



December 3, 2008

[Photos of the week](#): **Unusual blackberry pest**: Sawfly larvae boring within the canes in a Black Diamond field
(Photos taken 12-2-08)

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

[Upcoming Meetings](#) (a calendar of small fruit related events)

[The Weather Cafe](#) by Rufus La Lone

The annual statistics issue

National Agricultural Statistics Service: Figures are based on mailed surveys completed by growers. This is our primary source for acreage and yield per acre figures. These are for the 2007 season, the most recent available.

Relevant NASS reports:

- [Click here](#) for the 2007 **Oregon** berry crop statistics issued 7/10/08.
- [Click here](#) for the 2007 **Washington** and **Oregon** berry crop statistics issued 1/24/08

Northwest Raspberry, Blackberry and Strawberry Plant Sales: Compiled by Dr. Pat Moore, the WSU Small Fruit plant breeder, from information voluntarily shared by the wholesale nurseries. Very useful in analyzing:

- Variety planting trends.
- How many new plantings are going in in a given year.
- How many fresh market plantings are going in. This is of particular interest in strawberries. It is difficult to gauge how much fresh market strawberry acreage is in the ground because most of the product is sold direct to the consumer and many growers don't pay their assessments to the commission. Therefore it isn't reflected in the commission assessment figures as the processed berries are.
- Blackberry plantings going in in Washington and British Columbia since they are not included in any commission assessment data below.

[Click here](#) for the 2008 plant sales report.

2008 Crop yield statistics: From the various commodity groups and generally based on assessments collected. Their accuracy is dependent upon the ability of the commission/council to collect their dues and/or growers' willingness to pay them. They therefore never overstate the size of the actual crop and can be assumed to at least somewhat understate it.

Notes:

- **Strawberries and caneberries**: Data from the commissions doesn't fully account for fruit grown for local fresh markets.
- **Washington raspberries**: Commission assessments only cover western Washington and don't include raspberries on the east side of the Cascades.
- **Washington and British Columbia blackberries**: These are not included in commission assessments that are only applicable to raspberries. Plant sales numbers are the best source for getting an idea of the status of these crops.
- **Oregon organic caneberries**: Organic production is exempt from commission assessments and therefore not included in the numbers.

Washington

- **Blueberries**: Total: 30,000,000 (28,500,000 - 2007) (NABC estimate)
 - Fresh: 6,500,000 (5,500,000 - 2007)
 - Process: 23,500,000 (23,000,000 - 2007)
- **Raspberries**: Total: 53,337,000 (53,447,000 - 2007) (Commission assessments).
 - Whatcom County: 47,801,000 (47,795,000- 2007)
 - Central Puget Sound: 452,000 (1,127,000 - 2007)

- Southwest Washington: 2,398,000 (3,105,000 - 2007)
- Skagit, Snohomish counties: 2,269,000 (1,419,000 - 2007)
- **Strawberries:** 2008 unavailable (13,011,000 - 2007) (Commission assessments)

Oregon

- **Blueberries:** Total: 44,600,000(44,600,000- 2007) (NABC estimate)
 - Fresh: 18,000,000(16,600,000- 2007)
 - Process: 26,600,000(28,000,000- 2007)
- **Strawberries:** 21,953,000 (22,300,000- 2007) (Commission assessments)
- **Red Raspberries:** 6,970,700 (4,024,000- 2007) (Commission assessments)
- **Black Raspberries:** 2,776,000 (3,583,000- 2007) (Commission assessments)
- **Boysenberries:** 2,099,000 (3,789,000- 2007) (Commission assessments)
- **Blackberries:** Total: 42,080,000 (55,553,000- 2007) (Commission assessments)
- (not all late season tonnage from varieties like Chester and Evergreen has been reported).
 - **Marion:** 19,692,000 (29,006,000 - 2007)
 - **Silvan:** 11,033,000 (10,496,000 - 2007)
 - **Evergreen:** 3,378,000 (5,657,000 - 2007)
 - **Chester:** 2,070,000 (1,616,000 - 2007)
 - **Kotata:** 2,351,000 (2,148,000 - 2007)
 - **Other:** 3,556,000 (6,577,000—2007)

British Columbia figures will be included in a later Update.

- **Blueberries:** Total: 75,000,000 (73,000,000 - 2007); (NABC estimate)
 - Fresh: 40,000,000 (23,000,000 - 2007);
 - Process: 35,000,000 (50,000,000 - 2007)
- **Raspberries:** 2008 unavailable (17,500,000 -2007)
- **Strawberries:** 2008 unavailable (5,000,000 -2007)

Upcoming meetings:

- **December 3, 4 & 5—NW Center for Small Fruits Research annual conference~** Corvallis, OR. [Click here](#) for a detailed schedule.
- **December 8 & 9 —The North American Raspberry & Blackberry Conference** in association with the Great Lakes Fruit & Vegetable Expo. ~ Grand Rapids, Michigan. [Click here](#) for more information.
- **December 11 —The Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission Annual Grower meeting** ~ Woodlands Conference and Event Center Wellspring Medical Center, 1475 Mt. Hood Ave, Woodburn, OR. Call the ORBC office 541-758-4043 or email [Philip Gütt](#) for more information.
- **December 15-17 —New Production Tools Workshop with Washington Red Raspberry Commission annual meeting** ~Lynden, WA. [Email](#) or call Henry Bierlink for more information 360-354-8767.
 - **Day 1** Innovation presentations/discussion 1 pm -3 pm; Simultaneous presentations by researchers to WRRRC and Washington Blueberry Commission 4-5:30 pm (tentative); WRRRC Research Committee meeting/ dinner 6 pm).
 - **Day 2** WSU Small Fruit Workshop 7 am -3:30 pm; WRRRC and /or Washington Blueberry Commission special presentations: 4-5 pm.
 - **Day 3** WRRRC Promotion committee meeting 7:30 am - 9:30am; WRRRC board meeting 10 am.
- **December 16 — Oregon Strawberry Commission meeting** ~ 12 pm. West Salem Roth's. For more information: 541-758-4043.
- **January 6, 2009 — Oregon Blueberry Commission meeting** ~ 9:30 am. LaSells Stewart Center, OSU, Corvallis. Committee meetings, commission meeting and Blueberry Research Roundup inviting all growers. For more information: 503-364-2944.
- **January 13-15, 2009 —North Willamette Valley Horticulture Society Annual Meeting** ~ Clackamas County Fairgrounds, Canby.
 - **1/13** Organic production sessions-- Information: Nick Andrews, 503-678-1264 Ext 149
 - **1/14** Vegetable sessions-- Information: Bob McReynolds, 503-678-1264 Ext 125
 - **1/15** Berry sessions-- Information: Diane Kaufman, Ext 123
- **January 19-21, 2009 —North American Strawberry Growers Association annual meeting** ~ New Orleans, LA. www.nasga.org
- **January 27, 2009 —Oregon Horticultural Society Annual Meeting and Northwest agricultural show** ~ 7:30 am. Portland Expo Center. For more information see www.oregonhorticulturalsociety.org or call 503-371-7457.
- **February 19, 2009 —Oregon Strawberry Commission annual meeting** ~ North Willamette Research and Extension Center. Aurora, OR. Call 541-758-4043 or email [Philip Gütt](#) for more information.