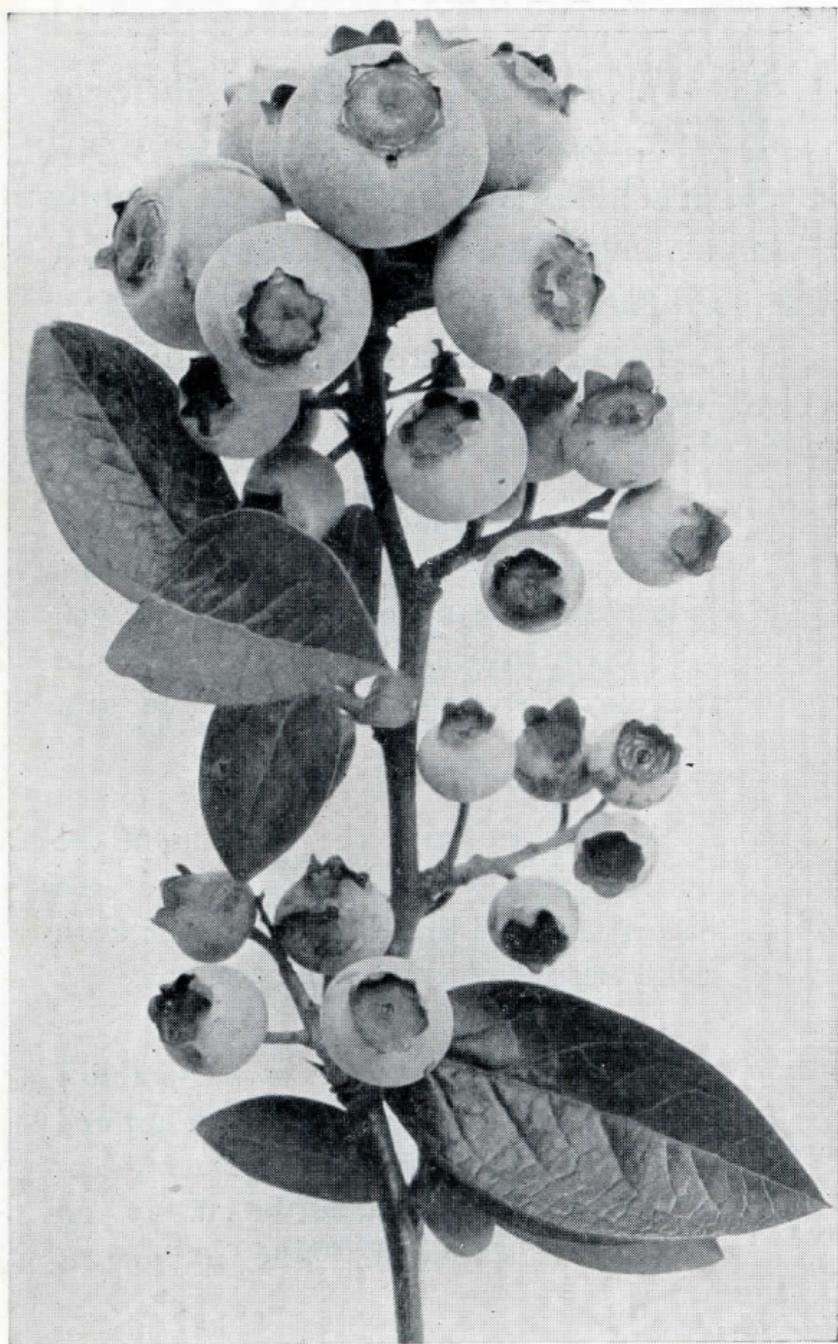


*\$50 Offered for a  
Blueberry Bush*



**\$50 OFFERED FOR A  
BLUEBERRY BUSH**

**I** WILL PAY YOU \$50.00 for a Blueberry or a Huckleberry bush, either high or low, which has at least three or four berries each three-quarters of an inch in diameter, or as large as a cent, under the following conditions:

**I**

You are to mail me at least twenty berries and a few leaves, all from one bush, in the jars and mailing case which I will send upon request; packed according to the easy directions which will be sent with the jars.

**II**

You are to mark the location of the bush so that you can find it after the leaves fall, and are to fasten on the bush the labels which come with the jars.

**III**

If the sample of berries is acceptable I will send you shipping tags, with printed directions and photographs showing exactly how the bush should be cut up and packed for shipment. The packing is

easy, because the roots may be taken out in several pieces and the stems cut into convenient lengths. Do not dig the bushes until fall. They will die if dug during the summer.

**IV**

**AFTER THE LEAVES HAVE FALLEN**, you are to have the bush dug and packed according to directions, and delivered to an express or post office.

**V**

I will send you, with the directions for packing, a blank for an affidavit stating that the bush shipped is the same as that from which the accepted sample of berries was picked. This affidavit you are to return with the bush, after it has been properly filled out and witnessed by a notary.

**VI**

The price of a bush is to cover the cost of packing and delivery to shipping point. If the bush is shipped by express I will pay the expressage at this end; if it is shipped by parcel post, the amount of the postage will be returned to you.

**VII**

I will pay you by post office money order as soon as the bush, properly packed, and the affidavit are received.

## VIII

The right is reserved to withdraw this offer in any locality after three bushes have been accepted from that locality.

## IX

If the largest berries you can find are not quite large enough to cover a cent, but are of fine flavor and otherwise of good quality, send samples of them. If the berries are acceptable I will pay not less than \$25.00 for the bush.

ELIZABETH C. WHITE

JOSEPH J. WHITE, INC.  
NEW LISBON, N. J.

