

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](#)
[Raspberry Industry Development Council](#)

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](#)

June 7, 2005

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports](#) [Weather Forecast](#) by Rufus La Lone.

Welcome to our newest industry sponsor the [Raspberry Industry Development Council](#) in BC. Thank you!!

Southern Blueberries: Earliblues and Dukes are sizing up and starting to color. Seeing some unusual rot infections in green fruit—evidence of our wet bloom season. First picks of Willamette Valley Earliblue and Dukes still at least a couple of weeks away.

Northern Washington & B. C. Blueberries: Dukes are beginning to color. Probably about another three weeks or so until the first commercial harvest. Pollination problems have resulted in small berries in a few fields. Certain isolated locales had up to 15% damage caused by last week's hailstorm.

Southern Raspberries: Fields are looking pretty uneven some with very good fruit set and others that are showing significant stress from root rot and/or rust. Ripe fruit is showing up in Meekers.

Northern Washington B. C. Raspberries: Malahats are beginning to be harvested. Meekers are still about two weeks out. Root rot and rust problems are evident in some fields.

Southern Blackberries: Marions are just about done blooming. Evergreens are closing in on 10% bloom. Both crops look very good. Obsidian should start harvest in 10 days to two weeks.

Northern Washington Strawberries: Commercial harvests start this week.

B.C. Strawberries: Harvest is ongoing. Cool, wet weather has brought on some fruit rot issues.

Southern Strawberries: Harvest is just getting into swing. The southwest Washington fruit is coming in with good quality and good yields so far. The cool spring is allowing some of the older, weaker fields to size up their fruit better than usual. Some picker shortages reported in Oregon.

B.C. Cranberries: Bloom should hit 20% next week. Girdler damage is now very visible in many fields.

B.C. Black Currants: Most of the early and mid-season varieties are now turning red to black.

Southern Gooseberries: Willamette Valley harvest is in full swing with good fruit quality. A little sunburn is showing up.

Grant Requests for Proposals now available:

- 1) [The Northwest Center for Small Fruit Research](#): Go to their website for details (click on the blue title). Deadline for proposals is August 26
- 2) [The Western Integrated Pest Management Center](#) has announced three Requests for Applications for funding of Information Networks, Workgroups and Issues in IPM. Go to their website for details (click on the blue title). The due date for Workgroups and Issues proposals is August 4, 2005 and for Information Networks, July 20.

C.A.R. Grant for Leafroller Control in Caneberries Funded: Drs. Paul Jepsen and Len Coop with the Integrated Plant Protection Center at OSU have received funding for a three-year grant from the USDA's Crops at Risk (C.A.R.) program. This large grant involving Diane Kaufman (OSU berry crops extension), Dr Lynell Tanigoshi (WSU small fruit entomologist) and Peerbolt Crop Management will allow us to do intensive work on an integrated leafroller control program in caneberries.

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** continue to be recovered in southwest Washington fields. When these appear in your area fields, 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 rolled up leaf nests.
- 3) **Alert! Weevils**: strawberries. It is about time to treat for weevil infestations in southern strawberries. Adults begin laying eggs about four weeks after emergence and need to be killed before starting to lay eggs to prevent a re-infestation next year. Adult emergence of [Black Vine](#), [Strawberry](#) and [Rough Strawberry](#) weevil species is evident in all regions. Scout for leaf notching.
- 2) **[Blueberry Gall Midge](#)**: Blueberries. Dr. Wei Yang, the Oregon State University Blueberry Extension agent, has put together a bulletin on the Gall Midge's identification, life cycle and potential plant injury as well as the data we collected last year on its occurrence in the southern growing region. [Click here](#) for a PDF file of the publication.
- 3) **[Obliquebanded leafrollers](#)**: Raspberries. **In the south**, adult trap numbers are still going up. Not many larvae out. (Most have pupated and become moths). **In the north**, OBLR moth emergence has been delayed by the cold days. Caterpillars being recovered are late instar. Also, many pupae are being found.
- 4) **Population explosions!!** Some good, some bad. In the southern region we're seeing large populations of:
 - [Painted Lady butterflies](#)—Good, their larvae devour thistles and they even look nice.
 - [Ladybugs](#)—Good, they feed on aphids and other pests.
 - [Box Elder bugs](#)—Bad, they can be harvest contaminants.

Diseases:

- 1) [Blueberry Mosaic Virus](#) is visible in many blueberry fields. This virus doesn't appear to cause economic damage.
- 2) [Spur Blight](#): Raspberries. Leaf symptoms are becoming visible in some fields. Click on the blue title for symptoms and treatments. The Meeker variety is tolerant of spur blight and doesn't usually show serious symptoms.
- 3) [Pseudomonas](#): Blueberries. Wet, cool season has increased incidence of pseudomonas tip infections in blueberries

[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](#), strawberry. Aphid control could be necessary in situations where they **vector viruses**.
- 3) [Clay colored weevil](#): northern raspberries.
- 4) [Raspberry beetle](#): northern raspberries. The distinctive leaf-feeding pattern can now be found in infested fields.
- 5) [Strawberry Crown Moth](#), southern strawberries. Time to get out pheromone traps to monitor for first adult emergence.

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](#), raspberries. This continues to be a serious economic threat in many raspberry fields in all regions.
- 3) [Mummyberry](#), blueberries. Fruit symptoms become visible as the fruit begins to size up.
- 4) [Anthracnose](#): blueberries.
- 5) [Botrytis blight](#), blueberries.
- 6) [Phytophthora Root Rot](#): raspberries, strawberries.
- 7) [Powdery Mildew](#), strawberries.
- 8) [Botrytis rot](#), strawberries.

Cropwork:

All Caneberries: 1) Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control starting at 10% bloom. 2) Can put out pheromone traps for leafrollers. 3) In the north, can put out traps for monitoring raspberry beetle. 4) Scout for rust. 5) In the north, scout for clay colored weevil. 6) Scout for mites.

Blueberries: 1) Scout for virus symptoms. 2) Scout for aphids in fields having or close to fields having blueberry Scorch virus. 3) Can apply fungicide for anthracnose rip rot prevention. 4) Scout for leafroller larvae. 5) Plan for bird damage prevention. 6) Scout for weevils.

Strawberries: 1) Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, cutworms, strawberry crown borers or root disease problems. 2) Scout for slug problems. 3) Scout for aphids and control as needed. 4) Scout for mites. 5) Scout for spittlebugs.

Calendar

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](#).