

## Small Fruit Update

News & Opinions from Peerbolt Crop Management sent out weekly during the growing season, and sporadically when we have something to share during the off-season. ~ Tom & Anna Peerbolt

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### April 30, 2001

Strawberries and blueberries are showing more open blooms. Stay on top of fungicide applications for fruit mold control. The earlier applications have been shown to be more effective than the ones applied later in bloom. Right now we're running four or five days later than last season (Thanks for the info, Rufus). Could be close to freezing late in the week.

#### Insect Monitoring

**Leafrollers:** Numbers in some of the usual problem raspberry fields are starting to rise. The first carnation tortrix adults showed up in traps this week. It's a very dark moth with pumpkin orange under wings. Don't include it in your trap counts. Its larvae are not a harvest contaminant.

**Weevils:** Black vine root weevils have now begun to pupate. Four overwintering adult black vine weevils were also collected in strawberries this week.

**Cyclamen Mites:** Be on the look out for distorted new growth in strawberry plants. It could be a sign of cyclamen mites.

#### Disease Monitoring:

**Fruit Molds (Botrytis, etc):** The recommended time to begin preventative fungicide applications in strawberries and blueberries is 10% bloom.

**Rust:** The showery weather we've had over the past couple of weeks has produced a bumper crop of rust spores in some raspberry fields. Right now what I've seen are just the spots on the upper leaf (Aecia type). When they start to show up on the lower surface (Uredinia) it's time to treat. That's the stage that can spread very rapidly causing defoliation and crop loss. The change in spore type could take place anytime now.

**Shock:** Withering of new growth and blooms in blueberries just as they're preparing to open are symptoms of shock virus. No treatment is needed. Affected bushes recover the following season.

**Tomato Ringspot Virus:** A chevron pattern on some raspberry leaves infected with TMSV can now be seen. This is the only time of year this symptom is visible. If you suspect the disease in weak areas, take a look around.

#### Chemical Control:

1) We've got **Rally** (Myclobutanil) labeled for rust control in caneberries. This is a replacement for **Orbit** that we've used under a section 18 label the last few seasons.

2) Fruit mold control fungicide options in blueberries include **Rovral, Captan, Benlate, and Ziram**. Of these only Captan and Rovral have shown reasonable control (as always---my opinion).

3) ) Fruit mold control fungicide options in strawberries include **Captan, Elevate, JMS Stylet Oil, and Thiram**. I'd say to use Captan for the first application and then go to an Elevate and Thiram rotation. Elevate is great on botrytis but needs to be tank mixed or rotated with another material to assure broad spectrum fruit mold control.

**Tissue testing:** I'll be finishing client caneberry field tissue testing this week. I should have the results by mid to late week along with foliar nutrient recommendations.

#### Crop Work

**Caneberries:** 1) Go on with second fertilizer application. 2) Plan for primocane control---timing depends on material or method used and vigor of field. 3) Can apply fungicide for root rot control.

**Blueberries:** 1) If field has had problems with Mummyberry, plan control strategy. 2) Bring in bees by 10% bloom. 3) Go on with fertilizer application. 4) Apply fungicide application for fruit mold from 10% bloom on.

**Strawberries:** 1) Check weak areas for root weevil or Strawberry Crown Moth larvae. 2) Apply fungicide application for fruit mold from 10% bloom on. 3) Can apply foliar fungicide for root rot control.

**Weather for the week:** Showery through Wednesday then some nice weather. Highs getting into the sixties. Lows into the mid-thirties later in the week.

#### Upcoming Events:

**May 1 -- Willamette Valley Ag Professionals Association** ~ McNary Restaurant, Keizer, OR. Regular luncheon meeting, guests encouraged to attend. Noon to around 1:30 pm; lunch \$7.50. For more information, contact Dan McGrath 503-931-8307.

**May 2, 2001: Marionberry Marketing Association** will be meeting in Aurora, Oregon at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center. It will begin at 7:00pm. For more information, call Kelly at 503-628-2176.

**May 17, 2001: Oregon Strawberry Commission** will be meeting in Aurora, Oregon at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center. It will begin at 5:00pm. For more information, call Janni at 541-758-4043 or e-mail [Berry Works](mailto:Berry Works).

**May 19, 2001: Oregon Blueberry Growers Association BBQ and Tour** will start at 9:30 am with tours of well-established blueberry farms. A fully catered BBQ will proceed a blueberry dessert contest. The highlight of the day will be the presentation of the Outstanding Leader in the Oregon Blueberry Industry Award. For more information and to get signed up, contact Judy Ebert by phone (503-663-6451) or by [e-mail](mailto:).