



March 19, 2008

[Weather Forecast](#) by Rufus La Lone

[Photo of the Week](#): Purple Blotch lesions on Marionberry canes. This is a good time for assessing the severity of infections in Marionberry fields.

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

Critical Window for Blueberry Pest Management: Decisions made right now can dramatically affect this year's crop. **Mummyberry**, **Pseudomonas Blight** and **Winter Moth/Span Worm** all have the potential to cause major economic losses. See the links below for more detailed information.

Michigan State Fruit Crop Alert Newsletter: [Click Here](#) This is their first edition of the year. It's got good information on the bee situation and labor availability as well as on how their fruit crops are looking coming out of the winter.

Publications available

- **2008 Pacific Northwest Pest Management Handbooks:** These very comprehensive handbooks are now available from Washington State Extension Service for \$45 each (Insect Management, Disease Management, and Weed Management). They cover almost all crops grown in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Call 1-800-723-1763 or [email](#). Online, you can also order and/or view many other very useful publications. [Click Here](#)
- **Berry Fruit: Value-added Products for Health Promotion.** [Click here](#) This is from CRC Press and is edited by Yanyun Zhao, OSU food technologist with a chapter by Bernadine Strik, OSU berry horticulturalist. It is "a comprehensive reference on the handling, use, and functional components of berry fruit". \$180
- **Nutrient Management for Blueberries in Oregon** [Click Here](#) (OSU Extension, 16 pages, free).
- **Caneberries Nutrient Management Guide** [Click Here](#) (OSU Extension, 8 pages, free).

Berry Innovation/Technology

- **The 1st North American Conference on Precision Fruit Spraying**, April 8 & 9, Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station, Canandaigua, NY. The sponsor list gives links to innovative sprayer manufacturers. [Click Here](#)
- **Mechanized Vineyard Training:** See how a German vineyard has mechanized their cane training. [Click Here](#)

Control option Update:

- **Herbicide, strawberries:** Oregon and Washington have both received approval of a Section 18 emergency label for **Spartan** (sulfentrazone) for the 2008-2009 season. Use is allowed during three distinct use periods: prior to planting, after renovation, and during dormancy. The labels begin 3/15/08 and ends 2/28/09. Click for labels – [Oregon label](#)---[Washington label](#)
- **Bird Control, blueberries:** [Tactical Avian Predators](#), this experienced California company, "offers an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy of ecologically-sound bird control that uses falconry, habitat manipulation, trapping, pyrotechnics and other techniques." They're interested in working with blueberry growers in Oregon and/or Washington.
Jim or Martin can be reached by calling 530 263-7569 or email to info@tacticalavianpredators.com

Meeting Information

- **The 9th International Vaccinium Symposium** will be held at Oregon State University in Corvallis July 14-16, 2008. In addition, a pre-conference tour is scheduled to tour blueberry, cranberry, and lingonberry production in the area. Although this is a scientific meeting with researchers from all over the world presenting, some industry members may wish to attend. **Early registration ends April 11.** For more information [click here](#) for the web site - Bernadine Strik and Chad Finn, co-conveners.

On-going Pest Information

- **Voles blueberries & caneberries:** Zinc phosphide baits can be applied **only until bud break in blueberries and caneberries** and are not labeled for strawberries.

Insects

- **Raspberry Crown Borers** caneberries
- **Strawberry Crown Moth** southern caneberries
- **Winter moth/ Bruce span worm** blueberries
- **Redberry mites**, blackberries.

Diseases

Disease Alert: Pseudomonas (Bacterial Blight) blueberries: Environmental conditions are prime in many areas for bacterial blight damage.

Disease Alert: Mummyberry blueberries: Protective fungicides and/or other measures to control this disease will be needed over the next several weeks in fields where it is present.

- **Phytophthora Root Rot raspberries:** March is the time to use a fungicide drench in raspberries.
- **Purple Blotch blackberries:** Check for cane lesions that are easy to see right now.
- **Cane blight raspberries:** Infected canes will show either no bud break if the cane has been girdled or one sided bud break if the infection is on one side.
- **Blackberry rust (Phragmidium Rust) Evergreen blackberries**

Cropwork

All crops

- Plan fertilizer program.
- Weed control.

Blueberries

- Can apply mummyberry control materials and/or take other mummyberry management actions.
- Can apply bacterial blight management materials (e.g. copper, Serenade).
- Scout for span worms/winter moth.

Blackberries

- Scout for purple blotch lesions.
- Apply insecticide drench for crown borer control.

Evergreen Blackberries

- Dormant spray of lime/sulfur or elemental sulfur for blackberry rust and redberry mites.

Raspberries

- Apply insecticide drench for crown borer control.
- **Ridomil** drench for phytophthora root rot control.
- Scout for cane blight symptoms as buds break

Strawberries

- As plants start growing, check weak areas for root weevil larvae, strawberry crown borers and/or root disease problems.

Upcoming Meetings: ([Click here](#) for an extended small fruit calendar)

- **April 8 —Oregon Strawberry Commission meeting** ~ 6 pm. Roths West, Salem, OR. [Email](#) or call the commission office for more information 541-758-4043.
- **April 8 —Honey Bee Health and other Pollinators**~ 11:30 - 2 p.m. LaSalle's Stewart Center at OSU. Oregon State University is sponsoring a meeting to discuss the need for research on honey bee health and other pollinators. RSVP to [Stella Coakley](#) by Wednesday April 2 to confirm your attendance. Attendance and lunch are free of charge.
- **April 10 —Washington Blueberry Commission meeting** ~ Eltopia, WA. Time to be announced. [Email](#) or call Alan Schreiber at for more information 509-266-4305.
- **April 22 —Oregon Blueberry Commission meeting** ~ Budget Hearing - noon, West Salem Roth's IGA in Salem, OR. Doaks Ferry Room at noon. Call the Commission office for more information 503-364-2944.
- **May 13 —Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission meeting** ~ 6 PM, Langdon Farms Golf Club, Aurora, OR . [Email](#) or call the commission office for more information 541-758-4043.