



March 6, 2007

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports](#)

[Weather Forecast](#) by Rufus La Lone

[Photo of the Week](#): Purple Blotch lesions now visible on Marionberry blackberry canes.

[NWIPM Web Site Update](#): (**Revised 3/1/07**): With the increasing number of acres of small fruits going in on the east side of Washington, we've decided to add **degree day information** (updated daily) and **weather station links** from two weather stations located close to Prosser, Washington to the degree day link on the home page.

Disease Alert: Mummyberry in blueberries. For mummyberry infections to occur the overwintering mummyberries on the ground need to have sprouted their 'mushrooms' to release spores, blueberry plants within about 100 feet of the sporulating mummies need to have about a third of an inch (one centimeter) of green growth on their vegetative buds and temperatures need to be above about 45 F. (7 C.).

Mummyberries are now sprouting throughout our region and plants are moving into the green tip stage. Protective fungicides and/or other measures to control this disease will be needed over the next several weeks in fields where it is present.

Mummyberry control in blueberries:

Fungicide options (U.S.):

- 1) Two fungicides that have shown excellent disease control that now have full labels: [Pristine](#) (Pyraclostrobin & Boscalid) and Indar (Fenbuconazole) – [click here for the Indar supplemental label](#).
- 2) Fungicide that has shown excellent control, has an EPA tolerance established but does not yet have a label: **Orbit** (Propiconazole).
- 3) Fungicide that has shown moderate control and has an organically approved formulation: Serenade (*Bacillus subtilis*). [Click here for the Serenade Max label](#).

Other control options:

- 1) Destroy developing apothecia (spore cups) by disrupting the soil under the plants and in alleyways by raking, mulching, or cultivating.
- 2) Burn the developing spore cups with a lime sulfur spray. Repeat as many times as necessary as new spore cups emerge.
- 3) Some growers apply the powdered formulation of urea fertilizer to burn the apothecia, while others flame the ground underneath the blueberry plants for the same purpose.

Small Fruit Meeting Updates:

1) Oregon Raspberry Grower meeting to discuss a proposed USDA Research and Promotion Program for Red Raspberries: March 13, 9 AM, North Willamette Research and Extension Station, Aurora, OR. The Washington Red Raspberry Commission is initiating this discussion with Oregon raspberry growers to explore the feasibility of funding a processed raspberry promotion program by assessing all frozen red raspberries sold in the U.S. from both domestic and foreign sources. [Click here for more information](#). To RSVP or get more information, contact [Henry Bierlink](#) (360) 354-8767 or [Tom Krugman](#) (360) 704-9277.

2) Correction: The Washington Red Raspberry Commission meeting in Vancouver, Washington on March 14th will be at **1 PM**, not 2 PM.

Chemical Control Update

Strawberries, herbicide: The Section 18 label for the use of **Spartan** (Sulfentrazone) expired on February 28th. **Chateau** (Flumioxazin) has a full label and can be used but only if the plants are still dormant. [Click here for the Chateau supplemental label](#).

Web link of the Week: [AgWeatherNet](#). Washington State University has updated their weather information site. Its got some pretty neat graphics as well as good information.

Research Update: [California Strawberry Commission Research Database](#). This might be the type of resource the northwest small fruit industry could develop. To quote from their introduction, "To help you find the answers you need as quickly as possible, we've uploaded research documents spanning 55 years of scientific inquiry. We're continually expanding the database, so you'll always have access to the best information."

New Pest Information

Insects

- 1) **Winter moth**: Blueberries. Begin scouting for winter moth larvae as buds start breaking.
- 2) **Crown Borers**: Caneberries. March is the time to drench for crown borer control in caneberries.

Diseases

- 1) **Phytophthora Root Rot**: March is the time to use a fungicide drench for Phytophthora root rot control in raspberries. **Ridomil Gold** is pretty volatile and needs to be watered in well for effectiveness. It should be applied just before or during rain.
- 2) **Purple Blotch** in blackberries. Check for cane lesions that are easy to see right now with no foliage in the way.

Ongoing Pest Information

Insects

- 1) **Leafroller larvae**: blueberries.
- 2) **Lecanium Scale**: blueberries. A dormant oil or **Esteem** (Pyriproxyfen) can be used while blueberries are dormant.
- 3) **Azalea Bark Scale**, blueberries. [Click here for information on azalea bark scale](#) and other scale insects on blueberries.

Diseases

- 4) **Pseudomonas (Bacterial Blight)** blueberries: Water-soaked lesions are appearing on canes in some fields that then develop into **reddish brown to black cankers**. Cankers may extend from a fraction of an inch to the entire length of one-year-old wood. Buds in cankers die. If girdled, the cane portion above the canker dies.

Cropwork:

All Crops: 1) Can still apply lime/dolomite to raise soil pH. 2) Can apply pre-emergent herbicides.

All Caneberries: 1) Put out [mouse/vole](#) bait as needed. 2) Finish canework. 3) Weed control. 3) Scout for bud damage/feeding and determine cause. 4) Can apply lime sulfur for disease control. 5) Scout for cane disease symptoms.

Blueberries: 1) Pseudomonas prevention applications. 2) Put out [mouse/vole](#) bait as needed. 3) Finish pruning. 4) Dormant oil or Esteem can be applied for scale and winter moth egg control. 5) Scout for bud damage and determine cause. 6) Scout for sprouting mummyberries and be ready to apply control material as weather conditions warm.

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

Some Upcoming Small Fruit Events ([Click here](#) for a more complete calendar)

Washington Red Raspberry Commission meeting

March 14 —1 PM, WSU Vancouver Research and Extension Unit, 1919 NE 78th Street, Vancouver, WA. Call 360-354-8767 for more information.

Oregon Blueberry Commission

March 19 —10 am. LaSells Stewart Center, OSU, Corvallis. For more information call the commission office at 503-364-2944.

Oregon State Blueberry Growers' Course

March 19-20—Corvallis, OR. [Click here](#) for complete information and online registration. The deadline for early registration is March 1

Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission meeting and budget meeting

March 20 —11:30 am, Langdon Farms Golf Club, 24377 NE Airport Rd, Aurora, OR. Call the Commission office 541-758-4043 or [email](#) them for more information.

Oregon Strawberry Commission meeting and budget meeting

April 3 —11:30 am, Roth's West, 1130 Wallace Rd NW, Salem, OR. Call the Commission office 541-758-4043 or [email](#) them for more information.

Washington Blueberry Commission meeting

April 10 —10 am. in the Chicon Room at WSU, Puyallup. Contact Dorothy Anderson by phone 360-766-6150 or [email](#).

Oregon Blueberry Commission

April 24 —Noon, West Salem Roth's IGA in Salem, OR. Doaks Ferry Room, starting with budget hearing.