

## Cranberry and blueberry production in forest lands abandoned after peat production

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*There is a great stock of abandoned peat lands in the Russian federation in the result of long-term peat land development. Overall area of abandoned peat lands is around 1.5 mln ha. Abandoned peat bog and transitory bog prevail in many Russian regions.*

*Since establishment of hardwood and softwood plantations in these lands is rather difficult the problem of such lands reclamation is very urgent. They are rarely used in traditional agriculture since they need very high costs for high lime material dose applications as well as organic and mineral fertilizers over long time. Due to that these lands are often unused and generate various adverse events: peat fires, dust storms, plugging of water bodies with peat land wastes and some others. On the other hand in many cases wild berries such as cranberry (*Oxycoccus palustris* Pers.) and blueberry (*Vaccinium uliginosum* L.) used to grow in peat lands of peat and transitory bogs. So it would be proper to regenerate various berry plant overgrowth in abandoned peat lands.*

*The paper covers issues of various cranberry and blueberry breeds plantation establishment in abandoned peat lands as a way of its reclamation.*

*Background, state of art and advantages of these breeds plantation establishment in the Russian Federation is briefly reviewed. Cranberry species bred domestically designed for production in abandoned peat lands are presented. Mooseberry advantages over the North American breed are highlighted. Early ripeness belong to these advantages. Prospects of blueberry breeds production in abandoned peat lands.*

*Key research areas of VNIILM officers (Central European forest experiment station) in further breeding of these berry plants are presented.*

**Key words:** *abandoned peat lands, cranberry and blueberry planting, agrotechnics, breeds.*