



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

## February 17, 2004

Some important meetings are coming up in the next couple of weeks:

**Feb 19-21 — Lower Mainland Horticultural meetings** ~ Abbotsford, B.C. This is an excellent conference offering some different perspectives on small fruit growing along with an equipment trade show. Washington State pesticide recertification credits will be available. Meeting information and agenda can be seen [here](#).

**Feb 23 — Washington State Department of Agriculture** will be having an informational meeting. The entire commission structure is looking at potentially major changes and could be going away. Clark and Cowlitz county small fruit growers are strongly advised to attend this meeting being held at the WSU Vancouver Research and Extension Station on 78<sup>th</sup> Street in Vancouver at 10 AM. **Washington Red Raspberry Commission** executive director, Henry Bierlink will also be on hand to update the Chilean anti dumping suit. Call the commission at 360-354-8767 for information.

**March 2 — Blueberry Production Course** ~ Salem, OR from 8:30-5:00 for beginning and experienced growers and other agriculture professionals. Washington, Oregon and CCA pesticide credits will be available. Registrations postmarked later than Feb. 17 cost \$30 more! Organized by Bernadine Strik and Wei Wang, Dept. of Horticulture, NWREC, OSU. [Click here](#) for the agenda and registration information.

## Buffer Zone Input Needed

The EPA is proposing a new rule that will streamline the pesticide review process that brought about the lawsuit leading to the court imposed buffer zones. **Washington Friends of Farms and Forest** have a connection on their website that will allow you to show support for the rule changes and help bring about the needed changes.

Although we still have the court order to contend with, the **proposed rule will help** with some of the buffers and will eliminate an argument for future lawsuits. In order to get this rule adopted, the government needs to know there is lots of support.

The easiest way to **show your support** is to go to <http://www.wafriends.org/> click on "HAVE YOUR SAY ON ESA". Follow the steps there to automatically send in a letter of support. If you wish, you can also write and send in personalized comments. The comment deadline is March 30.

## Vole scouting and control

I'm seeing a lot of vole activity in strawberry, blueberry and caneberry fields. It looks like a banner year for them. You might check out the following site for vole biology and control. <http://www.rodentcontrol-supplies.com/voles.htm> These guys can do a lot of damage if they're left unchecked. This site has info on bait stations [http://www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org/sw\\_rodentbait.html](http://www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org/sw_rodentbait.html)

## Cropwork

**All Crops:** 1) Can put out mouse/vole bait as needed. 2) Control weeds.

**All Caneberries:** 1) Finish canework. 2) Can apply Casoron 4G (Dichlobenil) for weed control. Especially good on quackgrass. Click here for label [here](#). 3) (South) Can apply lime sulfur applications

**Evergreen Blackberries:** If you've had problems with redberry mites during harvest, start your prevention program with a delayed dormant spray of lime/sulfur or elemental sulfur shortly after bud break.

**Blueberries:** 1) Finish pruning—can apply Bordeaux after pruning. 2) Scout for bud damage & determine cause. 3) Dormant oil can be applied for scale and winter moth egg control.

**Strawberries:** Can use Spartan 4F(Sulfentrazone) for pre-emergent weed control until February 28<sup>th</sup>. It's off label after that date. To view Section 18 label for Oregon [click here](#). To view Section 18 label for Washington [click here](#).

**Caneberries:** **Early reminders:** 1) The beginning of March is the time you can apply Ridomil for **root rot control** in raspberries. 2) The first couple of weeks in March are also the time to apply any insecticide drenches for **raspberry crown borer** and **strawberry crown moth** control.

### Chemical control Update

- 1) I think this is round three on the update of the material Washington state blueberry growers will have for mummyberry control this year. The EPA has rejected an application for the use of **Orbit (propiconazole)** and the industry is now pursuing a Section 18 emergency exemption for **Indar (fenbuconazole)**. This is the same material for which Oregon has applied.
- 2) Effective immediately, Taminco (formerly UCB Chemical Corp) has cancelled the 24c registrations for use of **Ferbam** fungicide in caneberries in OR and WA. Further, they have chosen to also withdraw the Section 3 registration of Ferbam in OR and WA, which was used for disease control in cranberries, grapes, cherries, and apples. There was a lawsuit/claim from a grower in WA and, based on financial considerations, Taminco has chosen to just cancel all Ferbam registrations in the West.
- 3) Bayer Crop Science, in response to a lawsuit from a blueberry grower in the South, is in the process of removing **Rovral (Iprodione)** for blueberries from its label. If you have or can get product with blueberries on the label it can still be used.

### Weather

**North** (Whatcom cty): Mixed. Looks like some dry breaks late in the week. Highs around 50. Lows around 35.  
**South** (North Willamette valley): Mixed. Chance of showers all week. Highs around 50. Lows around 35.

### Calendar

- Feb 18 — Oregon Strawberry Commission** will be meeting at the Mt. Angel Brewery, 210 Monroe Street in Mt. Angel at 11:30. Call 541-758-4043 or [e-mail](#) for information.
- Feb 19-21 — Lower Mainland Horticultural meetings** ~ Abbotsford, B.C., See above
- Feb 23 Washington State Department of Agriculture** will be having a meeting on the state's proposed changes to the commission structure. See above
- Feb 24-25 — Organic Agriculture Principles and Practices: Workshops for PNW Ag Professionals** ~ Wilsonville, OR. Click [here](#) for details.
- Feb 23-25 — 2004 North American Berry Conference** The Temptation of Tampa, Hilton Tampa Westshore, Tampa, Florida. Put on by the North American Strawberry Growers Association. Information and registration is available [here](#).
- Feb 27-28 — U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council Spring Meeting** ~ Embassy Suites-100 Capitol Mall in Sacramento, CA. Call 916-326-5000 for information.
- March 2 — Blueberry Production Course** ~ Salem, OR See above
- March 23— WSU Extension Workshop for Berry Growers** ~ Vancouver, WA campus of WSU. Full day workshop for growers. Agenda will be available later. Call 360-576-6030 x14 for information.
- March 23—Weed Management Short Course** ~ Corvallis, OR on the campus of OSU from 8:30 to 4. Call Dan McGrath for information 503-931-8307.

\*\*\*\*\*

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>