

News from **Peerbolt Crop Management**

Seasonal updates sent out weekly during the growing season, and sporadically when we have news to share during the off-season.

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We've now got temperature recorders in place at five locations: Dobbins home field in Woodland, Hoffman's river field in Ridgefield, Anne Baker's raspberries in La Center, Silver Star's home field in Brush Prairie and Columbia Farms on Sauvie Island. In addition WSU has recorders at their station in Vancouver and at other grower fields.

In the short run, this temperature data will allow us to assess any extraordinary weather conditions such as frost events or heat waves. But looking ahead, it's the beginning of putting in place the information we'll need to better predict where and when we're going to have problems like leafroller or weevil outbreaks and how to better time our applications for diseases like mummyberry.

Crops:

Raspberries: All of the first applications of fertilizer should be finished as well as any lime sulfur applications.

Caneburning started this week in the younger fields on the west side. Be ready to burn when new primocanes are 3-4' tall.

Blueberries: Apply Orbit (in Washington) for Mummyberry control. Use Indar in Oregon. Repeat in 10-14 days up to three applications. Funginex may still be used in both states.

Evergreen Blackberries: Apply lime sulfur for red berry mite control when lateral growth reaches 2-6" long.

Strawberries: The first new plantings (that I'm aware of) went in this week.

All crops: Spot treat existing weeds.

Chemical Updates: A section 18 has been requested in Washington for **Rally 40W** for powdery mildew control in strawberries. Remember that **Poast** has a 45-day preharvest interval in raspberries.

Non-chemical control Updates: A newly available **beneficial nematode** for root weevil control is now available. It's a species that is active at lower soil temperatures and looks very promising. For more information call Loreley Wolters at Sun Pacific Biological Lab in Kent, WA 253-638-1750.

Insect monitoring update: Now is a good time to check strawberry fields for root weevil larvae. Spot-check all fields by digging up a few plants especially in areas adjacent to potential weevil harboring vegetation. In weak areas where growth seems retarded, check more closely.

Disease monitoring update: Mummyberry spore cups are actively releasing spores in blueberries.

Week's Weather Outlook: Looks like a great weekend with temperatures on Sunday into the '70s. Rain and showers are due back in by Tuesday.