



July 11, 2006

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

B.C. Blueberry Bird Control: Many growers have turned on their noise devices, and complaints from neighbours are already coming in. Nazam Dulat is managing the bird management program for the BC Blueberry Council this year. She will be fielding complaints and working with growers. You can contact Nazam at (778) 549 0712 for information or help setting up an integrated bird management plan. The hours of operation for all noise devices in BC are between 6:30am and 8:00pm.

Field days and Open Houses this week:

Wednesday, July 12—OSU Blueberry Open House~ [North Willamette Research & Extension Center](#), in Aurora. Starts at 1:00 pm. [Click here for an agenda](#). Contact [Dr. Bernadine Strik](#) at 541-737-5434 for information.

Thursday, July 13 —WSU Raspberry Field Day ~ 3:00-5:00 pm at the WSU Puyallup Farm 5. Informal time for talking about research and looking at new raspberry cultivars and promising selections and an opportunity to see and taste some fruit from the same selections that have been machine harvested in Lynden and Burlington. A planting of late season selections/cultivars will be fruiting for the first time. There also are solarization and root rot plots that can be observed. For more information contact [Dr. Pat Moore](#), 253-445-4525 or cell at 253-970-8058.

Crop Updates:

Oregon blackberries: It's been a roller coaster season. After the cold damage and sunburn, we're now getting in a processed Marionberry crop of surprisingly good quality with heavy yields on the early picks. We're now into the second pick. Sunburned fruit seems to have been less of a problem than anticipated much of it having dropped off the plants. There should be a big drop off in yield going into the third pick. Looks like a short, but good quality harvest. The main problem right now is growers getting behind, and then mold becomes an issue. Kotata harvest has peaked this week. On the fresh side, overall they're also getting surprisingly good quality and berry size. The first Triple Crown are starting to come in.

Oregon black raspberries (blackcaps): [\(Click here for photo of ripening blackcaps\)](#) Harvest should be finished by the end of this week.

British Columbia raspberries: The pick is going very slowly. Fruit just doesn't want to come off. Hopefully a change in the weather to a little moisture the next couple of days will help. Quality has been good but price and sticking fruit are causing a lot of frustration out there.

Whatcom County raspberries: Not a lot of good news to pass on. The overall crop looks to be down significantly this year. The posted grower price is also very poor. The market and weather dynamics have combined to make it a difficult year for a lot of raspberry growers.

Oregon/SW Washington raspberries: While we're well past the harvest peak, there's still some good fruit in the field. However, given poor market conditions and competition in the processing lines from all of the blackberries and blueberries, there won't be as large a crop picked as there might have been. Most of the commercial fresh market raspberry harvest is finished for the season.

British Columbia blueberries: The warm weather got things moving. We've started harvesting blueberries in all regions of the Fraser Valley. Fruit quality looks good so far. Dukes are pretty well being all hand picked for the first go through. Size still smaller than would like but the volumes are OK. The Duke crop overall looks like it'll be down with a lighter second pick. Bluecrop is colouring up and filling. Some good-looking fields of 1613A (Hardiblu).

Willamette Valley blueberries: We're on the end of the second picking of Duke. The first Blue Crop have started coming in with more red back than usual. No disease or quality problems to speak of. Good harvest weather and good quality fruit.

Web link of the Week: [Click here](#) to go to the **Uren Food Group Limited** homepage. This is a food ingredient company headquartered in England. [Click here](#) for their recent report on the **Chilean raspberry** crop and **worldwide strawberry** crop. Thanks to one of our growers for passing this link on to us.

Crop Water Use: Blueberries and caneberries are at peak water use right now as the plants are sizing up and ripening their fruit and facing some of the highest Evapotranspiration (ET) rates of the year at the same time. It's a critical time to stay on top of the soil moisture levels.

