

ORGANIC BLUEBERRY PRODUCTION WEED MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

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HUMAN HEALTH CREATING MAJOR NEW MARKETS



GET YOUR DAILY DOSE OF BLUE.

For optimum health, scientists say, eat a portion of berries.

Blueberries are packed with antioxidants and other nutrients that help protect your heart and brain. They also contain a natural compound called anthocyanin, which has been shown to improve memory and cognitive function.

Blueberries are also a good source of fiber, which helps keep your digestive system healthy.

For more information on the health benefits of blueberries, visit www.berriesaregood.com.

Blueberries: Taste the Difference.

Blueberries are a delicious and nutritious fruit that can be enjoyed in many ways. They are a great addition to smoothies, yogurt, cereal, and baked goods. They are also a great source of antioxidants and other nutrients that help protect your heart and brain.

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The Power of Blueberries

ADDING VALUE TO BLUEBERRIES



Jersey Blues Iced Tea



SPECIAL REPORT

National Organic Standards What you need to know



USDA

October 2002

Full Implementation

www.theorganicreport.com

www.ota.com

Organic Trade Commission

ORGANIC PRODUCTION DEFINED

An organic production system is managed in accordance with the Organic Foods Production Act and the National Organic Program to respond to site-specific conditions by integrating cultural, biological and mechanical practices that foster cycling of resources, promote ecological balance and conserve biodiversity.

* Source: USDA - National Organic Program 2001



1 - SOIL HEALTH & FERTILITY

- ◆ Soil Tests - pH 4.5
- ◆ Nitrogen Sources
- ◆ Other Nutrients
- ◆ Soil Structure
- ◆ Soil Amendments
- ◆ Soil Biology
- ◆ Crop Vigor

*Highbush Blueberry
Production Guide*



Organic Highbush Production Systems with Sustainable Ag Practices

- ❖ New Highbush Blueberry Plantings
- ❖ Restoration of Abandoned Blueberry Blocks
- ❖ Established Highbush Blueberry Fields



WEED MANAGEMENT TARGETS Broadleaves & Grasses - Annuals & Perennials In Row & Walkway Areas



Key Weed Pests

Annual Grasses



Setaria & Digitaria species



Key Weed Pests

Perennial Grasses/Sedges
Quackgrass, Indian Grass, Broomsedge Yellow Nutsedge



Key Weed Pests

HERBACEOUS & WOODY BROADLEAVES

Summer Annuals

- Ragweed/Lambsquarters

Winter Annuals

- Chickweeds

Biennials/Perennial

- Plantains/Goldenrods/Asters

Brambles/Vines/Tree Seedlings



Weed Management Options

- A. Cultural – water management *
- B. Mowing
- C. Cultivation *
- D. Hand Weeding
- E. Hoeing
- F. Flaming
- G. Grass cover crop *
- H. Herbicides – vinegar, corn gluten, Scythe
- I. Mulching *



IN-ROW CULTIVATION ROTARY HOE



Cover Crops for Walkway Traffic

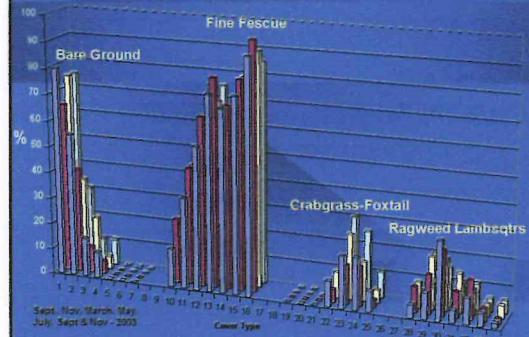


Fine Fescues

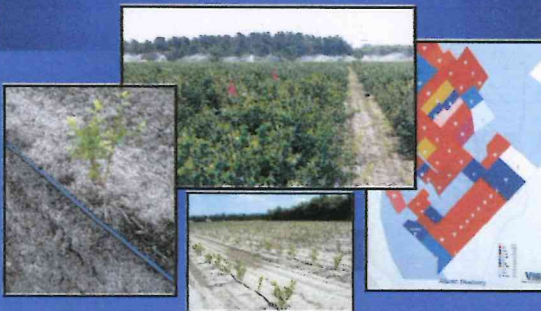
- Slow Growing
- Low Height
- Low Nutrients
- Competitive



Fine Fescue for Weed Management Walkway Results - 2003



WATER MANAGEMENT Trickle vs. Overhead Irrigation



MULCHING


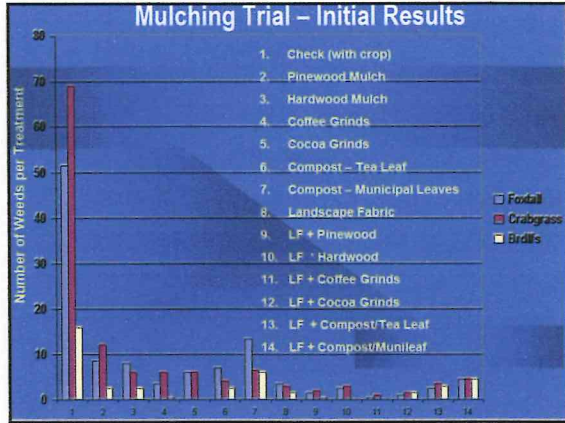
- ◆ Bark, sawdust, straw, pine needles, leaves, hay, compost..3-4"
- ◆ Well composted - lower carbon-nitrogen ratio
- ◆ Benefits - maintains moisture, temperature and tilth, suppresses weeds
- ◆ Spread by hand or machine



MULCHING STUDY


Treatment List

1. Check
2. Pinewood Mulch
3. Hardwood Mulch
4. Coffee Grinds
5. Cocoa Grinds
6. Compost Tea Leaf
7. Compost Municipal Leaves
8. Landscape Fabric

Thanks to


- ❖ SARE
- ❖ NRCS





- ❖ AAANJ
- ❖ NJAES

NEWS & ASHS

THE BEGINNING



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