*Treasurer*

## SUGGESTIONS *for* LOCATING BUSHES

**I**F you pick blueberries or huckleberries and are likely to find the desired bushes yourself, all you need to do is to write at once for jars in which to mail the samples, and then follow the directions carefully if you should find berries large enough to COVER A CENT.

If you do not pick berries yourself, but know people who do, you can make arrangements with pickers to locate the desired bushes for you. You can then examine the bushes, send us samples, and follow directions for shipping the berries. You can divide the price of the bush with the person who finds it, and by letting this be generally known you can have a great many people looking for large berries. Store-keepers, mail carriers, teachers, surveyors and many

other persons could in this way get pickers to locate desirable bushes. Very often the pickers are children who have not the education necessary to follow simple directions, and need help in doing so.

Perhaps you would like to start a patch of blueberries yourself. If you do, you can offer moderate prices for bushes with berries five-eighths of an inch in diameter.

While the pickers are finding these bushes for you, they may find some of the larger berries for which we offer the price mentioned above. You can secure these bushes for us and divide the price with the persons who find them. If some of the bushes are not quite good enough for us to buy, they would still be fine for you to dig up and plant for your own use. Berries one-half to five-eighths of an inch in diameter bring high prices, and a field of them would be very profitable.

You can get Directions for Blueberry Culture by writing Mr. Frederick V. Coville, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. After you learn to cultivate and propagate wild plants successfully, you will be in a position to receive from the Department of Agriculture specimens of the more valuable plants which Mr. Coville is producing by breeding.

When you write for jars and mailing cases, please say how you plan to go about finding the bushes, so that the best outfit for your purpose can be sent.

## THE BEGINNINGS *of* BLUE- BERRY CULTURE

**L**ATE in 1910 the Department of Agriculture published Mr. Frederick V. Coville's first work on blueberry culture. His most surprising discovery was that blueberries cannot live in a well-balanced fertile soil. They require a sour or acid soil and actually die when planted in good farm land.

We learned recently of a wild blueberry plant with berries more than three-quarters of an inch in diameter, found in Massachusetts, which was killed by the kindness of people who did not understand its proper care.

Shortly after the appearance of Mr. Coville's bulletin, "Experiments in Blueberry Culture," Miss Elizabeth C. White, of New Lisbon, N. J., began searching for the best wild bushes with which to plant a blueberry field. Miss White has always lived where fine blueberries, or swamp huckleberries, as they are called in New Jersey, are plentiful, but did not expect to find berries much larger than half an inch across. She soon learned, however, that if bushes with berries less than five-eighths of an inch in diameter were accepted, she would have more than she could care for. One or two bushes have been found with several berries as large as a cent; that is, three-quarters of an inch in diameter.

This experience leads to the belief that in every section where blueberries or huckleberries half an inch across are frequently seen, bushes with three-quarter inch berries can probably be found.

Since his first blueberry bulletin was published, Mr. Coville has continued working out the scientific problems of blueberry culture in the Government greenhouses at Washington, and cross breeding the best wild plants that he could get, many of which have been supplied by Miss White.

The seeds resulting from cross breeding grow into all sorts of new varieties, just as seedling apples are seldom like the tree from which they came. Many of these new blueberries are poorer than their parents, but about one bush in a thousand turns out to be much better than either parent, and makes a promising new variety. Mr. Coville hopes to produce hybrid blueberries an inch in diameter.

Miss White has been trying out these seedling

plants near New Lisbon and growing and propagating the best wild plants. She has learned how to cut wild blueberry bushes into little pieces and start new plants from the cuttings. For this purpose and to supply Mr. Coville with new material for his breeding work, Miss White now wants more especially fine wild bushes, and will pay \$50 each for especially good ones with very large berries.

It is not only the size of the berry that counts, and she is willing to pay smaller prices for plants that have many berries of slightly smaller size if these berries are of unusually fine flavor. Some bushes bear much more heavily than others. On some the berries stick so tight that when they are picked a piece of the stem pulls off with the berry or the berry is torn and the juice leaks out. On other plants the berries come off the stems just right. Berries from some bushes spoil soon after they are picked, while those from others will keep for a week. Some berries are black and others a beautiful light blue. There are doubtless thousands of bushes in the country with berries three-quarters of an inch or more in diameter, and many other bushes with berries just a little smaller but of unusually fine quality, but it is only by having people on the watch for them that these fine bushes can be discovered.

It is especially desired to secure the best plants from parts of the United States at a considerable distance from New Lisbon; because it is to be expected that better results will be obtained by crossing two plants from distant parts of the country than by crossing two from the same neighborhood.

The fine varieties developed by cross breeding will be distributed by the Department of Agriculture to persons who have learned enough about cultivating wild blueberries to show they can handle the new varieties with success.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

*Economic and Systematic Botany*

WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
May 7, 1919

*Miss Elizabeth C. White,*  
*New Lisbon, N. J.*

DEAR MISS WHITE :

I am returning, with suggested emendations, the manuscript for your booklet-circular on large wild blueberries. And permit me to say that I am impressed with the usefulness of your discovery that a cent is three-quarters of an inch in diameter. . . .

The work of the Department of Agriculture in breeding larger and better-flavored blueberries has been greatly aided through your courtesy in furnishing us cuttings of the remarkable selected wild bushes that you have been locating and buying. We are now growing plants from cuttings of the best selected hybrids that we have thus far produced, and these plants we are distributing to persons who have had sufficient experience with the cultivation of ordinary blueberries to show that they can handle these valuable hybrids successfully. I gladly accept your offer to let us have, for breeding purposes, cuttings of all the specially valuable wild bushes you may acquire hereafter.

Very truly yours,

FREDERICK V. COVILLE,  
*Botanist.*

FVC/M