

Peerbolt Crop Management News & Opinions

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

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For those of you just joining the *News & Opinions* list, these comments are not meant to be comprehensive – just some reminders, Tom's ideas, and observations of the current state of the fields.

Section 18 Pesticide Compliance Project Update: No one within Clark County needs to pre-notify WSDA for Section 18 chemical applications. The closest area affected is the Cowlitz River watershed and its southern boundary is 6 miles south of Longview. For more info, call Deborah Bahs at WSDA 360-902-2037.

Crops:

Raspberries: 1) Caneburn when new primocanes are 3-4" tall. 2) Apply foliar fungicides and/or foliar fertilizers 3) Apply second application of dry fertilizer around the end of the month.

Blueberries: 1) 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. 2) Be sure to get the bees in when needed. 3) Apply fungicide for Botrytis control at 10% bloom.

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

Strawberries: 1) Foliar fertilizers and/or fungicides can be applied. 2) Apply fungicide for Botrytis control at 10% bloom. 3) Keep on top of any emerging weed problems.

Chemical Updates: A section 18 has been granted for **Orbit 3.6 EC** for yellow rust control in Red Raspberries in Washington and Oregon. May 1st is the first legal application date. We're still waiting to get a clearance for the use of **Switch** in raspberries for botrytis control.

Leaf testing this week: I'm in the process of taking leaf analyses of caneberry fields and should have the results by the end of next week.

Insect monitoring update:

1) Two spotted mites have been found in both raspberries and strawberries. Counts appear relatively high for this time of year, but predator mite populations are also building. McDaniel spider mites have also been found in raspberries in the Battle Ground area. All populations are below treatment level at this time.

2) Leafroller trap numbers in raspberries are now approaching 50 per week per trap in some fields. The first Carnation Tortrix adults have now turned up in traps at the North Willamette Station (and flown into my truck in town – the consequence of carrying around pheromone lures).

3) Look out for Cyclamen Mite damage in strawberries. It usually shows up as very distorted new growth.

4) Now is still 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:

1) Rust spores are now showing up in raspberries. They are on the upper leaf surface (aecia type spores). No treatment is needed at this stage of infection.

2) Mummyberry spore cups are still actively releasing spores in blueberries. Keep on top of Orbit (or Indar or Funginex) applications if you've had mummyberry problems in the past.

Week's Weather Outlook: Might be dry Saturday. Cooler weather starting Sunday. Wet week ahead.
