

# Small Fruit Update



Disseminating information for the [Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#) , [Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission](#) and [Oregon Strawberry Commission](#).

## May 19, 2003

It got pretty cold the last couple of nights but I haven't heard any reports of major damage yet. It'll take a couple days to sort it out. Looks like we've got about five days of good weather ahead. Nice change...

Welcome to a new sponsor, **the Oregon Strawberry Commission**. You can visit their website by clicking on their name above.

**Strawberry harvest in the South** should start around June 6-10<sup>th</sup> with peak harvest taking place June 18-22<sup>nd</sup> according to the Rufus LaLone degree day "special recipe" calculation. **Marions and Boysens** just began blooming last week. **Raspberries** are just starting bloom in the North. In Southwest Washington they've reached 10% bloom. In the valley they're closer to 25%. Silvans are around 50% bloom. **Blackcaps** are still prebloom. **Blueberries** in Whatcom County are at peak bloom.

**The on-line version of the 2003 Pacific Northwest Insect Management Handbook**, is now available at <http://pnwpest.org/pnw/insects>. Len Coop ( [coopl@science.oregonstate.edu](mailto:coopl@science.oregonstate.edu) ) would appreciate notification of any glitches, and your ideas and suggestions regarding further improvements. The on-line version of the Handbook includes content and features not included in the printed version.

**OSU Small Fruit Field Days at the North Willamette Station** have been set. They are **Strawberry**, June 12 (3 pm); **Caneberry** July 9 (3 pm); and **Blueberry** July 16 (1-5pm). The agendas will be announced later. For a full schedule of summer field days see below.

**Bird Control in Blueberries:** There's a good article in **Good Fruit Grower** magazine on bird management. One of the new control options featured is a "scare windmill" that can be viewed at <http://www.birddamage.com/windbg.htm>.

Craig MacConnell, Whatcom County Extension Agent, just posted the address of a really well done berry newsletter, the **Massachusetts Berry Notes**. It's published once a month and can be viewed at <http://www.umass.edu/fruitadvisor/berrynotes/index.html>.

## Insect Update

**1) Weevil scouting:** Newly hatched adult Black Vine and Rough Strawberry Root Weevils are now being recovered in southern strawberry fields. It's usually assumed that it takes them about four weeks before they'll begin laying eggs so this is the beginning of the window to control them (that is, kill the adults before they can lay eggs). Since most are still in pupa or larval stages we'd recommend waiting until more are in the adult state before treating.

**1) Raspberry Fruitworm:** Pre-bloom insecticides for Fruitworm control went on last week in Whatcom County. The adult beetles are flying. Some have also been picked up in the South but not at economically damaging levels. ([Click here for fruitworm picture](#)).

**2) Aphids:** Aphid control can be necessary in situations where they can **vector viruses**. These include blueberry fields infected with or in close proximity to **blueberry scorch virus** and virus susceptible strawberry varieties such as **Hood**.

**3) Clay colored root weevil adults** are present in some northern raspberry fields. Scout for feeding damage on buds.

**4) Winter moth** is still active and feeding in some blueberry fields. Treat with *Bacillus thuringiensis* in fields where bees are present.

**5) Two spotted** and some **McDaniel mite** populations are increasing in some raspberry fields. In one Clark county field they've reached damaging levels.

## Disease Update:

**1) Rust** is visible in raspberries but at fairly light levels in most fields.

**2) Cane blight** symptoms in raspberries can also be found fairly easily at this time. Dead canes or canes with buds dead on one side could be caused by cane blight. Check for bright orange streaks coming up from last year's catcher plate

wounds. Recommended treatment to prevent its spread is a fungicide application right after harvest before the wounds heal up.

**3)** This wet season has **increased the risk of root rot** in all small fruit crops. Stay on top of the foliar fungicide applications.

**4) Tomato Ringspot Virus:** A chevron pattern on some raspberry leaves infected with Tomato Ringspot Virus is appearing in the South. This is the only time of year this symptom is visible. ([Click here for picture](#)).

**5) Mummyberry** in blueberries: Protective fungicide applications should be applied now if mummyberry has been a problem. Foliar symptoms can now be found in infected southern fields. ([click here for picture](#)).

**6) Shock and Scorch virus** symptoms are showing up in blueberry fields in all regions. If you suspect your field has a virus but are unsure, you can call Bob Martin, the USDA small fruit virologist to arrange for testing. 541-738-4041. The following website is a great resource for Scorch Virus diagnosis and testing <http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/comhort/BISV.htm>.

**Cropwork:**

**Caneberries:** 1) Fertilizer can be applied. 2) Plan for primocane control --timing depends on material or method used. 3) Scout for rust and treat if necessary. 4) Put out pheromone traps for leafrollers. 5) Scout for raspberry fruitworm.

**Blueberries:** 1) Can apply fungicide for preventing fruit mold if bloom is opening. 2) Can treat for mummyberry. 3) Fertilizer can be applied. 4) Plan to bring in bees at 10% bloom. 5) Scout for aphids in fields having or close to fields having blueberry scorch virus. 6) Scout for Shock and Scorch virus symptoms.

**Strawberries:** 1) Can apply fungicide for preventing fruit mold if bloom is opening 2) Scout weak areas for presence of weevil larvae or strawberry crown moth. 3) Scout for cyclamen mites. 4) Scout for two-spotted mites. 5) Scout for low levels of aphids in virus susceptible varieties (like Hoods). 6) Can apply Fosphite (or equivalent) for root rot.

**All Crops:** Control existing weeds.

**Chemical Update**

**1)** Strawberry fruit mold control options this year include **Switch, Elevate, Thiram** and **Captan**. The first application is recommended to go on at 10% bloom. Alternate or tank mix materials to avoid resistance and ensure control of a broad spectrum of fungal diseases.

**2)** Fruit mold control fungicide options in blueberries include **Elevate, Switch, Rovral**, and **Captan**.

**3)** Fruit mold control fungicide options in caneberries include **Elevate, Switch**, and **Captan**.

**Weather for the week:**

**(South):** Slight chance of light rain Wednesday and a better chance next weekend. Highs around 70. Lows around 45

**(North):** Chance of rain Wednesday and a better chance next weekend. Highs in the low 60's. Lows around 45.

**Calendar:**

**May 29 - 31 Food Alliance** is one of 45 non-profit and government agencies collaborating to present **The Sustainability Forum** in Portland. The Forum will take place at the Hilton Portland and Executive Tower. Call (503) 222-7041 for more information.

**June 10 WSU Strawberry Field Day**, Puyallup Farm 5, 3:00-5:00 pm.

**June 12 OSU Strawberry Open House**, North Willamette R & E Station, Aurora 3:00

**July 9 OSU Caneberry Open House**, North Willamette R & E Station, Aurora 3:00

**July 10, WSU Raspberry Field Day**, Puyallup Farm 5, 3:00-5:00 pm.

**July 16 OSU Blueberry Open House**, North Willamette R & E Station, Aurora 1:00-5:00 pm

**July 24, WSU Small Fruit Field Day**, Mt. Vernon Station, 3:00-5:00 pm.

**August 14 WSU Small Fruit Field Day**, Vancouver, WA Station, 1:00 - 4:00 pm.

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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>