

ABSTRACT BOOK

XI International **VACCINIUM** SYMPOSIUM



April 10-14, 2016 | Orlando, Florida

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Ericoid Mycorrhizal Inoculation of Organically Grown Highbush Blueberries

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In Sweden, commercial blueberry production has expanded during recent years. At the same time, consumer demand for organically produced fruits and berries has increased. As a part of a project aiming at optimizing organic production of blueberries in a Nordic climate, we have examined the influence of ericoid mycorrhizal inoculation on the growth and nutrient uptake of highbush blueberry plants fertilized with organic residues. Two commercial mycorrhizal inocula and two fertilizers based on organic residues were tested for the *V. corymbosum* varieties 'Duke' and 'Reka' in a pot experiment. Differences in plant growth were small for plants grown with a meat- and bonemeal based fertilizer or with a fertilizer based on residues from cellulose-production. Leaf mineral nutrient concentrations were within the normal range for blueberries, with the exception of boron which was below recommended values. The mycorrhizal treatments had no significant effects on plant height in the pot experiment or one year after transplanting the plants into the field.