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### HOW TO GROW ALASKA Highbush Cranberry from Stem Cuttings

1. Collect softwood stem cuttings (young, leafy, actively growing stems) during the last week of July through the first 2 weeks of August. The timing should allow for at least 4 weeks of above freezing temperatures for rooting. Remove any blossoms or flower buds, if present, and remove all leaves on the lower 2-3 inches of the stem. Place cuttings immediately into plastic bags to prevent drying or unnecessary exposure.
2. Cuttings may be stored and refrigerated over night, but it is preferable to stick them in propagating flats or benches as soon as possible after collection. Dip the cut end in water then cover the cut surface lightly with a rooting powder (i.e. Hormodin, Rootone). Stick the cuttings into perlite or sand deep enough to support the cutting but without covering any of the leaves. Rooting percentages and days to root formation may be higher in sand.
3. Place flats of cuttings into an intermittent mist propagation bench with misting frequency timed to keep the foliage from drying out. If a mist bench is not available, hand spray the foliage with water, then enclose the flats in clear plastic bags. Place flats in a greenhouse or outdoors in filtered sunlight. A third alternative is to stick cuttings into a cold frame equipped with clear coverings that can be tightly closed. The key to success is to keep the cuttings from wilting or drying out during the time when roots are forming.
4. Check the plants frequently to maintain sufficient moisture and remove dead or diseased leaves. Because of high humidity, foliage may decay rapidly and fall off. These leafless cuttings rarely produce roots. Treat the cuttings with a fungicide such as Captan or Benlate at regular intervals to control these diseases. (Consult your local Extension agent for additional information on disease control.)
5. Check for rooting after 4 weeks. When sufficient secondary branch roots have formed, cuttings may be transplanted into potting soil; allowed to harden naturally outdoors; or removed from the propagating mix and stored, refrigerated, in plastic bags. Given sufficient snow cover, well-rooted cuttings will survive outdoors with little additional winter care. If stored indoors, cuttings should be sufficiently hardened with any remaining leaves removed, and then stored at 32°F until spring.

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## HOW TO GROW ALASKA HIGHBUSH CRANBERRY FROM STEM CUTTINGS

1. Select stem cuttings from a young plant. Cuttings should be about 10-12 inches long and have 3-4 leaves. The cutting should be taken from the base of the plant, just above the soil line. Remove any flowers or flower buds. If possible, the cutting should be taken from a node on the stem. The cutting should be placed in a plastic bag to prevent wilting or dehydration.

2. Prepare a rooting medium. A mixture of peat moss and perlite is ideal. The peat moss should be pre-moistened with water. The perlite should be added to the peat moss in a 1:1 ratio. The cutting should be placed in the medium and the medium should be watered. The cutting should be placed in a plastic bag to prevent wilting or dehydration.

3. Place the cutting in a rooting medium. The cutting should be placed in the medium and the medium should be watered. The cutting should be placed in a plastic bag to prevent wilting or dehydration. The cutting should be placed in a plastic bag to prevent wilting or dehydration.

4. Check the plants frequently to ensure sufficient moisture and remove dead or damaged leaves. Because of high humidity, foliage may develop fungal diseases. Remove any dead or damaged leaves. The cutting should be placed in a plastic bag to prevent wilting or dehydration.

5. Label for cutting after 4 weeks. When sufficient secondary branches have formed, the cutting should be removed from the rooting medium and placed in a plastic bag. The cutting should be placed in a plastic bag to prevent wilting or dehydration.

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