

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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The weather's turning dry and warm. It's great pollinating weather. Saw the first open raspberry bloom this week. Watch closely for mite build up in strawberries and raspberries. This week is also the time to get on sprays for rust control in raspberries.

Insect Monitoring

Mites: Two spotted mites have reached economically damaging levels in a couple of our strawberry fields and will need to be treated. In raspberries, McDaniel mite populations in Brush Prairie are building. Yellow mites and two spotted mites are also showing up in the Woodland and Ridgefield area raspberries.

Leafrollers: The fields that have had problems the last two years continue to consistently show the same high trap numbers this year. Winter moth larval populations have decreased dramatically.

Weevils: Weevil larvae are generally below a 5% pupation rate.

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

Redberry Mites: Apply sulfur to blackberries when laterals are 2-6 inches long to help prevent redberry mite problems.

Crane fly larvae: I'm finding occasional larvae feeding on strawberry leaves/crowns. They're not at damaging levels where seen so far but they do have the potential to be an economic problem. To see what they look like, click on:

<http://www.peerbolt.com/images/photolinks.htm>

Disease Monitoring:

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

Rust: Raspberry fields with rust problems should be treated this week.

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.

3) Fruit mold control fungicide options in strawberries include **Captan, Elevate, JMS Stylet Oil, and Thiram**. Elevate is great on botrytis but needs to be tank mixed or rotated with another material to assure broad spectrum fruit mold control.

4) Fruit mold control fungicide options in raspberries include **Switch, Rovral, and Captan**. Rovral has shown some resistance problems.

Tom out of town: I'll be gone from Friday 5/11 through Monday 5/14. (gimme a break, guys. It's for my mother's 80th birthday.). Next week's update will be a day or two late.

Tissue testing: I have the results of most of the tissue tests and will be getting them out to clients this week along with foliar spray recommendations.

Blueberry variety testing: I'm going to be sending samples to Michigan State University from some older blueberry plantings for DNA testing to identify the variety. Thanks to Wei Yang (OSU extension agent) for this contact. Let me know if you'd like details on this process.

Crop Work

Caneberries: 1) Treat for rust if necessary. 2) Bring in bees by 10% bloom. 3) Apply fungicide application for fruit mold from 10% bloom on. 4) Can apply foliar fertilizers. 5) Can apply sulfur to blackberries for redberry mite control.

Blueberries: Apply fungicide applications 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 and/or foliar fertilizers.

Weather for the week: Dry. Highs in the 60s. Lows in the 40s.

Upcoming Events:

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.

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:).

June 12, 2001: Oregon Strawberry Field Day will be held in Aurora, Oregon at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center.

June 14, 2001: Washington Strawberry Field Day will be held in Puyallup, Washington from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.