

Blackberries (commercial) (Code #131)

Soil Test Rating	Potassium			
	Low K	Medium K	High K	Very High K
	Coast: 0-70 lbs/A Pied: 0-120 lbs/A	Coast: 71-170 lbs/A Pied: 121-250 lbs/A	Coast: 171-275 lbs/A Pied: 251-400 lbs/A	Coast: 275+ lbs/A Pied: 400+ lbs/A
Phosphorus	<i>See Comments</i>			
Low P Coast: 0-30 lbs/A Pied: 0-20 lbs/A				
Medium P Coast: 31-60 lbs/A Pied: 21-40 lbs/A				
High P Coast: 61-100 lbs/A Pied: 41-75 lbs/A	096ph	096ph	096pkh	096pkh
Very High P Coast: 100+ lbs/A Pied: 75+ lbs/A	096ph	096ph	096pkh	096pkh

Coast = Coastal Plain Pied = Piedmont, Mountain, and Limestone Valley

Recommendations:

Recommended pH:	6.0 to 6.5. If the pH is less than 6.0, see Lime Table B and the soil depth adjustment table that immediately follows the lime tables.								
Magnesium:	If soil test Mg level is low and lime is recommended, use dolomitic limestone. <table border="1" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Coastal Plain</td> <td>Low: 0 - 60 lbs/acre</td> <td>Medium: 61 - 120 lbs/acre</td> <td>High: >120 lbs/acre</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Piedmont</td> <td>Low: 0 - 120 lbs/acre</td> <td>Medium: 121 - 240 lbs/acre</td> <td>High: >240 lbs/acre</td> </tr> </table>	Coastal Plain	Low: 0 - 60 lbs/acre	Medium: 61 - 120 lbs/acre	High: >120 lbs/acre	Piedmont	Low: 0 - 120 lbs/acre	Medium: 121 - 240 lbs/acre	High: >240 lbs/acre
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Comments:

096ph. The phosphorus levels are high; therefore, no phosphorus (P) is needed. Apply fertilizer that contains only nitrogen (N) and potassium (K), such as 15-0-15.

096pkh. The phosphorus and potassium levels are high; therefore, no phosphorus (P) or potassium (K) fertilizers are needed. Apply only a nitrogen-containing fertilizer, such as 34-0-0 or 46-0-0.

Fact Sheet:

For All Varieties

If soil test phosphorus (P) is less than 20 pounds per acre, apply 300 pounds of 0-46-0 per acre preplant and incorporate in the top 6 to 8 inches of soil to raise available P to a level needed by blackberries.

Fertilizing semi-erect or trailing blackberries planted 4 to 8 feet apart

During the year of establishment, fertilize the planting in March and June (and August if needed). After the plants have been set and settled by rain, sprinkle 1/6th cup (1.3 oz.) of 10-10-10 fertilizer evenly in a 24 inch circle around each plant. Do not pile fertilizer near the plant; this could burn the root system. In June, sprinkle 1/4 cup of 10-10-10 (2 oz.) over a 30 inch circle. Scatter the fertilizer evenly over the circle.

In the second year, fertilize the planting in March and again in June. In March or about the time of bud break, sprinkle one cup (8 oz.) of 10-10-10 over a five foot circle around the plant. Scatter the fertilizer evenly over the circle. In June sprinkle one cup of 10-10-10 fertilizer over the same five foot circle around each plant.

Fertilization in year three and beyond should be as follows. In early March, sprinkle two cups (one pound) of 10-10-10 fertilizer over a six foot circle around each plant. Scatter the fertilizer evenly over the circle. In June sprinkle one cup of 10-10-10 over the same six foot circle around each plant. If new cane growth is excessive (over 12 feet for individual canes), omit this application.

For soils testing high in phosphorus and potassium, use 34-0-0 at 1/3rd the rate of 10-10-10 or 46-0-0 at 1/4th the rate. If phosphorus is high but potassium is low or medium, use 15-0-15 at a 50% higher rate than the 10-10-10.

Fertilizing hedgerow plantings of erect blackberries

During the year of establishment, fertilize the planting in March, June, and August (if needed). If phosphorus and potassium do not test high, use 10-10-10 or a similar fertilizer. Apply 4.5 pounds of 10-10-10 per 100 feet of row (about 160 pounds per acre) at each application. This fertilizer should be sprinkled evenly over a two foot wide band where the plants or root cuttings are planted. This is equivalent to 16 pounds of nitrogen per acre at each application.

Fertilization the second year and thereafter should consist of two applications annually. Apply 11 pounds of 10-10-10 per 100 feet of row (about 400 pounds per acre) over a 3 foot wide band in early March. In June, apply 5.5 pounds of 10-10-10 per 100 feet of row (about 200 pounds per acre) evenly over a 3 foot wide band. For soils testing high in phosphorus and potassium, use 34-0-0 at 1/3rd the rate of 10-10-10 or 46-0-0 at 1/4th the rate. If phosphorus is high but potassium is low or medium, use 15-0-15 at a 50% higher rate than the 10-10-10. On a per acre basis, these fertilizer applications supply 40 pounds of actual nitrogen on the first application and 20 pounds of actual nitrogen on the second application.

Note: A pint of 10-10-10 fertilizer weighs approximately 1 pound; 3/4 pint of limestone weighs approximately 1 pound.