June 14, 2007
Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports
Event Calendar
Weather Forecast by Rufus La Lone
Photos of the Week: **First Instar Orange Tortrix leafroller.** The hatch is beginning and these are now present in many southern caneberry fields. Orange tortrix larvae can be a serious crop contaminant pest if present in large numbers during harvest.
Web Link of the Week: **Klicker's Strawberry Acres** near Walla Walla. The fourth generation to raise strawberries, Kirk and Nancy still primarily employ area youth for picking. Take a look at their 'Picker of the Day' area.

Crop Reports:

- **Northern Washington raspberries:** Willamettes are about done blooming, Meekers are past full bloom. Root rot symptoms showing up as plants put on a fruit load and stress on root systems increases.
- **Northern Washington blueberries:** Bloom is finished. Watch for aphids!
- **Northern Washington strawberries:** Strawberries ripening at the ends of rows only. Weevil root feeding is evident in some fields.
- **Oregon blackberries:** Marionberries look like they'll start harvest around July 5 or 6. Silvans about a week before that. Evergreens are anywhere from 5-15% bloom. The weather has been mild and great for crop development. No major fungal disease problems are evident.
- **Oregon/Southwest Washington raspberries:** The processed harvest will start around June 20 with some hand picking going on before that. As with blackberries, we're having a low disease pressure year so far. The hot weather a couple of weeks ago seems to have stopped the bloom. So, unlike most years when we've got bees in the field right up until harvest, the bloom is about finished already. It looks like it'll be a good crop with a short harvest window.
- **Oregon blueberries:** Mild weather and good fruit development. Duke harvest will start next week in the mid-Valley. Still looks like a good quality and quantity crop. Bird control is getting into full swing.
- **Oregon Strawberries:** Harvest is coming along well. We're into the second pick. The crop is looking lighter than expected in some fields. No major labor shortages have been reported.
- **British Columbia blueberries:** Green berries are sizing up. Elliotts are in late bloom.

Industry News:

- **2007 Farm Bill Update: US House of Representatives Ag Committee** has begun the process of writing the **2007 Farm Bill**. Click Here for the committee's home page. Click on the Farm Bill link to see continuing updates on draft language and amendments.

Pest Alerts:
Insects

- **Orange Tortrix leafrollers, southern caneberries.** A new hatch cycle has just started in southern caneberries. In fields with chronic leafroller contaminant problems, growers should consider beginning control treatments. Early treatments, while the caterpillars are small, are most effective. Three good control options while bees are still in the fields 1) Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) formulations. 2) Spinosad formulations --Success or Entrust (approved for organic use) (use only at night and not on top of foraging bees) 3) Confirm (Tebufenozide)—a growth regulator with a 14 day PHI.
- **Aphids/Scorch Virus: blueberries.** Aphid populations continue to increase in British Columbia and northern Washington blueberries. Post bloom insecticide applications are strongly recommended in fields where Scorch virus is a potential threat. Admire (Imidacloprid) is the material of choice in most circumstances.
- **Weevils, strawberries, raspberries, blueberries.** In Oregon and SW Washington, almost all Black Vine are now adults and vulnerable to insecticides. Rough strawberry and strawberry root weevils are still in transition with many still in larval and pupae stages. Treatments at this time for those species will need to be repeated when the rest have

emerged as adults. For more weevil information, click on these links: rough strawberry root weevil, black vine root weevils, strawberry root weevils.

- **Strawberry Crown Moth, southern strawberries** . No adult trap catches are being picked up in most fields although there is some early emergence. First control applications should go on 10 to 14 days after the first 'consistent' adult emergence (two or three moths caught for two or three consecutive days). This targets the larvae that have hatched but not yet entered the plant crown.

New Pest Information

Birds, blueberries. Bird damage control measures are now being implemented in Oregon blueberries. Some growers are applying methyl anthranilate sprays as well as the usual noise and scare devices.

Insects

- **Obliquebanded leafrollers, blueberries, raspberries.** Adult OBLR trap catches are now rising in SW Washington and Oregon fields. This is the normal pattern. In the southern growing area, the OBLR larval hatch timing is such that it is very seldom a harvest contaminant even though trap counts of adults right now can be relatively high.
- **Mites, strawberries.** Mite numbers are increasing to close to damaging levels in some southern strawberry fields.

Diseases

- **Powdery Mildew**, **southern strawberries.** Powdery mildew symptoms are showing up in a 'Firecracker' variety fields in SW Washington.
- **Yellow Rust**, **raspberries.** Yellow rust is still visible in some fields but levels remain relatively low.

Ongoing Pest Information

(Click on blue, underlined pest name to link to further scouting information, photos, and control options)

Insects

- **Azalea Bark Scale**, **blueberries.**
- **Raspberry Sawfly, southern caneberries.**
- **Raspberry Beetle: northern raspberries**.
- **Blueberry Gall Midge: blueberries.**
- **Redberry Mites**, **Evergreen blackberries.**

Diseases

- **Botrytis, blueberries.**
- **Alternaria Fruit Rot, blueberries.**
- **Anthracnose Ripe Rot**, blueberries.
- **Scorch Virus, British Columbia blueberries.** Now is the time to walk your fields and look for virus symptoms. Contact Sonja Ring, Research Coordinator for the B.C. Blueberry Council at 604-613-2133 for details of the Ministry of Ag free testing.
- **Mummyberry, blueberries.**
- **Cane and Leaf Rust**, **blackberries.**
- **Shock virus, blueberries.**
- **Blackberry (Phragmidium) Rust: Evergreen blackberries.**

Cropwork:

All caneberries: 1) Can apply fungicides for fruit mold beginning at 10% bloom. 2) Scout for rust and treat as needed. 3) (southern growing areas) Can put out pheromone traps for Orange Tortrix and/or Strawberry Crown Moth. 4) Scout for leafroller larvae and treat as needed.

Evergreen/Chester blackberries: 1) Can apply sulfur for Redberry Mite control. 2) Can apply fungicide for prevention of Blackberry Rust infections.

Raspberries: 1) (northern growing areas) Scout for Clay Colored Weevil. 2) (northern growing areas) Scout for Raspberry Beetle and control as needed. 3) Scout for mites. 4) Scout for aphids.

Blueberries: 1) Scout for Mummyberry symptoms--control as needed. 2) Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm. 3) Can apply fungicides for fruit mold prevention. 4) Scout for weevil notching on lower leaves. 5) Scout for scale. 6) After petal fall, can treat for Alternaria and/or Anthracnose Fruit Rot. 7) Scout for Tip Blight symptoms and determine cause. 8) Plan for/implement controls to prevent bird-feeding damage.

Strawberries: **Harvest ongoing in SW Washington and Oregon.** 1) Can treat for weevils and other insects. 2) Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, Strawberry Crown Borers or root disease problems. 3) Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm. 4) Scout for weevil notching leaves. 5) Scout for aphids. 6) Scout for Two-Spotted Mites and Cyclamen Mites. 7) (southern growing areas) Plan to put out pheromone traps for Strawberry Crown Moth. 8) Scout for spittlebugs.