

## Fast facts: Blueberries

### Acres planted

- Approximately 2,600 acres for the 2006-07 season

### Growing season

- Planted December through February
- Harvesting begins in March
- Most active in April
- Ends in May through mid-June

### Value of annual crop

- 2006-07 season: \$32,900,000



### Harvest method

- Florida's early varieties are picked by hand one at a time
- Other varieties can be harvested by hand or mechanical methods

### Number of pickings

- During season, the field is picked every two to three days totaling about 15 to 20 times

### Common pests and diseases

- Blueberry bud mite
- Scale insects
- Blueberry flea beetle
- Flower beetle
- Japanese beetle
- Blueberry spanworm
- Cranberry fruitworm
- Oblique-banded leafroller
- Sparganothis fruitworm
- False yellowhead fireworm
- Blueberry gall midge
- Blueberry maggot fly
- Thrips

### Sources:

2008 Florida Agriculture Statistical Directory

[http://www.floridablueberrygrowers.com/consumers\\_bullet1.html](http://www.floridablueberrygrowers.com/consumers_bullet1.html)

[http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/document\\_ig070](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/document_ig070)