Crop Water Use Estimates (ET rates) for the last week in inches:

	Lynden, WA	Mt. Vernon, WA	Aurora, OR	Forest Grove, OR	Corvallis, OR
Caneberries	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.5	1.6
Blueberries	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.6

New pest Information

Insects/Mites

1) [Orange Tortrix Leafrollers](#), southern caneberries: Growers are advised to scout fields for larvae before and during harvest and apply control measures as needed. So far, problems have been minimal.

2) [Aphids](#), northern blueberries: Fields that were treated with **Admire** are maintaining low aphid populations. In unsprayed fields, aphid populations have increased to high levels and winged aphids are abundant. There's a high risk of the spread of [Scorch virus](#), particularly in British Columbia. Control of this population is critical to control this virus.

3) [Blueberry Gall Midge](#), blueberries: Tip damage from this midge is now evident in many fields. Research is ongoing to determine the potential it has for doing economic damage. [Click here](#) for a PDF file of an OSU bulletin on this insect.

Diseases/disorders

1) [Botrytis](#), caneberries, blueberries: The hot, dry weather has slowed the spread of Botrytis. Very few recent berry infections have been observed. Levels are low in all crops.

2) [Mummyberry](#), B.C. blueberries: Mummyberry infected berries have been found in Ladner, East Delta, Surrey, Langley, Abbotsford, and Port Coquitlam.

4) [Blueberry Viruses](#), B.C. blueberries: [Scorch virus](#) and [Shock Virus](#) symptoms are present in all regions. Watch for new Scorch Virus symptoms in the field this week. You can spot recent symptoms because the berries have developed, but the young growth is dying. These plants may have looked fine last week, and are just starting to show their symptoms now. Monitor fields for any suspicious symptoms, and collect samples for **free testing**. Up to 10 free samples can be submitted per farm. If you have any questions you can contact Sonja Ring at (604) 613 2133 for more information.

Ongoing Pest Information (Click on underlined blue name for information, photos and control options.)

[Birds](#), blueberries: [Click here](#) for a concise (3 page PDF file) analysis of management methods.

Insects/Mites

1) [Mites](#), raspberries: Mite levels are rising with the warm, dry weather.

2) [Strawberry Crown Moth](#), southern blackberries.

3) [Strawberry Crown Moth](#), southern strawberries. [Click here to see a close up picture](#).

4) [Azalea Bark Scale](#), blueberries: [Click here](#) for a 2-page PDF file of information and photos.

5) [Black Vine Weevils](#), blueberries, raspberries. 3) [Obliquebanded Leafrollers](#), blueberries, caneberries.

6) [Weevils](#): strawberries. [Black Vine](#), [Strawberry](#) and [Rough Strawberry](#). 5) [Raspberry beetle](#): northern raspberries.

Diseases

1) [Phytophthora Root Rot](#), [raspberries](#), [blueberries](#), [strawberries](#).

2) [Alternaria Fruit Rot](#), blueberries.

3) [Anthracnose Ripe Rot](#), 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) (southern growing areas) can put out pheromone traps for strawberry crown moth. 2) Put out pheromone traps for leafroller monitoring. 3) Scout for potential insect harvest contaminants and treat as needed. 4) Scout for mites. 5) (northern growing areas) Scout for raspberry beetle and distinctive leaf feeding pattern.

Blueberries: Harvest ongoing 1) Scout for aphids in fields having or close to fields having blueberry Scorch virus, 2) Implement bird control program. 3) Scout for tip blight symptoms and determine cause. 4) Scout for scale. 5) Can treat for alternaria and/or anthracnose fruit rot. 6) Scout for weevil notching on leaves. 7) Scout for mummyberry, botrytis and other green fruit problems.

Strawberries: Harvest finished 1) Scout for weevil leaf notching and adult weevils. 2) Scout for virus symptoms (distorted leaves/new growth). 3) Scout for aphids. 4) Scout for two-spotted mites and cyclamen mites. 5) (southern growing areas)) Treat for Strawberry Crown Moth if needed. 6) Scout for powdery mildew and treat as needed. 7) Plan for field renovation about four weeks after harvest.