

10-10-10 at 200 lbs/A and two applications of ammonium sulfate at 100 lbs/A at 6-week intervals. The third year, apply 10-10-10 at 300 lbs/A plus the two applications of ammonium sulfate at 6-week intervals. The fertilizer application should be increased each year until mature bushes (six years) are receiving about two pounds per plant per year. These amounts should be halved if no mulch is applied. The fertilizer should be applied in a uniform application over the mulch. Fertilizers with 2% magnesium oxide (look for a fourth number on the bag, such as 10-10-10-2) are recommended, if available.

One of the most common deficiency symptoms seen in blueberry is iron chlorosis. This is characterized by a yellowing or interveinal chlorosis of the leaves. The veins remain green and it is first noticed on the young shoots. Only in advanced stages is the yellowing seen on older leaves. Iron chelate worked into the soil about the base of the plant or applied to the leaves should eliminate these symptoms within a month. Other possible deficiency symptoms should be analyzed by your extension specialist or diagnosed by plant tissue analysis.

For further information regarding culture and maintenance, ask your extension agent for the revised Miscellaneous Publication 61, Blueberries for West Virginia.

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