



May 2, 2007

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports](#)

[Weather Forecast](#) by Rufus La Lone

[Photo of the Week](#): The symptoms of Blackberry Rust that are showing up now in Evergreen blackberries.

### **Crop Reports:**

**Oregon blackberries:** Silvan blackberries are beginning bloom. Marions are getting close. Still quite a few fields showing either distinct cold damage dieback or just with sluggish growth of laterals that's more difficult to assign a cause. Overall damage isn't as bad as last year but will hold down yields on the affected fields.

**Skagit County blackberries:** Blacks are leafing out well right now, and the set looks very good. Some young fields of Black Diamond that were pushed with late nitrogen last fall are showing significant winter damage but the rest, especially Chester, look very good.

**British Columbia raspberries:** Raspberries were looking a little yellow this past week with the cool wet weather. The warm Saturday weather really changed this quickly.

**Oregon/Southwest Washington raspberries:** The southern most Meekers are starting bloom and will be at 10% next week. Southwest Washington and Sauvie Island fields look to be about a week behind the southern fields.

**British Columbia blueberries:** Cool and wet this past week. Early varieties are heading into bloom. Patriots are around 25% Duke and Bluecrop are about 5%. Seeing more winter injury in Dukes as lower floral buds swell and start to open revealing blackened flower embryos.

**Oregon blueberries:** The crop is looking good. There were some good bee flying windows in the last week. Some fields seem to have very high levels of bumblebees this year—always a good sign.

**Oregon/SW Washington strawberries:** Most fields have gotten a first fungicide, as the bloom is moving along. The cool weather this week is slowing it down. We look pretty much on schedule to begin harvest around the first week in June. Hope we'll have the people to get them out of the fields...

**Skagit County strawberries:** Honeoye are well along, and stressed fields of Totem are at 25 - 35% bloom but the healthy fields just starting to flower.

**Weblink of the Week:** [Click here](#) for a **photo gallery of raspberry pest species** compiled by Dr. Sheila Fitzpatrick (B.C. Ministry of Agriculture). It has a lot of very good illustrations of both major and minor pest species.

### **Pest Alert:**

**Aphids/Scorch Virus: northern blueberries.** Pre bloom aphid control is strongly recommended in blueberry fields infected with or in close proximity to fields infected with **Scorch virus**. **This disease is most prevalent in B.C.** Recommendations [in Canada](#) are for growers to use [Fulfill](#) (pymetrozine). **(Fulfill is not registered for use in blueberries in the US.)**

### **Disease Alert:**

**Blackberry (phragmidium) rust: Evergreen blackberries.** New infections are becoming more apparent (see photo link above). A protective fungicide application is recommended when this symptom is present. A Special Local Needs label is in effect in Oregon to use the 5 oz per acre rate of Rally for this disease.

### **New Pest Information**

#### **Insects**

1) **Winter moth: (& span worm), obliquebanded leafrollers, northern blueberries.** Damage to flower clusters caused by the larvae of both span worms and leafrollers is becoming more pronounced in some fields as the larvae grow in size and hatches continue.

2) **Clay colored weevil: northern raspberries & blueberries.** Feeding damage from clay colored weevils is being reported in the northern areas in both raspberries and blueberries.

3) **Rough strawberry root weevil, black vine root weevils, strawberry root weevils, southern strawberries, caneberrries.** We are now recovering a few black vine weevil adults in southern fields most likely these are overwintering adults rather than newly emerged.

**4) Unknown leafroller species in blueberries, SW Washington:** The chocolate brown leafroller larvae causing damage in a couple of SW Washington blueberry fields has been tentatively identified as the **Eyespotted Bud Moth** (*Spilonota ocellana*). [Click here](#) for photos and further information on the species.

**5) Blueberry Gall Midge: blueberries.** Gall midge feeding damage is being seen throughout the region as blackened, dead vegetative inner bud tips. No economic losses have been verified from this pest and no treatments are recommended but damage levels should continue to be monitored and assessed.

