



March 18, 2002

Seems like everything came to a halt with last week's cold, wet weather. This week looks a little warmer but still pretty wet for fieldwork.

Small Fruit Workshop tomorrow, March 19: A full day of grower information organized by the WSU Vancouver Research and Extension Unit. To see the workshop agenda, [click here](#). It'll be held at the Vancouver campus of WSU. For more information, call the Vancouver Extension Unit at 360-576-6030. Four Washington and four Oregon Pesticide Credit hours are being offered.

A **Washington Red Raspberry Commission Meeting** will follow the Small Fruit Workshop in Vancouver. This will include a status report on the anti-dumping suit against Chile. A Commerce department ruling is expected this summer. A number of other pressing issues are also on the agenda. For more information call the commission's executive director, Henry Bierlink, at 360-354-8767.

Orbit Section 18 for blueberry mummyberry control is still on hold: Alan Schreiber was going to check with the EPA today (Monday). I'll send out a message immediately if anything has changed. Growers should be ready to treat this week for mummyberry if the vegetative buds are breaking. For up to date information, you can call Dorothy & Gus Anderson of the Washington Blueberry Commission at 360-766-6150 or Alan Schreiber with the Agriculture Development Group at 509-266-4348. Oregon has an OK to use **Indar** (Fenbuconazole). **Funginex** (Triforine), if you can find it, is still legal to use in both states.

We're out of here for the week: Anna and I will be gone Tuesday (tomorrow) through Saturday. Our annual visit to the relatives in Arizona. Strictly mandatory -- probably won't even notice the warm, sunny, dry weather.

Cropwork:

Blueberries: 1) Apply fertilizer. 2) Pre emergent herbicide can be applied. 3) Copper or Bordeaux can be applied for bacterial blight control. 4) If mummyberry has been a problem in the field, plan control strategy. 5) Scout for winter moth. 6) Scout for cane diseases. 7) Scout for mouse and vole damage & bait if necessary.

Strawberries: 1) Scout for root weevil and Strawberry Crown Moth in weak growth areas. 2) Scout for mouse and vole damage & bait if necessary.

All Caneberries: 1). Apply fertilizer. 2) Pre emergent herbicide can be applied. 3) Ridomil can be applied for root rot control. 4) Lime sulfur (with or without oil) can be applied for disease and mite control. 5) Apply drench for crown borer control if field has shown previous damage. 6) Scout for mouse and vole damage & bait if necessary

Insect update:

1) There's a report from Skagit County in northern Washington of a hatch of winter moth in blueberries. We haven't seen any in our area yet. When scouting you would see a small amount of webbing tightly holding a flower bud cluster together with a very small green caterpillar feeding inside.

2) We've hired someone to survey area strawberry fields for root weevil beginning this week. This project is funded by the Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research and is being done in cooperation with Dr. Lynell Tanigoshi (WSU) and Dr. James Fisher (USDA-NWCSFR).

Disease Update:

Mummyberries are sprouting in area blueberry fields. Be ready to treat when the vegetative buds start opening (Not the flower buds but the vegetative buds). The overwintering mummyberries send up a mushroom like fruiting cup at this time of year ([click here for picture of fruiting cups](#))

If you're trying to avoid chemical applications, now is the time to destroy as many of the developing fruiting cups as possible by raking or cultivating the soil. For chemical controls see above.

Weather: Wet. Warming up as the week goes on Highs in the mid 50's. Lows in the mid 40's.

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