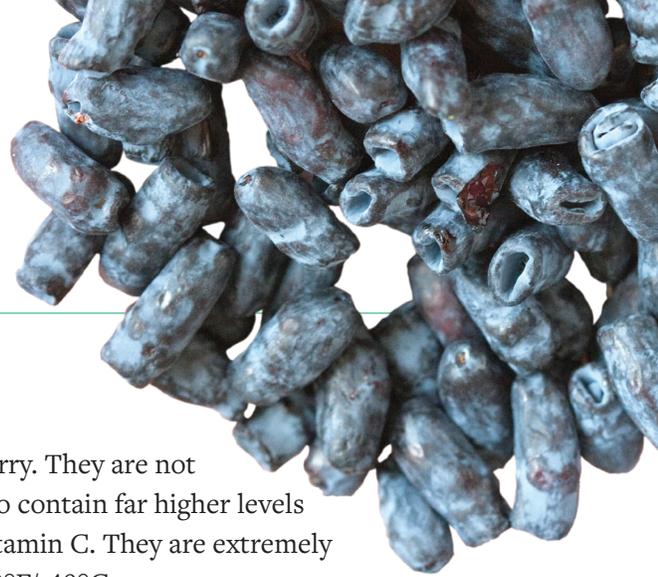




Yezberry[®] haskaps

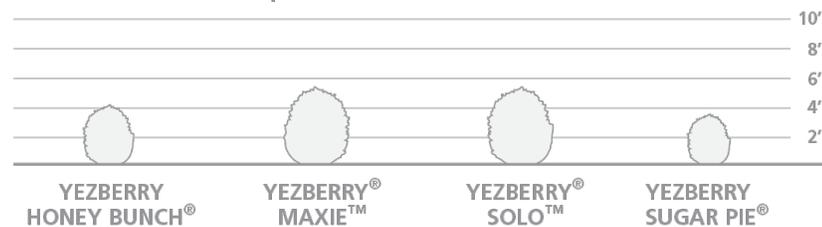
Lonicera caerulea



Haskaps look like an oversized, elongated blueberry. They are not only easier to grow than blueberries, but they also contain far higher levels of antioxidants and three times the amount of vitamin C. They are extremely cold hardy, tolerating temperatures as cold as -40°F/-40°C.

Yezberry[®] haskaps were developed by Dr. Maxine Thompson in Oregon. She spent years working with hardy Japanese genetics to create plants that produce truly delicious fruit, a range of sizes for maximum landscape versatility. Luscious haskap berries can be eaten fresh right from the bush, cooked into jam, pressed for juice, or made into sauce or pie filling. The fruits can also be dried or frozen to enjoy a home-grown taste of summer on a cold winter's night.

Lonicera caerulea Comparison Chart



Growing Haskaps

Zone: Hardy to USDA zone 3, heat tolerant through zone 7

Exposure: Full sun (6+ hours) to part sun (4-6 hours)

Water: Average water needs; tolerant of some drought once established.

Soil: Adaptable to any well-drained soil, regardless of pH. Grows best with abundant organic matter, and the use of a shredded bark mulch is recommended.

Pollinators: Plant any two Yezberry[®] haskaps within 25' (7.6m) of one another for best fruit set. Yezberry[®] Solo[™] does not require a pollinator to set fruit; however, it will set larger and more abundant fruit with another Yezberry[®] variety present.

Pests: Haskaps are generally not bothered by deer. Birds may eat the berries as they ripen, but can be deterred by draping plants with bird netting. Powdery mildew may appear during periods of excessive humidity, however, it is not a serious threat to the plant's health. Site in full sun and with good air circulation to minimize this fungal disease (part sun recommended in warmer areas).

Pruning: Plants should not be pruned until they have spent three years in the ground. After that, remove any dead wood and thin congested portions of the plant to encourage new growth elsewhere. Cut back tips of stems to encourage branching, as lateral branches bear more fruit. Prune immediately after harvest ONLY. Haskaps flower and fruit on old wood, so pruning at any other time of the year will reduce fruit set.



Fertilizing: These tolerant, adaptable plants do not need a highly fertile environment to grow well. However, a granular fertilizer formulated for woody plants applied at bud-break each spring helps to encourage the formation of strong, abundant growth which will bear heavily the following season.

Harvesting: The berries begin to ripen in early summer, around the same time as strawberries. They shift from green to blue-purple with a waxy white bloom. The superficial color change does not necessarily indicate ripeness, however; unripe berries are sour and green inside, rather than a plum-like purple. Taste fruits or cut in half to determine readiness. Be patient; it may take several weeks after the skin changes color. Ripe berries hold well on the plant for several weeks, so you can wait until a large quantity is ready to harvest at once if you prefer.

Keys to Haskap Success

- Plants flower and fruit on old wood, so if pruning is required, do so immediately after harvest.
- Plant two different Yezberry® varieties for pollination. All plants will develop fruit, but two different selections should be planted within no more than 25'/7.6m of each other for best results. Yezberry® Solo™ haskap can be planted alone and still bear fruit, but it nonetheless benefits from the presence of a pollinating variety for best production.
- Because plants fruit on old wood, your crops for the first few years may be hidden deep within the plant. Don't miss them! Spread the branches apart and look for them closer to the base of the plant.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What do the berries taste like?**
Everyone describes their flavor differently. Many compare their taste to a cross between a blueberry and raspberry or blackberry. Their texture is similar to a blueberry, however, and the skin is very thin, soft, and melts in your mouth. They are sweet enough to eat straight from the plant.
- **Do the berries have seeds?**
Haskap berries do have seeds, however, they are very small and not really noticeable, much like in a blueberry.
- **Are haskaps a vine or shrub type honeysuckle?**
Shrub type. They form an attractive, rounded, upright habit and do not need any kind of support or staking.
- **Are they invasive?**
Though many honeysuckles are problematic invasive plants, haskaps have shown no signs of invasiveness anywhere they are grown. They do not run or sucker.
- **Are they like a holly, where only one of the two plants will get fruit?**
No. Every variety of Yezberry® haskaps produces fruit because unlike holly, they have both male and female parts in every flower. You need to plant two different varieties only because each plant fruits best when it receives pollen from an individual with different characteristics than its own.