**6) Barypeithes pellucidus (Juniper Root Weevil), southern strawberries and blueberries:** This very small weevil has been reported as a pest in strawberry fields in Oregon in the past. They are also now being found in some area blueberry fields. This is a very small weevil and its potential to cause significant root damage by feeding in blueberries is seen as unlikely. We (Peerbolt Crop Management and Denny Bruck, entomologist, USDA) are presently testing some weevil trap designs in blueberries and strawberries to see if they might be useful for weevil detection in fields.

## Diseases

**Disease Alert: Yellow rust, raspberries.**

**Willamette Valley/SW Washington:** Most fields are showing light infections. Disease pressure is low. If fields are young or showing high infection areas, a protective fungicide is recommended to help break the disease cycle.

**British Columbia/Whatcom County:** This disease is beginning to change spore stages. A protective fungicide can help break the disease cycle.

**1) Mummyberry, blueberries.** Secondary mummyberry infections are now showing up throughout the region. The primary symptom is blighted, dying vegetative shoots.

**2) Pseudomonas (bacterial blight), blueberries.** There's a report from B.C. of a baby blueberry field with a serious Pseudomonas infection problem even though copper sprays were used. Pseudomonas strains resistant to copper are a possible cause. Other materials can be used in conjunction with or in place of copper. Serenade is an alternative that has shown good efficacy against this disease in B.C. field trials.

**3) Tomato Ringspot Virus, southern raspberries:** A chevron pattern on some raspberry leaves infected with Tomato Ringspot Virus is now visible. Check weak areas for symptoms.

## Ongoing Pest Information

### Insects

**1) Raspberry beetle:** northern raspberries. **2) Orange tortrix leafrollers,** southern caneberries

### Diseases

**1) Downy mildew,** blackberries. **2) Shock virus,** blueberries

## Cropwork:

**All Caneberries:** 1) (northern areas) Scout for clay colored weevil. 2) Burn back primocanes. 3) Can apply phosphite materials for disease control. 4) Bring in bees around 10% bloom. 5) Apply fungicides for fruit mold beginning at 10% bloom.

**Blueberries:** 1) Pseudomonas prevention applications. 2) Scout for Winter Moth feeding. 3) Scout for mummyberry symptoms--control as needed. 4) Bring in bees around 10% bloom. 5) Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm. 6) (northern areas) Apply prebloom aphid control as needed. 7) Apply fungicides for fruit mold beginning at 10% bloom. 8) Scout for weevil notching on lower leaves.

**Strawberries:** 1) Can apply foliar Fosphite, Aliette or equivalent product for root rot control. 2) Plan for fungicide applications to prevent fruit mold starting at 10% bloom. 3) Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, strawberry crown borers or root disease problems. 4) Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm. 5) Can apply slug bait. 6) Scout for weevil notching leaves.

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

### Oregon Blueberry Commission Meeting & Budget Hearing

**May 8 ~ Noon,** Doaks Ferry Room, West Salem Roth's IGA, 1130 Wallace Rd NW, Salem, OR. Call the Commission office at 503-364-2944 for more information.

### Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission Meeting & Budget Hearing

**May 8 ~ 5:30 pm,** Langden Farms Golf Club restaurant, Aurora, OR. Call the commission at 541-758-4043 or [E-mail](#) for more information.

### Oregon Strawberry Commission Meeting & Budget Hearing

**May 10 ~ 6:00 pm,** Doaks Ferry Room, West Salem Roth's IGA, 1130 Wallace Rd NW, Salem, OR. Call the commission at 541-758-4043 or [E-mail](#) for more information.

### B.C. Blueberry Council Workshop

**May 11~ 7-9:30 PM** and run about 2.5 hours. [Click here for information](#) or call [Sonja Ring](#) at 604-613-2133.