

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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Happy Memorial Day! Strawberry harvest should start around June 5. Last week's record heat brought along all the bloom as well as causing some minor leaf burn in many caneberry fields ([click here to see damage](#)).

Insect Monitoring

Leafrollers: Some of the marionberry fields were treated with Sevin just before bloom causing trap numbers to drop and cleaning up any larvae in the fields. In blackberries not treated, predator and parasitoid populations are building. I suspect early season broad-spectrum insecticide treatments might be counter productive. They do kill some of the early season leafrollers but also wipe out beneficial insect populations. Obliquebanded are still the predominant larval species in the blackberry fields with quite a few pupae present. Orange tortrix adult trap numbers are getting very high in some of the raspberries. Blackberry trap numbers as mentioned dropped in the treated fields by about half.

Weevils: In most fields, a large majority of the larvae have pupated. Newly hatched adults are showing up. Pre-harvest treatment with Brigade (bifenthrin) is recommended in problem strawberry fields.

Strawberry crown moth: No adults in traps yet. To see what the larvae look like, [click here](#).

Mites: No new mite outbreaks in the area. Predator mite populations seem to be building in the last week.

Disease Monitoring:

Fruit Molds (Botrytis, etc): Stay on top of preventative fungicide applications as long as there is bloom.

Rust: The warm dry weather has helped keep rust from being a problem in caneberrys this year. Some spores are still present in the fields but at low levels.

Phytophthora root rot: Last week's hot weather caused enough stress in raspberries to bring out root rot symptoms in some fields. Leaves yellow and brown around the edges with some actual cane collapse.

Blueberry viruses: There are two viruses that are showing up right now. With **Shock (Ilarvirus)** the flowers and buds suddenly die but the shoots remain green and the plants will put out another flush of growth. The plants recover and will produce again next year. **Scorch** (Carlavirus) is a lot less common but a lot more serious. Buds and shoots die back just as the blooms begin to open. The plants repeat the pattern every year and don't recover. They should be removed as soon as the disease is diagnosed. [Click here to see pictures of both viruses](#).

Chemical Control:

1) Fruit mold control fungicide options in caneberries include **Switch**, **Rovral**, and **Captan**. Rovral has shown some resistance problems. **Ronilan** is still registered for this season but will be canceled by BASF in October of this year.

2) DuPont has requested cancellation of all their benomyl products. They have requested that EPA allow the sale of the products until 12/31/02.

Crop Work

Caneberries: 1) Apply fungicide for fruit mold prevention. 2) Can apply foliar fertilizers.

Strawberries: 1) If necessary, apply Brigade for weevil control before harvest. 2) Treat for mites if needed.

Blueberries: 1) Apply fungicide for fruit mold prevention until bloom is done. 2) Can apply foliar fertilizers.

Weather for the week: Might get some showers today (Monday) and again next weekend. Lows in the high 40's. Highs between 65 and 75.

Upcoming Events:

May 29 ~ Washington Red Raspberry Commission is having a grower meeting in Lynden from 7-9 pm at Homestead Farm to discuss winter damage, market outlook and the anti-dumping effort against Chile. Call Henry Bierlink at 360-354-8767 for more info.

May 30 ~ Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission will be meeting in Aurora, Oregon at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center. It will begin at 6:00 pm. More info., call Janni at 541-758-4043 or e-mail [Berry Works](#)

June 12 ~ Oregon Strawberry Field Day will be held in Aurora, Oregon at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center. The Program will begin out in the Strawberry plots. Click [here](#) to see the agenda.

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

July 18 ~ Oregon Caneberry & Blueberry Field Day will be held in Aurora, Oregon at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center.