



United States Department of Agriculture

Research, Education, and Economics  
Agricultural Research Service

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

AND

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY  
AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY EXPERIMENT STATION  
MISSISSIPPI STATE, MS

**NOTICE TO NURSERYMEN OF THE NAMING AND RELEASE FOR  
PROPAGATION OF 'GUMBO', A NEW SOUTHERN Highbush BLUEBERRY  
CULTIVAR**

The Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, and Mississippi State University Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station hereby release to nurserymen a new southern highbush blueberry cultivar, 'GUMBO', which is recommended for trial on the coastal plain area of the southeast, along the U.S. Gulf Coast, and other subtropical areas where southern highbush blueberries are successfully grown.

'GUMBO' southern highbush blueberry was selected at Poplarville, MS in 2003. Tested as MS1377, 'GUMBO' resulted from a cross of G-695 ('CARA'S CHOICE') x MS6 both, of which are hexaploid *V. corymbosum* hybrids. G-695 descended from the cross G144 x US165 and G144 is from the cross 11-93 x Darrow which was a progeny of the cross 'BLUECROP' x 'DARROW'. US165 came from self-pollinating US79. US 79 came from the cross of diploid species *V. darrowii* 'Fla 4-B' x US56. US56 came from the cross of hexaploid *V. constablaei* x hexaploid *V. virgatum* 'T65'. 'T65' resulted from the cross of hexaploids 'WALKER' x 11-180, 11-180 was derived from the cross of the hexaploid *V. virgatum* landrace cultivars 'MEYERS' x 'BLACK GIANT'. MS6, the male parent of 'GUMBO' resulted from a cross of hexaploid *V. corymbosum* hybrids 'G107' (F72 x 'BERKELEY') x 'SHARPBLUE'.

Plants of 'GUMBO' are vigorous and productive, and have an upright growth habit. Fruit of 'GUMBO' is medium to large in size, with good flavor, color and firmness, and have small picking scars. Blooming of 'GUMBO' occurs relatively late but its fruit ripen about 10 days earlier than the earliest rabbiteye blueberry cultivars.

It is recommended that 'GUMBO' be interplanted with other southern highbush cultivars to facilitate pollination and fruit set, early ripening, and maximum yield and quality. No virus

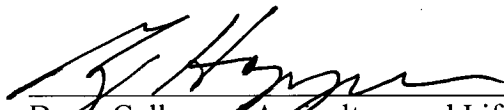
Office of the Administrator  
Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, Room 302-A  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW.  
Washington, D.C. 20250  
USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

disease symptoms have been observed on field plantings of 'GUMBO'. It is recommended that 'GUMBO' be planted in areas where southern highbush blueberries are grown successfully.

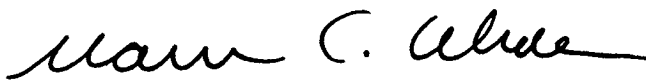
'GUMBO' is easily propagated by softwood stem cuttings treated with 2000ppm IBA under intermittent misting systems. The best rooting material should be taken from actively growing stock plants. Plants of this blueberry clone have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary slightly due to environmental changes such as light intensity and fertility with no alteration of genotype. Asexual propagation of the clone over multiple cycles has demonstrated retention of major distinguishing traits. Further information or a list of nurseries propagating 'Gumbo' is available on written request to Dr. Stephen Stringer; USDA-ARS, [stephen.stringer@ars.usda.gov]. The USDA-ARS does not have plants for sale. In addition, genetic material of this release has been deposited in the National Plant Germplasm System where it will be available for research purposes. It is requested that appropriate recognition be made if this germplasm contributes to the development of a new breeding line or cultivar.

ARS GIVES NO WARRANTIES OR GUARANTEES, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, FOR THE MATERIAL, INCLUDING MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Signatures:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Mississippi State University

6/28/17  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Administrator, Crop Production and Protection  
Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

7/20/17  
Date