

WILD BLUEBERRIES

Growing Degree Days (GDD): A Smarter Way to Track Blueberry Development

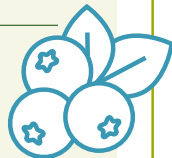
Climate change will lead to warmer temperatures, earlier springs and more variable growing conditions. Calendar-based decisions are no longer reliable and risk missing critical management windows. Using decision support tools based on local climate data can help to inform timely crop management.

What are Growing Degree Days?



Growing Degree Days (GDD) measure heat accumulation over time — a better predictor of wild blueberry growth stages than calendar dates alone.

GDDs allow growers to:
Accurately track crop development in real time



Adjust management decisions in response to actual growth conditions

Reduce risk from unexpected weather shifts

Perennia's GDD Calculator



This tool lets growers:

- Select a nearby weather station
- Choose a date range
- Instantly calculate accumulated GDD for their fields

This provides a field-specific view of crop development based on local weather data.

How to Use GDD for Wild Lowbush Blueberries

Wild Lowbush Blueberry GDD Model (White, 2012)

The White (2012) model links specific GDD ranges to key blueberry growth stages, such as:

- Bud development
- Flowering
- Fruit development

By matching your calculated GDD to the model, you can:

- Better time pest and disease management
- Optimize fertilizer and crop protection decisions
- Improve spray timing and effectiveness

Use Perennia's GDD Calculator + the White (2012) Blueberry Model to make informed, climate-resilient management decisions based on heat accumulation, not guesswork.

Resources



Perennia Wild Blueberry GDD Factsheet



Perennia Wild Blueberry Blog: GDDs

