



February 25, 2002

**Lime sulfur:** If you've got blackberries, I strongly recommend applying lime sulfur for controlling many diseases and mites, such as Red Berry Mite, purple blotch, rust, and powdery mildew. In raspberries, the need for lime sulfur isn't as clear. It helps to control rust, spur blight, anthracnose and, if you add oil, mites. However, we have Rally (Myclobutanil) for much improved rust control so lime sulfur on raspberries is not as critical.

**Raspberry Crown Borer treatment:** Our mild winters, over the past few years, appear to have allowed borer populations to increase. If you've had problems with borers, March is the time to treat with an insecticide drench. Treatments should be made for two successive years.

**Research Projects:** We'll be concentrating on three this season.

**Phytophthora root rot control:** We've got two field trials set up to test gypsum (along with Ridomil and a new acrylic polymer product) for control of root rot in raspberries. This is the second of a projected four-year study. Diane Kaufman (OSU), Pete Bristow (WSU) and Stan Muhr (Woodland Farm and Garden) are also participating. The Art Wilson Company and North Pacific Trading are providing the funds.

**Root Weevil Survey:** In cooperation with Dr. Lynell Tanigoshi and Dr. Jim Fisher (USDA-Small Fruit Center) we'll be surveying a number of strawberry and caneberry fields, sampling for both adult and larval weevils to get a better understanding of where we have which species and in what numbers. We'll also be collecting soil and air degree-day data for working out a better emergence prediction model. The USDA through the Northwest Center for Small Fruit Research is funding this.

**Leafroller IPM project:** This will be the final year of the three year leafroller control project. Again this year, we'll be surveying over forty fields in Oregon and Washington on a weekly basis to sample for leafrollers. For the sake of this project (as well as for easier leafroller control) I'd really been hoping for some good cold weather this winter. It would have allowed for a comparison of leafroller populations after both mild and cold winters. However it hasn't happened and we're presently looking at another year of high leafroller populations. This project is being conducted with Dr. Lynell Tanigoshi and is funded by the USDA through the Northwest Center for Small Fruit Research and by the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration.

**Cropwork:**

**Blueberries:** 1) Finish pruning 2) Dormant oil can be applied for control of scale and winter moth eggs. 3) Pre emergent herbicide can be applied. 4) Copper or Bordeaux can be applied for bacterial blight control.

**Strawberries:** Pre emergent herbicide can be applied.

**All Caneberries:** 1) Finish canework 2) Pre emergent herbicide can be applied. 3) Ridomil can be applied for root rot control. **A precaution from Pete Bristow: Ridomil Gold** is more volatile than the old formulation and needs to be watered in to assure effectiveness, so apply it either just before or during rain. 4) Lime sulfur (with or without oil) can be applied for disease and mite control. 5) In March, apply drench for crown borer control if field has shown previous damage.

**Evergreen blackberries:** A dormant spray of lime sulfur can be applied for redberry mite control.

**Week's weather:** Dry through Friday. Highs around 50. Lows in the 30's. Longer range—it's looking like a cold March.

**Calendar:**

**March 19 Washington Red Raspberry Commission meeting** ~ Vancouver campus of WSU In conjunction with the Extension Workshop for Berry Growers. Regular commission meeting. For more information, call the

commission's executive director, Henry Bierlink, at 360-354-8767.

**March 19 Extension Workshop for Berry Growers ~ Vancouver campus of WSU**

A full day of grower information organized by the WSU Vancouver Research and Extension Unit. To see the agenda, [click here](#).

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