



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

April 13, 2004

More **winter damage** than previously thought is being reported in northern Washington and Canada raspberries. New fields are showing a lot of damage with substantial numbers of dead buds in older fields also. **Record-breaking warmth** this past week continued to push the plants ahead of last year (by about two weeks in the Willamette valley). It's also **compacted the blueberry bloom time** in the south and will probably hasten and shorten their harvest season. We've returned to more seasonal weather this week.

WSDA Information: The latest issue of *Pesticide/ESA News* has updated information on the pesticide buffer issue. [Click here for a pdf file of the information.](#)

The Washington Blueberry Commission has two positions that are open for nominations. If you're interested in serving or want to nominate someone, get a hold of Dorothy Anderson for further information at 360-766-6150 or by [email](#). Nominations need to be postmarked no later than April 24th.

The North American Strawberry Association newsletter is available [on the web](#). If you're interested in European production and/or tunnel growing, look at the information on page 5 on a planned July tour of some English facilities.

A word of caution from one of our contributors: Be skeptical of traveling salesmen/women making generous claims for expensive products. Your local dealer may have experience with the same product for a fraction of the cost. Local extension and/or private consultants are other sources for information on new products.

Insect Update

1) **Mites: Yellow mites** are showing up in some southwestern Washington raspberry fields.

Two-spotted mites are also being found in southern strawberries.

2) **Root Weevils:** [Click here](#) for **weevil species photos**.

Black Vine: The first Black Vine pupae of the season were found this week in southern strawberries.

Clay colored: Adults are present in some northern raspberries. This species has not been identified as a pest in the southern areas. Click [here](#) for scouting and pictures and [here](#) for decision-making.

Rough strawberry: Adults can now be found at the base of raspberry canes and in the detritus of strawberries.

3) **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.

4) **Winter moth:** Larvae are present in raspberries and blueberries. These can cause major damage by feeding on blueberry blooms. [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**.

Disease Update

1) **Mummyberry.** Now is the critical time to treat for mummyberry. [Click here](#) for information and pictures.

2) **Virus diseases:**

Tomato Ring Spot Virus in raspberries: 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](#)). This virus is vectored by dagger nematodes and causes a significant decrease in vigor. Check weak areas for symptoms.

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.

Scorch virus symptoms are also just beginning to show up in blueberries in the south. 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.

5) Rust is visible in raspberries in the south. The present spore stages ([click here for picture](#)) don't require treatment.

Chemical Control Update

1) Materials available for cane burning in caneberrries are Aim (carfentrazone) and **Goal** (oxyfluorfen).

2) After planting new raspberry fields you can apply a pre-emergent herbicide. Options include **Simizine** (half rate) and oryzalin products (**Surflan** or generic label).

3) (north) If you're using Diazinon prebloom in blueberries, be sure to leave several days between the application and bringing in the bees.

4) 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. We've got a lot of excellent options so be sure to alternate 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) Control primocane growth as needed. 4) Put out pheromone traps for leafroller monitoring. 5) Put out traps for raspberry beetle in the north. This pest has not been found at economically damaging levels in the south. 6) Scout for mites.

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

Blueberries: 1) Scout for winter moth and leafroller larvae. 2) (North) Can apply pre bloom application of diazinon for winter moth control. 3) Treat for mummyberry prevention. 4) Can apply fertilizer. 5) Bring in bees at 10% bloom. 6) Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control starting at 10% bloom.

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. 8) Scout for two-spotted mites and cyclamen mites.

Cranberries: 1) Apply fertilizer. 2) Can apply copper for tip blight.

Weather

North (Whatcom County): Chance of showers all week. Highs in the mid to upper 50s. Lows in the lower 40s.

South (north Willamette Valley): Chance of showers all week. Highs around 60. Lows in the lower 40s.

Calendar

April 15 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission ~ Special Board Meeting at 2 pm, 1796 Front St., Lynden, WA., or via teleconference. Call Henry Bierlink at 360-354-8767 for the teleconference number or for more information.

April 19 — Washington Blueberry Commission meeting ~ Chicon 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>

5261 N. Princeton ~ Portland, OR 97203 ~ Office phone: (503) 289-7287 ~ Fax: (503) 289-7229
Cell phone: (503) 970-0922 ~ email info@peerbolt.com ~ website <http://www.peerbolt.com>