

# Small Fruit Update



February 2, 2005

The plants are waking up in the Willamette Valley and southwest Washington. Hopefully our cooler forecasted weather will slow things down. Early season **blueberries** are at green bud stage. Some sprouted mummyberries have even been found. First year **raspberry** fields are also starting to push. Older fields have swelling buds.

## Other crop news from the Willamette Valley:

**Strawberries:** Totems are showing breakage out of the 'crown cap' with a few crowns showing small leaves.

**Blackberries: Silvans:** Buds are pushing at about 1/4", some fields with small leaves showing on tips of some buds.

**Boysens:** In the typical early fields: buds just starting to push, 1/8" mostly, few at 1/4". **Marions:** Similar to boysens, though generally more bud swell than bud push.

**Jim Fares, of Global Fruit News,** ([www.globalfruitnews.com](http://www.globalfruitnews.com)) put together the following 14-page market report on last year's **raspberry production worldwide** ([click here](#)). Reports on other crops are available on his site along with a lot of other timely worldwide berry production information. **Subscription fees are:** Annual \$225, Semi-annual \$125, and Monthly \$25. This is an independent worldwide information network containing up-to-date, fact-based news, statistical data and market analyses compiled and edited specifically for the fruit processing industry. He provides:

- Up-to-date crop information for specific regions (weather, crop progress, field pricing).
- Historical statistical data including production, area cultivated and field prices.
- Access to detailed market analyses of specific fruits.

**New IPM Website:** We (Anna and Tom at Peerbolt Crop Management) have finished constructing our new grower oriented website. You can find it at [www.nwijpm.info](http://www.nwijpm.info). The site has a lot of IPM information about small fruits insects and diseases with scouting tips and control options. The new site also has weather information, an industry event calendar, industry web resource area, and Joe DeFrancesco's pesticide guide (which we moved from our own web site, [www.peerbolt.com](http://www.peerbolt.com)). We've tried to make the new site easy to use, though pages with many pictures will open slowly for people with dial up. Like this newsletter, many of the links (words that are underlined) go to labels and further information. Some of that information is in the PDF file format and needs the Adobe Reader program to make it open. To download the free program click on this address: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.

**Insect Update: Winter moth/leafroller larvae:** I've been finding some larger [over wintering leafroller larvae feeding](#) on buds in blueberries and raspberries. Scout for buds held tightly together with webbing. No sign of the first [winter moth](#) hatch yet. They do similar damage but would be much smaller.

**Disease Update: Mummyberry:** It's early for this but some sprouting mummyberries are being recovered in southwest Washington and Skagit County. If the buds are showing green, the mummies are releasing spores, and the weather conditions are right, infections can take place. Best to start scouting early than be surprised later.

**Winter herbicides:** Get these on before warm weather spurs plant growth that can lead to herbicide damage. [Casoron](#) can be applied for Quackgrass control in caneberries. Pre-emergents can be applied in all crops to prevent weed problems later in the spring. [Click here for herbicides](#) registered in small fruits.

## Chemical Control Update

**1) Correction--Endura** (Boscalid), a fungicide from BASF is not labeled for northwest small fruits. The active ingredient, Boscalid is available as one of the components of [Pristine](#) (Pyraclostrobin & Boscalid), another BASF product that is labeled for small fruits.

**2) Platinum and Actara** (Thiamethoxam), are now labeled for aphid control in blueberries and strawberries. This is a good aphid material but is in the same chemical family as **Admire**, so growers need to be mindful of rotation and resistance management. The foliar Actara, rather than the soil-applied Platinum, is the preferred product for aphid control.

**2) Indar** (Febuconazole): Both Washington and Oregon have again applied for a Section 18 emergency exemption label to use Indar for mummyberry control. We should receive the word on it soon.

**3) Spartan 4F**(Sulfentrazone) has a Section 18 emergency exemption label for pre-emergent weed control in strawberries 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](#).

**Cropwork:**

**All Crops:** Can put out mouse/vole bait as needed. They're very heavy in some fields this year.

**All Caneberries:** 1) Finish canework. 2) Weed control. 3) Scout for bud damage/feeding & determine cause.

**Evergreen Blackberries/Marionberries:** if you've had problems with **redberry mites** during harvest, start your prevention program with a dormant spray of lime/sulfur or elemental sulfur in mid-February.

**Blueberries:** 1) Finish pruning. 2) Scout for bud damage & determine cause. 3) Dormant oil can be applied for scale and winter moth egg control. 4) Scout for mummyberries. 5) Can treat for scale and/or caterpillar larvae.

**Strawberries:** Weed control.

[Weather Forecast](#) by Rufus La Lone.

**Calendar**

**Feb 9—Oregon Strawberry Commission Meeting** ~ Noon, Allesandro's Restaurant, OR Call 541-758-4043 or [email](#) for information.

**Feb 11—Oregon Farm Labor Legislation Seminar** ~ 9-noon, North Willamette Station, Aurora, OR, Oregon Ag Alliance. Must preregister. Click [here](#) for information.

**Feb 16—Washington Red Raspberry Commission Meeting** ~3 PM. At Fire District #3 conference room, 307 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Lynden, WA. For details call Henry at the Commission office 360-354-8767.

**Feb 17— Food Alliance Sixth Annual Recognition Dinner** ~ Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland, 7 p.m. For information call 503-493-1066.

**Feb 16-19—North American Berry Conference** ~ Double Tree Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee. Jointly sponsored by the North American Strawberry Growers and the North American Bramble Growers. For information contact the registration office at 814-355-1912 or [email](#). For the conference brochure [click here](#).

**Feb17-19—Lower Mainland Horticultural Short Course** ~ Tradex, Abbotsford, [Click here](#) for information or [email](#).

**Feb 23-24— North American Blueberry Council Annual Meeting** ~ Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort, Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina. Call 916-983-2279 or [email](#) for information.

**March 15—Oregon Blueberry Commission Meeting** ~ Noon, Roth's West Salem IGA, Salem, OR, Call 503-364-2944 for information

**March 16—WSU Extension Workshop for Berry Growers** ~ Vancouver, WA campus of WSU. Call Dr. Lynell Tanigoshi at 306-576-6030 x 12 for details – [click here for agenda](#).

**March 16— Washington Red Raspberry Commission Meeting** ~ WA campus of WSU, Vancouver. Following the WSU workshop. For details call Henry at the Commission office 360-354-8767.

**March 22— Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission Grower Workshop** ~ 1:00, North Willamette Station, Aurora, OR. Call Tom at 503-289-7287 for information or [email](#).

**Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports**

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