

# Small Fruit Update



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

**February 22, 2005**

Fields are drying out. It looks like a stretch of dry weather is here. Time to get new fields prepped and planted. New growth is being seen in all regions. The main concern continues to be the potential for frost or freeze damage.

**Disease Alert: Mummyberry in blueberries.** Many blueberries are at green bud stage or beyond, and in Oregon and the Willamette Valley mummyberries are sprouting ([Click here for a photo taken yesterday](#)). Checks made yesterday showed none sprouting in Whatcom county yet. The dry weather will aid in limiting infections but growers who have experienced mummyberry problems in the past need to stay on top of control measures at this critical stage of disease development. Click on the bold blue highlight above for scouting and control details as well as photos. We're still waiting for the Section 18 Emergency exemption labels for **Indar** (Febuconazole) use in Washington and Oregon.

**2004 state survey statistics** Click on the following links for USDA survey information on berry production. [Oregon Berry Production](#), [Washington Berry Production](#). These are surveys and are only as accurate as the information that has been reported to them...

**Insect Update:** Click on highlighted name below for in depth specific information on the pest.

- 1) **Leafroller larvae:** Blueberries. Scout for buds held tightly together with webbing.
- 2) **Redberry mites:** Evergreen blackberries and Marionberries. There is no treatment once the redberry symptom is found, so prevention is the only option. If you have had Redberry mite problems start your prevention program with a dormant spray of lime/sulfur or elemental sulfur shortly after budbreak.
- 3) **Scale:** Blueberries. A dormant oil or **Esteem** ([Pyriproxyfen](#)) can be used while blueberries are dormant.
- 4) **Winter moth:** Blueberries. If you have had winter moth problems you can start your prevention program with a Diazinon or oil application now. Begin scouting for winter moth larvae as buds start breaking.
- 5) **Crown Borers** March is the time to drench for crown borer control in caneberries.

**Disease Update:** Click on highlighted name for in depth pest information.

**Mummyberry:** Blueberries. See Above.

**Bacterial Blight:** Blueberries. Copper applications recommended as buds break.

**Purple Blotch:** Blackberries. Lime Sulfur applications recommended in the spring.

**Chemical Control:**

- 1) If you're going to use **Ridomil Gold** for root rot prevention, remember that it's fairly volatile and needs to be watered in well for effectiveness. It should be applied just before or during rain.
- 2) As the plants are beginning active growth, late applications of dormant season herbicides like **Casoron** can cause major damage.
- 3) Still waiting for our section 18 Emergency exemptions in Oregon and Washington for **Indar** for mummyberry control. **Pristine** (Pyraclostrobin & Boscalid) has looked promising in some mummyberry control trials.
- 4) **Pre emergent herbicides:** Use caution putting on pre emergent herbicides—they need some moisture to activate them and can be lost if the weather stays dry for too long after application. [Click here for herbicides](#) registered in small fruits.

**Cropwork:**

**All Crops:** 1) Can put out [mouse/vole](#) bait as needed. After budbreak, **zinc phosphide baits** are off label. 2) Trap for moles. 3) Can still apply lime/dolomite to raise soil pH.

**All Caneberries:** 1) Finish canework. 2) Weed control. 3) Scout for bud damage/feeding & determine cause. 4) Scout for cane diseases. 5) Can treat for [Redberry mite](#) at budbreak. 6) Can apply a delayed dormant application of lime sulfur when buds have broken.

**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 and treat as needed. 6) Scout for cane diseases. 7) Copper or Bordeaux can be applied for bacterial blight control.

**Strawberries:** 1) Weed control. 2) As plants start growing, check weak areas for root weevil larvae, strawberry crown borers,

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

**Calendar**

If you need to be reminded of a calendar item, you can always see this list on our web site (<http://www.nwipm.info/calendar.htm>).

**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 10—Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission Meeting** ~ Noon, Sweet Briar Inn, Tualatin, OR Call 541-758-4043 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](#).

**April 7— Oregon Strawberry Commission** ~ Noon, Allesandro's restaurant, Salem, OR Call 541-758-4043 or [email](#) for information.

**Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports**

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