# Harvest of the Month









## FUN FACTS

Maine has 44,000 acres of wild blueberries that grow naturally in fields and barrens that stretch along the Downeast coast to the state's southwest corner. Wild blueberries hold a special place in Maine's agricultural history—one that goes back centuries to Maine's Native Americans.

**SOURCES:** Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine, University of Maine Cooperative Extension



Wild blueberries are packed with antioxidants and fiber. They are also an excellent source of manganese, which is important for bone development.

NUTRITION

## **RECIPE: WILD BLUEBERRY SMOOTHIES**

YIELD: 100 - 9oz SERVINGS



#### **INGREDIENTS**

13 1/2 lbs (50 cups) wild blueberries, thawed 14 cups (3 1/2 quarts) orange juice 50 cups (3 gallons) vanilla yogurt

#### **PREPARATION**

- 1. Add orange juice and wild blueberries to blender.
- 2. Purée until smooth. Add yogurt and purée until well-mixed.
- 3. Portion into 9 oz cups.

MEAL PATTERN CONTRIBUTION

1 oz M/MA 1/2 cup fruit juice

YIELD: 36 SERVINGS (1 muffin)

Recipe provided by Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine

### RECIPE: BLUEBERRY & BRAN MUFFINS

### **INGREDIENTS**

1 1/2 qt bran cereal

1 at low-fat milk or low-fat buttermilk

1 qt whole-wheat flour

2 2/3 cups brown sugar, packed

2 cups applesauce

4 large eggs

1 Tbs + 1 tsp baking soda

1 Tbs + 1 tsp baking powder

2 tsp vanilla extract

2 tsp Kosher salt

1 gt + 1/3 cup frozen wild blueberries, thawed and drained

#### PREPARATION

- 1. Combine cereal and milk in a large bowl; let stand for 15 minutes.
- 2. Add flour, sugar, applesauce, eggs, baking soda, baking powder, vanilla and salt. Mix until just combined. Cover and refrigerate at least 1 hour or overnight.
- 3. Preheat convection oven to 375°F or conventional oven to 400°F. Coat 36 muffin tin cups with cooking spray or use muffin tin liners.
- 4. Fold in blueberries until just combined. Scoop about 3 Tbs batter into each prepared muffin tin. Bake until the muffin tops spring back lightly when tapped, 15 to 20 minutes.

MEAL PATTERN CONTRIBUTION

1.5 oz whole grain 1/8 cup fruit

Adapted from Vermont's New School Cuisine Cookbook