



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

April 6, 2004

What a difference a year makes. Last year we were in the middle of a very extended wet, cool period. This year it's all sunshine and warm! Strawberry bloom has started in fields in the south. Another week of this weather is going to really move the blueberry and strawberry bloom along quickly. Pretty darn early...

Insect Update

- 1) Yellow mites** are showing up in significant numbers in a couple of southwestern Washington raspberry fields.
- 2) Aphids.** Early season aphid control could 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 weevil** are now present in some northern raspberry fields. Go out at night and look for the adults or use a beating tray. Click [here](#) for scouting and pictures and [here](#) for decision-making.
- 4) Rough strawberry root weevil** adults can now be found at the base of raspberry canes and in the detritus of strawberries [Click here](#) for **weevil species photos**.
- 5) Winter moth larvae** are being found in the north and south. These can cause major damage by feeding on blueberry blooms. Often, you can see a small hole chewed into the sides of the bud. Occurrence can be very spotty in a field, so scout carefully for webbing and/or damaged buds. [Click here](#) for pictures.
- 6) Check weak areas** in strawberry fields for insect larvae feeding on the crowns and/or roots. These could be **cutworms, strawberry crown borer** or **root weevil larvae**.
- 7) Leafrollers:** Trap counts are over 100 adults per week in some southern blackberry fields. Visual surveys show the predominant larvae feeding in southern caneberries right now are winter moth.
- 8) Rust** visible in raspberries in the south. The present spore stages ([click here for picture](#)) don't require treatment.

Disease Update

- 1) Mummyberry.** Now is the critical time to treat for mummyberry. [Click here](#) for information and pictures.
- 2) Shock virus** symptoms visible in southern blueberry fields. The newly developing buds suddenly turn black and die. Infected plants recover but produce no crop for a year. No treatments are available.
- 3) Scorch virus** symptoms are also due to show up in blueberries. It looks very similar to Shock but is much more serious since plants don't recover and should be immediately removed to prevent spread. If you suspect your field has a virus, call Bob Martin, the USDA small fruit virologist and arrange for testing. 541-750-8794. For pictures and information on Scorch virus, [click here](#).
- 3) Cane Blight**—The best time to spot symptoms of cane blight in raspberries is as they break bud. The time to protect next year's canes from infection is immediately after harvest when fresh wounds can become infected.
- 4) Check for cane diseases** such as **Purple Blotch** in blackberries. Lesions are easy to see right now with no foliage in the way.

Chemical Control Update

Strawberry and blueberry fruit mold control options this year include **Pristine** (pyraclostrobin & boscalid), **Switch** (cyprodinil & fludioxonil), **Captevate** (fenhexamid & captan), **Elevate** (fenhexamid), 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.

Cropwork

Raspberries: 1) Can apply fertilizer. 2) Scout for Cane Blight and other cane diseases. 3) (north) Finish applying lime sulfur. 4) Control primocane growth as needed. 5) Can put out pheromone traps for leafroller monitoring. 6) Put out traps for raspberry beetle in the north. This pest has not been found at economically damaging levels in the south. 7) Scout for mites.

Blackberries: 1) Can apply fertilizer. 2) Scout for cane diseases like Purple Botch. 3) Control primocane growth as needed. 4) Can put out pheromone traps for leafroller monitoring.

Blueberries: 1) Scout for winter moth and leafroller larvae. Look for webbing or holes in the buds. 2) Scout for cane diseases such as Bacterial Blight. 3) (north) Can apply pre bloom application of diazinon for winter moth control. 4) Can treat for mummyberry prevention. 5) Can apply fertilizer. 6) Bring in bees at 10% bloom. 7) Can apply fungicide at 10% bloom for fruit mold control.

Strawberries: 1) Scout for root weevil, cutworm and /or strawberry crown borer larvae in areas where the new growth is weak. 2) Can apply fertilizer. 3) Can apply slug bait. 4) Till row centers. 5) Can apply foliar Fosphite or Aliette for root rot control. 6) Scout for aphids and treat if needed. 7) Can apply fungicide at 10% bloom for fruit mold control.

Cranberries: Can apply Casoron for weed control.

Weather

North (Whatcom county): Chance of rain tonight and tomorrow, then dry. Highs climbing to around 70 later in the week. Lows around 40.

South (North Willamette Valley): Chance of rain tonight, then dry. Highs into the mid-70s by the weekend. Lows around 40.

Calendar

April 7 — Oregon Strawberry Commission ~ Mt Angel Brewery, 210 Monroe Street, Mt. Angel, OR. Noon. Call 541-758-4043 or [email](#) for information.

April 19 — Washington Blueberry Commission meeting ~ Chicona Room, Puyallup Research and Extension Station at 10 AM. Call Dorothy Anderson at 360-766-6150 or by [email](#) for more information.

April 21-23 — Fruit and Vegetable Processing Short Course 238 Wiegand Hall, OSU Campus, Corvallis, OR. For registration and program details, [click here](#).

April 29 — WSDA Public Hearing on Proposed Commission Changes ~ 1:00pm, Fire District #3 Conference Room, 307 19th Street, Lynden, WA. Call the Washington Red Raspberry Commission office at 360-354-8767 for information.

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](#).

May 3 — WSDA Public Hearing on Proposed Commission Changes ~ 1:00pm, WSU Vancouver Research & Extension Unit, 1919 NE 78th Street, Vancouver, WA. Call the Washington Red Raspberry Commission office at 360-354-8767 for information.

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

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