



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

### March 9, 2004

**Great weather**—It hit seventy down here in the balmy south yesterday. It looks like about a five-day clear and dry window. In the Willamette valley, **marionberries** and **red raspberries** are pushing bud; **boysenberries** are a bit behind marions as usual. It's a good time to walk the caneberry fields looking at the base of fruiting canes to check for cane diseases. Also, in southern blues, the first applications of Indar are going on to protect from **mummyberry**—the timing is critical for this disease.

### Disease Update

**1) Check for cane diseases** such as **Purple Blotch** in blackberries. Lesions are easy to see right now with no foliage in the way.

**2) Mummyberries** are sprouting in Oregon and southern Washington blueberry fields. As plants reach green tip stage, they are vulnerable to infection. The overwintering mummyberries send up a mushroom-like fruiting cup at this time of year ([click here for picture of fruiting cups](#)). It releases spores that land on new vegetative growth, infecting it. The new growth is susceptible from budbreak to about 1 inch long.

- If you're trying to avoid chemical applications, now is the time to start destroying or burying as many of the developing fruiting cups as possible by dragging a chain, raking or cultivating the soil. Flaming or lime sulfur applications can also destroy the cups but you'll need frequent and regular applications to have an impact.
- For chemical controls: See **Indar** below. Other materials are available with mummyberry on the label but they haven't been shown to give as good control as Indar. That's why we've got an emergency label for it...

**3) Phytophthora Root Rot** in caneberries can be treated with a drench of **Ridomil** in March. Be sure it gets rained in. Ridomil is pretty volatile. To see the label, [click here](#).

### Insect Update

**1) Insecticide drenches** can now be applied for control of **Raspberry Crown Borer** and /or **Strawberry Crown Borer** in caneberries. Diazinon is the recommended insecticide.

**2) Sulfur applications** for the prevention of **Redberry mite** problems in blackberries can be started at the delayed dormant stage.

### Chemical Control Update

**1) Here are the Indar (fenbuconazole) Section 18 emergency labels** for mummyberry control in blueberries in both Washington and Oregon. [Click here](#) for the Washington label and [here](#) for the Oregon label. Indar can be tank mixed with copper hydroxide products—follow the label directions.

### Cropwork

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

**All Caneberries:** 1) Finish canework. 2) (North) Finish applying Solicam and/or Casoron 4G (Dichlobenil) for weed control. [Click here](#) for the Solicam label and for the Casoron label click [here](#). 3) Can apply lime sulfur.

4) Can apply Ridomil for root rot control in March. 5) Can apply insecticide drenches for borer control.

**Evergreen Blackberries:** Can apply a delayed dormant spray of lime/sulfur or elemental sulfur to help prevent redberry mites.

**Blueberries:** 1) (North) Finish pruning—can apply Bordeaux or copper after pruning. 2) Scout for winter moth and leafroller larvae. Look for webbing in the buds. 3) (North) Dormant oil with or without diazinon can be applied for scale and winter moth egg control. 4) Can scout for opening mummyberries. 5) (South) Can treat for mummyberry prevention as vegetative buds break.

**Strawberries:** Start scouting for root weevil and /or strawberry crown borer larvae in areas where the new growth is weak.

**Weather**

**North** (Whatcom county): Clearing. Highs in the mid 50s. Lows around 40.

**South** (North Willamette valley): Chance of rain later in the week. Highs in the 60s. Lows around 40.

**Calendar**

**March 23— WSU Extension Workshop for Berry Growers** ~ Vancouver, WA campus of WSU. A full day workshop for growers. For program and registration information, [click here](#). Or call 360-576-6030 x14.

**March 23—Washington Red Raspberry Commission** ~ Vancouver, WA campus of WSU. Starting at 3:30 following the WSU Extension workshop. Call 360-354-8767 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.

**April 19 — Washington Blueberry Commission meeting** ~ Puyallup, WA. For more information, contact Dorothy Anderson 360-766-6150 or by [email](#).

**May 1 — Oregon Blueberry Growers Association Annual Meeting** ~ Roth's IGA, West Salem. For more information, Contact Judy Ebert (503) 663-6451 or by [email](#).

**Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports:** <http://berrygrape.oregonstate.edu/markets/cold.htm>

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