

Small Fruit Update



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

October 6, 2004

Blueberries are turning red, seems like everyone's taking a vacation and the meeting schedule is heating up—must be fall. There are some interesting and important meetings coming up, take a look at the calendar.

Blueberry Crop Insurance: Approximately 3,300 acres of blueberries will be eligible for coverage under the Federal crop insurance program in the following Oregon and Washington counties: Benton, Clackamas, Columbia, Marion, Washington and Yamhill counties in Oregon and Clark, Lewis, Pierce, Skagit, Thurston and Whatcom counties in Washington. Call or [email](mailto:Jo.Lynne.Seufer@oregon.gov) Jo Lynne Seufer (509)353-2147 for more information.

Website of the Week: Check out the Washington Red Raspberry Commission's new and improved website at <http://www.red-raspberry.org/>

Chemical Control Update:

- 1) **Captevate 68WGD (captan & fenhexamid)**, the fungicide from Arvesta, has added raspberries to its label. All other small fruits are already on the label.
- 2) **Saber 2,4-D** Can be used in blueberries for broadleaf weed control once leaves have turned red. Use 2,4-D with much caution in blueberries.

Insect Update

- 1) **Mites** are now changing into their red overwintering stage. A sure sign that winter's coming.
- 2) **Weevils:** Adults (Black Vine, Rough Strawberry and Strawberry) are still being recovered from strawberry fields in the south. The new larvae are also now large enough to be found. Check around in the detritus by the crowns and look for leaf notching.
- 3) Premature reddening of strawberry plants should be checked for **strawberry crown borer** larvae. The crowns will often break off when pulled revealing rust colored frass and tunneling. The reddening could also be a sign of **weevil** problems

Disease Update

- 1) **Powdery Mildew:** Some strawberry fields in the south are showing significant powdery mildew infections.
- 2) **Bacterial canker:** In blues, growers can apply Bordeaux or copper for control of bacterial blight.
- 3) **Phytophthora root rot:** In raspberries, growers can apply **Aliette** (or its equivalent) before the leaves start turning. **Ridomil** can be applied later, just before the heavy rains start. Gypsum applications as well as anything that improves drainage (hilling and/or subsoiling) are also beneficial for root rot control.

Vertebrate Update

Voles: Populations are high in many fields. Check out this site ([click here](#)) for vole biology and control. This other site ([click here](#)) has info on how to build bait stations.

Cropwork options

Caneberries: 1) Plant cover crop. 2) Cane out. 3) Take soil tests for nematodes and nutrition. 4) Scout and mark problem weed areas that could be treated in the winter. 5) Fumigate for new plantings in spring. 6) Apply lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer. 7) Scout for voles and mice. 8) Subsoil and/or hill. 9) Just prior to a heavy rain, apply Ridomil (it's a little early in the south...)

Blueberries: 1) Take soil tests for pH and nutrition. 2) Apply lime, dolomite, sulfur, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer. 3) Scout and mark problem weed areas that could be treated in the winter. 4) Apply copper for bacterial canker control. 5) Fumigate for new plantings in spring.

Strawberries: 1) Take soil tests for pH and nutrition. 2) Apply lime, dolomite, sulfur, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer. 3) Scout and mark problem weed areas that could be treated in the winter. 4) Apply Aliette or alternative phosphite material for root rot control. 5) Fumigate for new plantings in spring.

Weather for the week

North (Whatcom County): Fog, rain, showers... Highs in the 60s. Lows in the 40s.

South (North Willamette Valley): A little warmer and a little drier than the north (so what else is new?) Highs in the upper 60s. Lows around 50.

Calendar

October 11 — Washington Blueberry Commission ~ 10 AM, Chicon Room, WSU Research and Extension Center, Puyallup, WA. Call Dorothy at (360) 766-6150.

October 27— Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission ~ 7 AM, Sweetbriar Inn, Tualatin, OR. [Email](#) or call 541-758-4043.

November 2— Washington Red Raspberry Commission Research committee ~ 7 PM. At Fire District #3 conference room, 307 19th Street, Lynden, WA. Call Henry Bierlink at 360-354-8767 or [email](#) him.

November 3— Washington Red Raspberry Commission ~ Noon. At Fire District #3 conference room, 307 19th Street, Lynden, WA. For information call Henry Bierlink at 360-354-8767 or email at [or email](#) him.

November 12—Making Bugs Work for You: Biocontrol in Organic Agriculture, WSU/OSU research symposium, Columbia River Doubletree Hotel, Portland, OR. For information and registration [click here](#).

November 12-14— Tilth’s Annual Northwest Regional Conference, Columbia River Doubletree Hotel, Portland, OR. For information and registration, [click here](#).

December 2—The Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research Annual Meeting, Boise, Idaho. For conference details, [click here](#). Then click on the newsletter.

December 6, Good Agricultural Practices for Fruit and Vegetable Production Workshop, 238 Wiegand Hall, OSU Campus, Corvallis, OR. For a PDF brochure that includes information and registration, [click here](#).

December 9—Oregon Strawberry Commission, 12 Noon. Mt Angel Brewery, Mt. Angel, OR. Call 541-758-4043 or [e-mail](#) for information.

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>