Homestead Gardens Plant Finder

Davidsonville, MD | Severna Park, MD | Smyrna, MD
(410) 798-5000 | HomesteadGardens.com

Baby Cakes® Blackberry

Rubus 'APF-236T'

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Group/Class: Bushel and Berry

Description:

An exciting thornless blackberry producing large, juicy, and sweet berries in mid summer; compact habit makes it great for patio pots; a hardy, heavy producer on second year canes; needs a specific pruning regimen and protection from birds



Baby Cakes Blackberry fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Edible Qualities

Baby Cakes Blackberry is a small shrub that is typically grown for its edible qualities. It produces large black oval berries which are usually ready for picking in mid summer. The berries have a sweet taste and a juicy texture.

The berries are most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Cooking
- Baking
- Preserves
- Canning
- Freezing



Baby Cakes Blackberry flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Features & Attributes

Baby Cakes Blackberry features dainty white flowers with chartreuse eyes along the branches in late spring. It has green deciduous foliage. The serrated oval compound leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color. It features an abundance of magnificent black berries in mid summer.

This is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage. This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep. Each spring, cut back all dead and two-year old canes to the ground, leaving only last year's growth standing. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering
- Disease

Aside from its primary use as an edible, Baby Cakes Blackberry is sutiable for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Orchard/Edible Landscaping

Planting & Growing

Baby Cakes Blackberry will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. This is a self-pollinating variety, so it doesn't require a second plant nearby to set fruit.

This shrub may not always play well with others; as such, it is best grown in its own designated garden space or isolated area of an edibles garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.