

Small Fruit Update



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

July 29, 2003

As most of you have heard a US District Court judge has ruled that he intends to **impose buffers on all applications of 54 pesticides** near streams and other bodies of water accessible to salmon. This ruling has the potential to **impact many small fruit growers in the Northwest**. For in depth information go to <http://agr.wa.gov/PestFert/EnvResources/Lawsuit.htm>. It includes a list of frequently asked questions, the pesticides in question and other case details.

Crop updates:

Blueberries: As with the other crops, Oregon yields are down this year. Environmental extremes—too much dry, too much wet, too much heat are the major causes. Yields seem to be a little better in the North. Harvest continues in all areas. Quality of fruit is very good.

Raspberries: Harvest is wrapping up quickly in the South. Harvest continues in the North but is also on the downside. This week's heat is speeding things up.

Blackberries: The week's heat is also putting a quick end to most **Marion** and **Boysenberry** harvests. **Evergreens** are just starting to color and look to be more than a week away from starting.

Strawberries: Harvest is finished in all areas. Time to get going on renovating, fertilizing, and treating for weevils, cyclamen mites, and strawberry crown moth.

Chemical Control Update

The two labels for the insecticide imidacloprid (**Admire** and **Provado**) recently issued for use in strawberries, bushberries and cranberries does **not include blueberries** in the bushberry category. It should be added in a few months. This is a very good, low toxicity aphid control material but read the label restrictions carefully. There are PHI and usage differences between differing crops and labels.

Insect Update

1) Blueberry Gall Midge is showing up in some blueberry fields. This is a very small insect whose larva feeds on blueberry buds. Symptoms of infestation include premature floral bud abortion, leaf curl, stunted growth, and blackened tips. For more information and pictures go to <http://edis.at.ufl.edu/IN458>.

1) Orange tortrix leafrollers: Problems continue with larval contaminants in many southern caneberry fields. Late ripening blackberries could need a pre harvest control application this week.

2) Strawberry Crown Moth: Adult flight continues in the South as well as egg laying on strawberry crowns. Insecticides targeted at newly hatched larvae before they can bore in the crown should be applied now. ([Click here for picture of moth](#)).

3) Weevils: Black Vine and Rough Strawberry Root Weevil adults are present in many strawberry and raspberry fields.

4) Spider mites: Our warmer weather favors mite population increases. So far few major problems reported.

5) Black-headed fireworm: It's time to scout cranberries for black-headed fireworm. After bees are removed, Diazinon can be used.

6) Redberry mite infected berries are showing up in some fresh market blackberries and Marionberries. Berries never ripen but remain shiny brick red and hard. Mites feed within the fruit drupelets and are too small to be seen without a strong hand lens or scope. Treatment consists of preventative sulfur applications from budbreak through bloom.

Disease Update:

1) Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus symptoms are showing up in many northern raspberry fields.

2) Mummyberry infected blueberries are becoming evident as the fruit ripens. Infected fruit is shriveled and discolored. ([click here for picture](#)).

Cropwork:

Caneberries: 1) Treat for insect harvest contaminants if needed. 2) Fungicide can be applied for fruit mold prevention. 3) Scout for leafroller larvae. 4) Scout for raspberry fruitworm in the North. 5) Can scout for weevil adults using a beating tray. 6) Scout for mites. 7) Scout for redberry mite damage in blackberries.

Blueberries: 1) Deploy bird control/scare devices to protect ripening fruit from damage. 2) Scout for aphids. 3) Scout for mummyberry infected fruit. 4) Scout for leafrollers. 5) Scout for weevil feeding in the lower suckers.
Strawberries: 1) Renovate fields two to four weeks after harvest. 2) Can treat for weevils if needed. 3) Treat for cyclamen mites if needed. 4) Can treat for cyclamen mites if needed. 5) Scout for two-spotted mites.
Cranberries: 1) Scout for black-headed fireworm. 2) Can apply fungicide to prevent fruit mold.

Weather for the week:

(South): Dry and hot. Record heat today with highs around 100. Then into the 90s tomorrow and maybe 80s for Thursday on. Lows around 60.

(North): Dry and hot cooling down a little mid week. Highs close to 90 today then into the 70s. Lows in the 50s.

Calendar:

August 4 WSDA Endangered Species Program Workshop, Natural Resources Bldg., Olympia, WA. 9-noon. For more information contact Bridget Moran at 360- 902-1936 e-mail: bmoran@agr.wa.gov

August 14 WSU Small Fruit Field Day, Vancouver, WA Station, 1:00 - 4:00 pm. For more information contact Vicki Darnel at 360-576-6030.

September 10 Washington Red Raspberry Commission meeting at the **WSU Research Station Auditorium in Mt. Vernon, WA. from 1-5. For information call 360-354-8767 or email WARedberry@aol.com**

September 17 Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission meeting at the North Willamette Station ([NWREC](#)) in Aurora, OR at 6:00 pm For information call 541-758-4043 or [E-mail](#).

September 24 Oregon Strawberry Commission meeting Alessandro's restaurant in Salem, OR at 5:00 pm For information call 541-758-4043 or [E-mail](#)

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