

THE WORLDWIDE FOUNDATION OF SOUTHERN Highbush BLUEBERRY VARIETIES

Since the 1940s, the blueberry breeding program at the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences has been breeding low-chill, early ripening, high quality blueberry varieties. The following five varieties represent the foundation of the global blueberry industry's southern highbush blueberry production. These five varieties are distributed to growers through FFSP's network of licensees and producers. These varieties are currently grown on thousands of acres in six continents. For more information on these and other blueberry varieties licensed by FFSP, please contact FFSP.

Jewel (U.S. Patent PP11,807)

- ◆ Fruit Size: Large
- ◆ Chill Requirement: 250 Hours (below 7° C)
- ◆ Growth Habit: Moderately spreading
- ◆ 50% Bloom: Around Feb. 8 (Gainesville, FL)
- ◆ 50% Harvest: Around April 15 (Gainesville, FL)

'Jewel' is an early-ripening, moderately vigorous variety with moderate susceptibility to cane canker. 'Jewel' flowers early and heavily, and flowers open in a strong, uniform bloom. When properly pruned, 'Jewel' can produce very large berries with an excellent picking scar and good firmness, flavor, and color.



Emerald (U.S. Patent PP12,165)

- ◆ Fruit Size: Large
- ◆ Growth Habit: Upright to Moderately spreading
- ◆ 50% Bloom: Around Feb. 15 (Gainesville, FL)
- ◆ 50% Harvest: Around May 1 (Gainesville, FL)

'Emerald' is a low-chill variety that is generally considered one of the highest yielding southern highbush cultivars available. 'Emerald' is one of the most widely planted blueberry cultivars in Florida and other production regions worldwide. 'Emerald' plants are vigorous and do not appear to be overly susceptible to disease. In Florida, 'Emerald' plants require summer pruning to properly balance vegetative and floral growth in the following spring. 'Emerald' tends to perform like a deciduous plant, but leafs strongly in the spring. 'Emerald' plants produce clusters of large, white flowers that are highly attractive to pollinators. 'Emerald' plants are strong, and can carry a heavy crop load without severe reduction in berry size or quality. 'Emerald' berries are large and medium blue, with a good picking scar, firmness, and flavor.



Snowchaser (U.S. Patent PP19,503)

- ◆ Fruit Size: Medium
- ◆ Chill Requirement: 100-200 Hours (below 7° C)
- ◆ Growth Habit: Moderately spreading
- ◆ 50% Bloom: Around Feb. 11 (Gainesville, FL)
- ◆ 50% Harvest: Around April 11 (Gainesville, FL)

'Snowchaser' ripens up to 20 days earlier than 'Star', but flowers very early and requires frost protection. The plant is highly vigorous but susceptible to stem blight. The berries are medium in size, with an attractive light blue color and good firmness, flavor, and scar.



Star (U.S. Patent PP10,675)

- ◆ Fruit Size: Large
- ◆ Chill Requirement: 400 Hours (below 7° C)
- ◆ Growth Habit: Moderately Upright
- ◆ 50% Bloom: Around Feb. 25 (Gainesville, FL)
- ◆ 50% Harvest: Around May 1 (Gainesville, FL)

'Star' flowers late, but has a short fruit development period, meaning fruit ripens during a valuable window without the risks of late frosts. The bush survives well and is easy to prune. The berry is firm, has a good picking scar, and is excellent for long-distance shipping. 'Star' berries form in loose clusters and ripen during a concentrated period.



Farthing (U.S. Patent PP19,341)

- ◆ Fruit Size: Medium to very large
- ◆ Chill Requirement: 300 Hours (below 7° C)
- ◆ Growth Habit: Between upright and spreading
- ◆ 50% Bloom: Around Feb. 8 (Gainesville, FL)
- ◆ 50% Harvest: Around May 3 (Gainesville, FL)

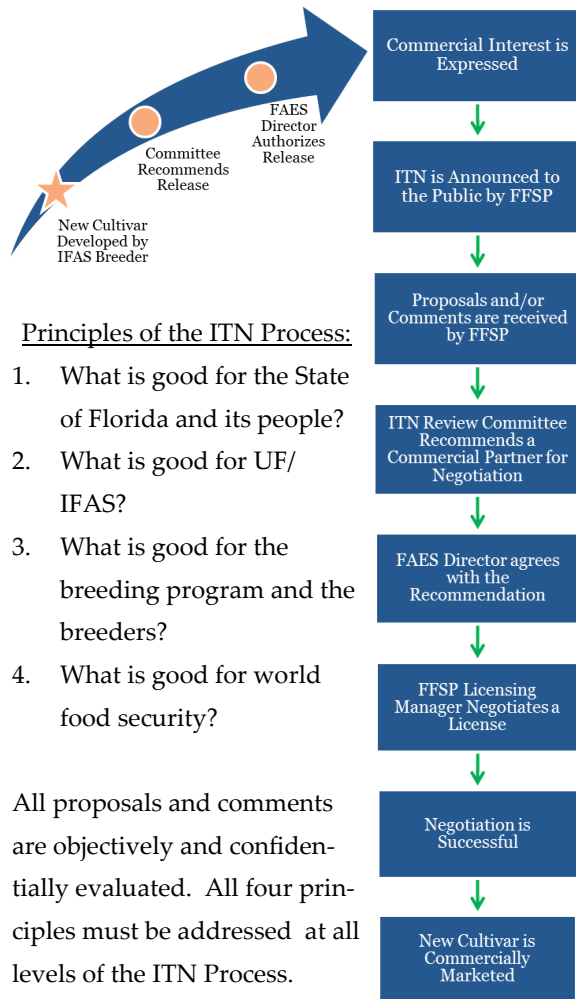
'Farthing' is characterized by a vigorous, short bush that survives well in the field. 'Farthing' flowers very heavily, and consistently produces high yields of large, very firm berries with a perfect picking scar. Due to the high crop load of 'Farthing', the harvest typically continues for up to 6 weeks.



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Invitation to Negotiate



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Blueberry Varieties

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