

Small Fruit Update



Disseminating information for:

Washington

[Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#)

[Washington Blueberry Commission](#)

[Washington Strawberry Commission](#)

Oregon

[Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission](#)

[Oregon Blueberry Commission](#)

[Oregon Strawberry Commission](#)

British Columbia

[Fraser Valley Strawberry Growers Association](#)

North American Small Fruit Organizations of Interest:

[North American Blueberry Council](#)

[U.S. Highbush Blueberry Association](#)

[North American Bramble Growers Association](#)

[North American Strawberry Growers Association](#)

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

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports](#)

May 31, 2005

Southern Blueberries: Aphid populations are building. Still seeing the damage from botrytis blossom rot in some fields. Plants affected by Shock virus are now leafing out. Time to plan bird control strategies.

Northern Washington & B. C. Blueberries: A storm the evening of May 20th caused hail damage on the Eastern side of Whatcom County and into the Fraser Valley. Aphid populations are reported to be quite low.

Southern Raspberries: The hot weather this week brought out a lot of bloom. Still battling rust problems in some fields. Fruit set looks very good. Still looking at starting harvest around June 20th.

Northern Washington & B. C. Raspberries: Some broken laterals from the May 20th storm. Bloom is about 50% on Meekers.

Southern Blackberries: The hot weather pushed the Marion bloom from around 30% to well past peak this past week. They should start harvesting around July 6th. Kotata's will start harvest around the end of June/beginning of July. Evergreens began blooming just the last couple of days.

Northern Washington Strawberries: The new Tillamook variety seems to be ripening a little faster than the Totem with a few picked for fresh market this week. The fruit looks to be good quality.

B.C. Strawberries: The first processed pick was yesterday. Good aphid control this year seems to have slowed down virus spread.

Southern Strawberries: Start picking for processed tomorrow in Southwest Washington. The Oregon crop is predicted to be down due to more third year fields than first or second year as well as significant root rot in some fields.

B.C. Cranberries: Cranberries are in the hook stage. The first open flowers were seen this last Saturday.

Chemical Control Update

1) There have been some reports of **bee kills** caused by insecticide applications to fields adjacent to berry fields with bees present. Use extreme caution when using any insecticides close to bees. We need them...

2) **Serenade MAX** is now registered for use in strawberries, blueberries and caneberries. PHI = 0 day; REI = 4 hours.

Strawberry Field Days this Week: Must be getting into harvest time. The strawberry field days for Oregon State, Washington State and British Columbia all take place this week. See the calendar below for contact information.

Raspberry Beetle Traps for Recycling: Rebell Bianco Raspberry Beetle traps used for the WSU trial in Whatcom County over the last couple of years are available to anyone who's willing to clean them and re-apply the stickum. If you are interested, please contact Colleen Burrows at cburrows@wsu.edu.

New Pest Information (Click on the blue highlighted name for scouting, pictures and decision-making guide)

Insects:

1) **Alert Orange Tortrix Leafrollers:** Southern caneberries. **First instar larvae** are being recovered in Southwest Washington fields. When these larvae first appear, it is time to treat with bee safe materials. These include Spinosad (night applications only), Confirm (Tebufenozide) and BT formulations. These are all much more effective on small larvae before they become established in their rolled up leaf nests.

2) **Weevil Adults in B. C.:** Sampling in a strawberry field in the Abbotsford area found adult black vine weevil, rough strawberry weevil, strawberry root weevil and juniper weevil. All adults appear fresh and new. Evidence that they've just emerged this spring.

- 3) **Strawberry Crown Moth:** We're putting out the first pheromone traps for Strawberry Crown Moth in the south. They can cause major economic damage to strawberries and blackberries if undetected. They haven't been reported as a pest in the north.
- 4) **Blueberry Maggot:** This is a serious pest of blueberries in the East. We haven't seen it out here yet. The Oregon Department of Ag will be conducting a survey this year to check for its presence. Click on the blue title for detailed information. Keep your eyes open for this pest and contact your department of Ag. if you have questions.
- 5) **Mites:** With the warm weather this past week, mite populations increased in strawberries and raspberries. Monitor closely.

Diseases:

Blueberry Fruit Drop: This is a potential new virus in blueberries. The fruit drops off the entire bush in early green fruit stage. This repeats every year. The disease's occurrence is sporadic so far being identified in only a few fields. Spread in a field appears very slow. If you suspect this problem in any of your plants, [email](#) Dr. Bob Martin or call 541-738-4041.

