



Disseminating information for the [Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#).

**February 10, 2003**

There's activity in Washington, D.C. that directly impacts **the raspberry industry:**

Sixty-nine Senators have sent a letter to the President urging him to maintain the "**Byrd Amendment**" which provides for tariffs collected under anti-dumping rulings to be refunded to the original petitioners. Locally, the Byrd Amendment means that duties currently collected on **Chilean raspberries** will be returned to the Washington Red Raspberry Commission (WRRC) rather than simply deposited in the US Treasury.

The **World Trade Organization** (WTO) has just ruled that the Byrd Amendment violates the spirit of the WTO and **President Bush** has proposed eliminating it. The WRRC has been encouraging local senators to join the call to stand up for Fair Trade and keep the Byrd Amendment. So far only **Oregon's Senator Wyden has signed** but we maintain hopes that **Senators Smith, Cantwell, and Murray will change their minds** and join the call to protect this amendment and thereby providing for reimbursement of a portion of our antidumping expenses.

For further information or comment call Henry Bierlink at 360-354-8767.

**A word of caution** from Dr. Bernadine Strik, OSU's small fruit horticulturist: If you're **a blackberry grower getting ready to use mechanical brushing** to clean some of the debris from the floricanes, check the buds beforehand to make sure they aren't swelling. With our mild winter, buds are beginning to break and damage can be done.

**Some of the New Varieties:** The following are available in limited numbers for the coming season. Check with your supplier for more information. The notes come mostly from Dr. Chad Finn (USDA plant breeder):

**Strawberries:**

- **Tillamook:** Fresh or processed uses, high yields, very large fruit, very good quality, excellent yield and fruit size in second harvest, open plant, visible large fruit, efficient to pick.
- **Pinnacle:** Probably fresh market but can process, low rot, very good flavor for fresh, internal color borderline for process, very good firmness.
- **Firecracker:** Very late, 7 days later than 'Redcrest', excellent yields, outstanding for processing or local fresh market, ranked very high by panels for flavor, very attractive fruit, susceptible to powdery mildew in severe disease years.
- **Independence:** Very late, 7 days later than 'Redcrest', excellent yields, tolerant of stresses, does not cap--fresh market only.

**Raspberries:**

- **Chinook:** Primocane fruiting, 7-10 days before Heritage, firm-ships well, excellent yields, canes need support--not as sturdy as Heritage.
- **Coho:** High quality fresh market, very late-later than 'Tulameen', large fruited, high yielding in Oregon tests, will eventually get Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus in North but not particularly sensitive.
- **Lewis:** Fresh market, large, firm fruit, very good yields, slightly later than 'Meeker', will get root rot in poor locations but not particularly sensitive. (Nurseries may carry in 2004).
- **Cascade Delight:** Large, firm fruit, bushy plant, mid-late season, excellent yield, Good for fresh or IQF, however long laterals have tended to break during machine picking in North, some root rot resistance.

**Chemical control update**

**1 ) Zinc Phosphide pellets:** As mentioned last week, this bait has been approved for use in caneberries for rodent control. I neglected to mention that it also has a label for **bushberries** (blueberries, currants, gooseberries, elderberries and huckleberries).

**2) Spartan 4F** (sulfentrazone) can be used in strawberries for pre-emergent weed control until 2/28. Be aware that there is a warning on the label that injury may occur if applied over actively growing plants. With our mild weather more new growth is out there than we'd normally see at this time of year.

**3) Ridomil Gold** (metalaxyl) is more volatile than the older Ridomil 2E formulation and should be watered in to assure effectiveness. Try to apply either just before or during rain.

**Cropwork:**

**All Caneberries:** 1) Finish canework. 2) Can apply Casoron (Dichlobenil) for weed control. Especially good on quackgrass. 3) Can apply Ridomil for Phytophthora root rot control.

**Evergreen Blackberries:** Dormant spray of lime/sulfur or elemental sulfur in mid-February for Redberry mites.

**Blueberries:** 1) Pruning. 2) Scout for bud damage & determine cause. 3) Dormant oil can be applied for scale and winter moth egg control. 4) Copper or Bordeaux can be applied for bacterial blight control.

**Strawberries:** 1) Pre-emergent weed control can be applied.

**Weather for the week:**

**(South):** Dry through the week with changes coming next weekend. Highs around 50. Lows in the mid 30s.

**(North):** Dry through the week with changes coming next weekend. Highs in the mid 40s. Lows in the low 30s.

**Calendar:**

**February 12 Washington Red Raspberry Commission**, 6-9 pm, Fire District #3 Conference Room, 307 19th Street, Lynden Call 360-354-8767 for information.

**February 13 Oregon Strawberry Commission Meeting**, location to be announced, Call 541-758-4043 or [e-mail](#) for information.

**February 20-22 Lower Mainland Horticultural Meetings** in Abbotsford, B.C. Canada. Click [here](#) to register. For the program click [here](#).

**March 1 Oregon Farm Direct Marketing Conference** starts at 8:30 am at the Valley River Inn, Eugene, OR. Call 800-365-0201 for information.

**March 13 Lingonberry Conference** at the National Germplasm Repository, Peoria Road, Corvallis, Or. Call Ross or Linda at 541-682-7308 for information.

**March 19 WSU Extension Workshop for Berry Growers**, Vancouver campus of WSU, Call 360-576-6030 for information.

\*\*\*\*\*

5261 N. Princeton ~ Portland, OR 97203 ~ Office phone: (503) 289-7287 ~ Fax: (503) 289-7229

Cell phone: (503) 970-0922 ~ email [info@peerbolt.com](mailto:info@peerbolt.com) ~ website <http://www.peerbolt.com>