



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



INTRODUCING... OREGON BERRIES

Oregon has cultivated a proud reputation for its berries. Leading the way with blueberries, blackberries, marionberries, and raspberries, Oregon also produces cranberries, strawberries, kiwi berries, gooseberries, and currants. Western Oregon's fertile soil and temperate climate are perfect for berries.

OREGON IS KNOWN FOR GROWING EXCELLENT BERRIES

As a state, Oregon ranks at the top for its quantity and quality of berries, producing over 276 million pounds (125,000 metric tons) of berries across 20,000 acres (8,000 hectares) each year. Oregon State University – in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture – operates a special berry breeding program to enhance growers' ability to adapt to changing markets, climate, and overall demands. This innovative collaboration sets the stage for Oregon berries to continue leading national quality and quantity.

OREGON'S LEADING BERRIES

Blueberries are leading Oregon berry in terms of volume produced. Grown by about 320 farmers in Oregon, these blue dynamos reach customers in 20 countries during the season from June to September. Oregon raspberries, blackberries and related berries are prized for their tangy, sweet flavors and health benefits. The state produces the most blackberries, marionberries and black raspberries in the country. To learn more about Oregon's most familiar berries, please refer to separate information sheets about Oregon blueberries and raspberries/blackberries.

Berries are small, but packed with vitamins, minerals and antioxidants critical to human health.



DON'T OVERLOOK OREGON'S OTHER DELICIOUS BERRIES

CRANBERRY (VACCINIUM MACROCARPON)

Oregon's southern coast boasts long growing seasons that produce top quality cranberries that are sweeter and deeper red than those from other regions. Oregon's 128 cranberry farmers cultivate more than 60 million pounds (27 kilotons) each year on 2,800 acres (1,133 hectares) – ranking Oregon as the #3 state for cranberry production. Nearly 95% of cranberries are processed into juice, sauce, and dried cranberries. Cranberries are rich in fiber, vitamin C and other nutrients that help protect against health problems like urinary tract infections, cancer and heart disease.

STRAWBERRIES (FRAGARIA × ANANASSA)

Oregon's succulent strawberries are known for their sweetness. In fact, they are so sweet that the berries last only a few days after being picked. This means that most Oregon strawberries are individually quick frozen (IQF) right after picked to lock in the flavor. The excellent flavor of Oregon strawberries means that these IQF berries are in demand for making great products such as ice cream.

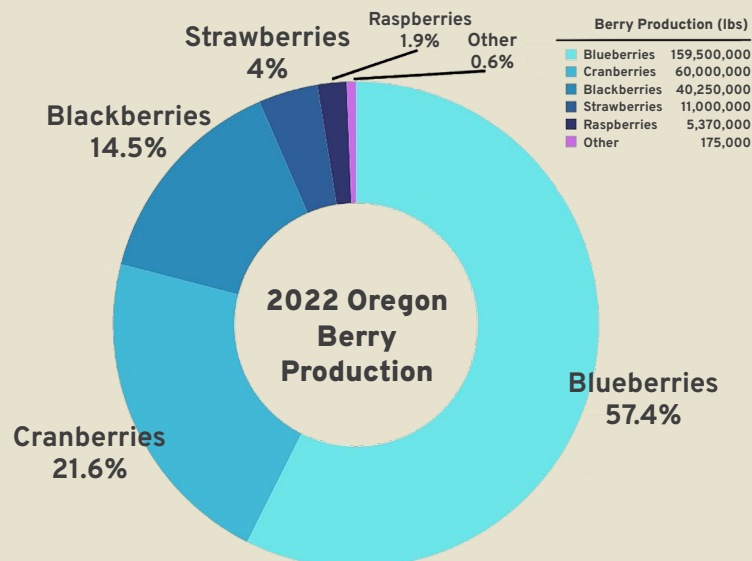
Oregon strawberries are picked fully ripe in the season. Between May and September, 300 Oregon farms (1,100 acres or 445 hectares) harvest 11 million pounds (5 kilotons) of the fruit.

KIWI BERRIES (ACTINIDIA ARGUTA)

Oregon is a leading producer of kiwi berries, also known as hardy kiwifruit or baby kiwi. The interior flesh of kiwi berries appears similar to and shares the sweet taste of its fuzzy kiwi cousin but are only a fraction of the size. Their smooth skin make them easy to eat without peeling. Oregon kiwi berries are harvested in the late summer and mostly sold fresh.

CURRANTS (RIBES RUBRUM) AND GOOSEBERRIES (RIBES)

Currants and gooseberries are grown in Oregon, but rarely eaten fresh. Their tart flavor profiles are perfect for jams, jellies, juices, syrups and pies. These fruits are rich in vitamin C and pack a sweet, tart flavor punch.



Source: 2022 U.S. Census of Agriculture

Learn More

Oregon Strawberry Commission:
oregon-strawberries.org

Agricultural Development & Marketing Program



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