

PROVIDER PROFILE

Blue Heron Farm is a diverse operation, growing blueberries, cane berries and Christmas trees, as well as nursery stock. Field grown shade trees and conifers were the start of the nursery. These were first planted in 1989 and now take up about 185 acres. The container yard was started in 1994 and is now a 100 acre operation in two locations. Pot-in Pot trees were added in 1998 and are now at 60 acres. In 1995, the decision was made to begin our own production of bare root trees. This was to insure a consistent supply of liner material for our own plantings, both in terms of quality and quantity. It also gave us more control over the introduction of small quantities of new and unusual cultivars. Bare root now takes up about 180 acres, grown for our own use and to sell to other growers.

Blue Heron Farm is located in the central Willamette Valley in western Oregon. The bare root production is on land west of Salem, where we take advantage of soil that is well drained and works up well for spring planting. There is also a container yard at this location, which is where many of the plants are propagated and planted out. The main location of about 460 acres is just east of Corvallis. All Pot-in-Pot and B&B trees are grown at this location. Many of the container shrubs are finished at this farm, to allow for more efficient shipping. The diversity of our operation helps keep our workforce fairly steady, but it does peak in the spring at about 150.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

Being a relatively young nursery that was located away from the center of nursery production in Oregon, we have always strived to grow a diverse line of plant material. We have put together a list of plants that include high demand 'nursery standards' as well as less commonly grown specialty plants. We continue to grow quantities of #1 size containers, to sell to the retail garden center and as liner plants to other growers. Our list also includes a strong line of larger sizes to market to retailers, landscapers and rewholesalers. We grow for a wide range of climates, with plants ranging from winter hardiness zone 2 up to zone 8. We are often loading orders that include everything from #1 groundcovers to #25, 2" caliper shade trees.

We have tried to keep our small nursery mentality when it comes to customer service. We try to keep our customers' needs in mind, staying flexible for shipping. We have always tried to listen to what our customers are looking for in plant material, the sizes they want, and the quality they are looking for. We still have lists of plants on file that people have asked us to grow. Many of the plants that we have added to our production because of these requests have been our best sellers.



For more information or to order from this provider > www.mchutchison.com



KEY PRODUCTS

To limit Blue Heron Farm to just two or three key items would be selling the nursery short as they really do an excellent job across the board. Here are a handful of items that may be of interest to you either because of superior quality, availability, or just general plant characteristics:

Albizia julibrissin #5 – Did someone say Mimosa? You bet! And Blue Heron has a nice supply of these ready to go for fall or spring!

Agapanthus ‘Storm Cloud’ #2 – Dark, purple-blue flowers grace this gorgeous Lily of the Nile. The blooms on this are striking! Hardy to Zone 7 but this makes an excellent annual.

Cytisus – An excellent mix of Scotch Broom is available in #1, #2, and #3 containers. Try some ‘Allgold’, ‘Burkwoodii’, ‘Hollandia’, ‘Lena’, ‘Lilac Time’, and/or ‘Moonlight’. Whether you’re a grower or a retailer we have the right size for you!

Euonymus fortunei “Wolong Ghost” #1 – This selection has very dark green leaves with a white vein. It really must be seen!

Fruit Trees – Apples, Apricots, Figs, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Pluots, and more. Dwarves, semi-dwarves, genetic dwarves, and 4-in-1s. Persimmons too! The fruit tree selection merits a serious look.

Lagerstroemia – Crapemyrtles indeed! The spring offering includes ‘Dynamite’ in #5, Muskogee in #1 and #3, and ‘Natchez’ in #1.

Rhamnus ‘Fine Line’ #5 – This is both an excellent retail plant as well as a fine fit to put into a landscape plan, especially at this size.

Robinia pseudoacacia ‘Twisty Baby’ – You really have to see this plant to appreciate it. It’s hardy to zone 4, it puts on a great floral display with an appealing fragrance, and it’s twisted!

Sambucus nigra ‘Black Lace’ #5 – ‘Black Lace’ is a great retail plant. Customers love it as it maintains an almost elegant look in the garden without the monstrous price.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

- *Acer negundo* ‘Flamingo’ #15 and #25
- *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* ‘Massachusetts’ #1
- *Asimina triloba* (Pawpaw) #10
- *Betula* ‘Royal Frost’ #25 – single or clump
- *Buxus* #3 – ‘Franklin’s Gem’, ‘Graham Blandy’, ‘Green Ice’, ‘Green Mountain, and ‘Green Velvet’
- *Chamaecyparis pisifera* ‘Vintage Gold’ #3
- *Cryptomeria japonica* ‘Black Dragon’ #1 and #5
- *Hibiscus* - #, #3, #5, #7, #10, and #15 in regular and STD
- *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘Lemon Wave’ in #1 and #2
- *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘Penny Mac in #1 and #3
- *Juniperus* – lots of varietie available in #1, #2, and #3
- *Microbiota decussate* #3
- *Phormium* in multiple varieties in #2 and #3
- *Rhododendron* #1
- *Rosa* #2 and #7: ‘Blushing Knock Out’, ‘Double Knock out’, ‘Knock Out’, ‘Pink Knock Out, ‘Home Run’...
- *Stewartia pseudocamellia* #15
- *Vinca minor* ‘Bowles’ #1

For more information or to order from this provider > www.mchutchison.com

