

Elements of IPM for Blueberries in New York State

[Download the Worksheet for Blueberry Elements in Excel format](#)

Soil and Nutrient Management and Cultural Practices	Points
1. A water use plan that minimizes disease development, optimizes water use efficiency and minimizes erosion and runoff is used.	4
2. Fertilizer recommendations are based on soil and leaf analysis.	3
3. Regular pruning is conducted to maintain plant vigor.	3
4. Half of Nitrogen application is applied in May and the remaining half is applied in June	3
5. pH levels are based on soil analysis in field quadrants of 5 acres or less.	3
6. Annually prune & destroy insect infested or diseased wood.	3
7. Mulch strip is used within row.	4
8. In alleyways, a living ground cover is used to reduce soil erosion and soil compaction.	4
Pesticides and Pesticide Records Only pesticides registered in the state and approved for the target pest and crop will be used. Records of pesticide applications including date, field identification, targeted pest, pesticide name and EPA number, formulation, rate and number of acres treated are maintained.	
1. Insecticide/fungicide sprayer is calibrated and dated at least once a year.	3
2. Herbicide sprayer is calibrated/dated at least once a year	3
3. Spray records are maintained and organized.	3
4. Pesticide choice is based on preserving natural enemies as well as efficacy.	2
Pest Management	
1. Rake or disk soil beneath bushes prior to budbreak to disrupt mummyberry spores, if appropriate.	8
2. Use good cultural practices to maintain plant vigor to reduce Phomopsis (i.e. pruning).	8
3. Identify and monitor for pests such as anthracnose. Prune and destroy diseased wood when scouting.	8
4. Insecticides are not sprayed when bees are active.	8
5. Identification and monitoring of blueberry pests (cranberry fruitworm, maggot, etc.) are conducted using extension recommendations.	8
6. Recommended cultural and mechanical techniques are used for wildlife management (netting, fencing, scare devices)	8

7. A weed survey is conducted and appropriate strategies are implemented. Herbicide rate, selection and spot spraying are based on these results.	8
Education	
1. Attendance at one or more regional/national berry workshops or conferences	4
2. Membership in NY Berry Grower Association.	3
3. Have a current year's copy of Pest Management Guidelines for Berry Crops	3
Bonus	
1. Participation in an IPM extension/research project on blueberries.	3
2. Soap and water is available for U-pickers and fieldworkers.	2

80% of points needed to qualify.

TO LEARN MORE...

[Cornell Pest Management Guidelines for Berry Crops](#)

[IPM Fact Sheets for Berries](#)

[A Method to Measure the Environmental Impact of Pesticides.](#) 1992. New York Food and Life Sciences Bulletin Number 139.

The above reference material can be obtained from county Cornell Cooperative Extension offices.

[Cornell Fruit Resources, Berries](#)

[Tree Fruit and Berry Pathology, Small Fruit](#)

Natural Resources Conservation Service pesticide screening tool [WIN-PST software](#)

New York State Current Product Registrations at [PIMS](#)

[Trac Software](#)