Ongoing Seasonal Pest Information (Click on blue highlighted name for pictures, scouting and control information)

Insects/ Mites:

- 1) **Aphids**, blueberries. They can vector [Blueberry Scorch Virus](#) and should be closely monitored.
- 2) **Aphids**, strawberries. Aphid control could be necessary in situations where they **vector viruses**.
- 3) **Clay colored weevil:** northern raspberries.
- 4) **Raspberry beetle:** northern raspberries.
- 5) **Weevils:** strawberries. Adult emergence of [Black Vine](#) and [Rough Strawberry](#) weevil species is evident in the south with some Black Vine adults also reported in northern Washington.
- 6) **Spittlebugs**, strawberries.
- 7) **Slugs**, strawberries.
- 8) **Blueberry Gall Midge:** southern blueberries.

Diseases:

- 1) **Virus in blueberries:** [Blueberry Shock virus](#) and [Scorch virus](#) symptoms visible in all regions. If your field is showing blight-type symptoms (flowers and/or foliage look like they're dying just as bloom happens), you can (and should) send in a sample for testing. Free! Call Dr. Bob Martin (USDA virologist) at (541) 738-4041 or [email](#) him for details.
- 2) **Rust**, southern raspberries.
- 3) **Powdery Mildew**, strawberries. Some symptoms are starting to appear in southern strawberries.
- 4) **Botrytis, Grey Mold**, strawberries.
- 5) **Mummyberry**, blueberries. Some fruit symptoms are now appearing in the south.
- 6) **Anthracnose:** blueberries. Also called ripe rot (orange colored spores show up on ripe fruit).
- 7) **Botrytis blight**, blueberries. Blossom and twig blight have emerged as serious problems in some fields this year.
- 8) **Phytophthora Root Rot**, raspberries, strawberries.

Cropwork:

All Crops: 1) Fertilizer applications. 2) Weed control.

All Caneberries: 1) Get in bees at 10% bloom. 2) Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control starting at 10% bloom. 3) Control primocane growth as needed. 4) Can put out pheromone traps for leafrollers. 5) In the north, can put out traps for monitoring raspberry beetle. Treat as needed. 6) Scout for rust and control as needed. 7) In the north, scout for clay colored weevil. 8) Scout for mites.

Blueberries: 1) Scout for virus symptoms. 2) Can apply fungicide for blossom blight and fruit mold control while in bloom. 3) Scout for mummyberry and treat as needed. 4) Scout for aphids in fields having or close to fields having blueberry Scorch virus. Control as needed. 5) Can apply fungicide for anthracnose rip rot prevention.

Strawberries: Harvest ongoing 1) Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, cutworms, strawberry crown borers or root disease problems. 2) Scout for slug problems. 3) Can apply fungicide for blossom blight and fruit mold control while in bloom. 4) Scout for aphids and control as needed. 5) Scout for mites. 6) Scout for spittlebugs.

Calendar

June 1—OSU Strawberry Open House ~2:00 pm at North Willamette Research & Extension Center, 15210 NE Miley Rd, Aurora OR. [Click here](#) for a PDF file of more information.

June 2 —WSU Strawberry Field Day ~3:00-5:00 pm at the WSU Puyallup Farm 5. For more information contact Dr. Pat Moore by phone 253-445-4525 or [email](#).

June 6 — BC Strawberry Field Day/Tour ~ Abbotsford, BC. For more information contact Chaim Kempler by phone (604) 796-2221 x 224 or [email](#).

June 13-14—International Berry Health Benefits Symposium ~ LaSells Stewart Center, Corvallis, OR. [Click here](#) for a PDF file of the brochure.

June 29 —OSU Caneberry Open House ~ North Willamette Research & Extension Center, 15210 NE Miley Rd, Aurora OR. Starts at 2:00 pm.

June 30 —WSU Raspberry Field Day ~ 3:00-5:00 pm at the WSU Puyallup Farm 5. For more information contact Pat Moore, phone 253-445-4525 or [email](#).

July 6 —Raspberry Variety Trial Field Day ~ 2:00-3:00 pm Sakuma Brothers Farm in Burlington, WA. For details contact [Henry Bierlink](#) 360-354-8767

July 6 —Mt. Vernon Small Fruit Open House ~ 3:00-5:00 pm at the WSU Mt. Vernon Research & Extension Center. For more information contact Pat Moore, phone 253-445-4525 or [email](#)

For an expanded online calendar showing later event information, [click here](#).