

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](#)

July 5, 2005

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

Southern Blueberries: Bluecrop have started picking. Brigittas will start maybe later this week. Some continuing soft fruit and mold problems but in general the crop is looking very good for quality and quantity.

Northern Washington & B. C. Blueberries: Crop is looking excellent.

Southern Raspberries: Continuing to struggle with soft fruit and mold problems. The warm weekend weather has helped fruit release much better.

Northern Washington Raspberries & B. C. Raspberries: Mold and soft fruit are the problems. High humidity and a forecast for some showers this week won't help. Some growers are applying fungicides between picks.

Southern Blackberries: Some Marions and Boysens have started but most will begin later this week. Kotatas are also now coming in.

Strawberries: Processed harvest in all areas is pretty much finished with just a few fields still picking. Late ripening and day neutral varieties for fresh market are still harvesting. Keep up on aphid and weevil control.

Tentative Identification of the Newly found Rust in Blackberries: It looks like the rust we've been finding in Evergreen blackberries is the same species as the one that the Oregon Department of Agriculture had earlier found occurring on Himalayan blackberries in southern Oregon (*Phragmidium violaceum*). It has been used as a biocontrol agent for Himalayans in some other countries, and how it found its way here is unknown. The impact it will have on our caneberry crops and natives is as yet undetermined. Right now it has only been found on Evergreens and Himalayans. The confirmed range of this disease in Evergreens is from the mid-Willamette Valley up to Woodland, Washington.

[Click here](#) for the Oregon Department of Ag.'s press release from late May.

Field days and Open Houses coming up:

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](#)

July 7—OSU Blueberry Field Day~ North Willamette Reseach & Extension Center, 15210 NE Miley Rd, Aurora OR. From 1:00 to 5:00 pm. [Click here](#) for the agenda.

July 11 —Raspberry Variety Trial Field Day ~ Randy Honcoop's farm starting at 11 AM, 9696 Northwood Rd., Lynden, WA. Randy's field is on the corner of Northwood and Halverstick Roads north of Lynden. A light lunch will be provided. For details contact [Henry Bierlink](#) 360-354-8767 or [Tom Peerbolt](#) 503-289-728.

Industry Website of the Week: [California Blueberries](#)--Here's a short article published earlier this year by the American and Western Fruit Grower.

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

1) **Slugs!** raspberries. In another sign of the mild and wet season we've had, one of the most pervasive harvest contaminants in raspberries has been slugs.

2) **Birds**, blueberries. Fruit damage from birds is causing significant losses in some fields. [Click here for picture.](#)

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

Insects/ Mites:

- 1) [Strawberry Crown Moth](#), southern strawberries.
- 2) [Blueberry Gall Midge](#), blueberries [Click here](#) for a PDF file of a recently published OSU bulletin on this insect.
- 3) [Aphids](#), blueberries. They can vector [Blueberry Scorch Virus](#) and should be closely monitored.
- 4) [Aphids](#), strawberry. Post harvest control can be necessary in areas with high virus pressure.
- 5) [Orange Tortrix Leafrollers](#), Southern caneberries.
- 6) [Weevils](#), strawberries. [Black Vine](#), [Strawberry](#) and [Rough Strawberry](#) weevils.
- 7) [Symphylans](#), strawberries:
- 8) [Raspberry beetle](#), northern raspberries.
- 9) [Obliquebanded leafrollers](#), Raspberries, blueberries.
- 10) [Mites](#), raspberries. Our cool, wet weather continues to hold mites in check.

Diseases:

- 1) [Downy Mildew](#), boysenberries and Kotata blackberries. It can cause major economic damage by drying up and deforming the fruit. [Click here for photos](#) An **application of Fosphite** (or a similar material) made immediately could be beneficial at stopping the dry fruit stage of this disease.
- 2) [Alternaria](#), blueberries. This disease only shows up as the fruit ripens.
- 3) [Anthracnose](#), blueberries.
- 4) **Fruit Rot (botrytis)**, [raspberries](#), [blackberries](#), [blueberries](#), [strawberries](#).
- 5) **Virus in blueberries:** [Blueberry Shock virus](#) and [Scorch virus](#).
- 6) [Yellow Rust](#), raspberries.
- 7) [Mummyberry](#), blueberries. Fruit symptoms become visible as the fruit begins to size up.
- 8) [Powdery Mildew](#), strawberries.
- 9) [Phytophthora Root Rot](#), raspberries, strawberries.
- 10) [Spur Blight](#), raspberries.
- 11) [Pseudomonas](#), blueberries.

Cropwork:

Newly planted baby fields—all crops: 1) Control weeds. 2) Fertilize. 3) Scout for aphids and control as needed.

All Caneberries: Harvest ongoing 1) Control harvest contaminants as needed. 2) Scout for mites. 3) Can apply fungicides for mold control between picks if needed. 4) **Boysens and Kotata:** Scout for downy mildew and treat as needed.

Late ripening blackberries: 1) Can apply sulfur for redberry mite control. 2) Can apply fungicides for fruit mold control. 3) Scout for rust and treat as needed. 4) Scout for harvest contaminants and control as needed.

Blueberries: Harvest ongoing 1) Implement bird control program. 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 harvest contaminants and control as needed.

Strawberries: Harvest wrapping up 1) Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, cutworms, strawberry crown moth, symphylans or root disease problems. 2) Scout for aphids and control as needed. 3) Scout for mites. 4) (south) Treat for Strawberry Crown Moth if needed 5) Plan to renovate fields about four weeks after harvest. 6) Can take soil fertility samples right after harvest.