



July 22, 2008

[Photos of the week](#): Current blueberry issues: Excessive branching in Duke caused by Gall Midge feeding; cross sections of a healthy berry and berries infected with mummyberry.

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

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

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

Crop Reports

Blueberries

- **British Columbia:** (7/18) Duke is being picked and along with some of the other early varieties, Bluecrop still at least 10 days away from picking, likely a record late date. Bluecrop variety losses are significant in most of our regions. Rancocas as well. Some Hardblue are not looking too hot. Duke, Reka and Elliott look just fine. Size is down in the mid season varieties but good in early and in late varieties thanks to good pollination. Weather looks extremely favorable for the next 14 days.
- **Northern Washington, Lynden:** (7/19) Ripening well, smaller size than usual, birds, birds, birds.
- **Oregon/SW Washington:** (7/21) Duke picking both by hand and machine. Bluecrop hand picking has started and Brigitta should start within the next week. Some fields have good sized fruit but overall size is down as will be yields. Quality has been good.

Blackberries

- **Oregon:** (7/21) **processed:** Marionberries are well into the first pick. Quality has been good. Size is down and yields have been light. Kotata, Silvan and Black Diamond are also coming in. Kotatas are small. Not any mold problems. Fruit size and overall yields are the main concerns. This week could be the peak of a short season.

Raspberries

- **British Columbia:** (7/18) Getting to the peak of harvest but not quite there yet. This nice steady warm weather really, really helps.
- **Northern Washington, Lynden:** (7/19) Harvest is in full swing, Willamettes are coming off well. Meekers could peak in a week. Overall small size and small crop, looks like the weather really took a heavy toll.
- **Oregon/SW Washington:** (7/20)
 - **Black raspberries:** Harvest is wrapping up. Yields are down over the last year.
 - **Red raspberries:** We're past peak harvest with about 10 days left to pick. It's been a very good quality crop. After all this roller coaster weather season, we could end up with a little above average yields in many fields

Strawberries

- **British Columbia:** (7/18) Processed harvest is finished It was a light crop. Totem size was down.

Industry News

- **Chinese close deal with the Scottish Crop Research Institute (SCRI) to use raspberry cultivars:** [Click here](#) for this article in the *Business Scotsman*.
- **East Malling Research (EMR) launch new strawberry breeding club at Fruit Focus 2008:** [Click here](#) for this article on *Freshplaza.com* about a new public/private strawberry breeding program alliance in Europe.
- **Foreseeing a saturated market, [Vital Berry](#) develops new strategies to access new markets:** [Click here](#) for information on *Freshplaza.com* on the plans of one of the major Chilean berry exporters. China???

Event News

- **July 23 –WSU Raspberry mechanical harvesting trial open house** at the Randy Honcoop farm, Lynden, WA 2-4 PM For information/directions contact Pat Moore, WSU Raspberry and Strawberry Breeder, 253-445-4525 moorepp@wsu.edu

Industry Resource

- **Weekly National Berry Report:** [Click here](#) for this daily report that tracks fresh berry movement volume, shipping point price and terminal market price data for the current day's report that is normally available by 5:00pm each business day. The California strawberry commission hosts this report based on USDA statistics.

Regional Updates

- **B.C. Blueberry Council IPM newsletter for July 17:** [Click here.](#)
- **MSU Blueberry IPM Update for July 22:** [Click here.](#)
- **MSU Fruit Crop IPM Alert for July 22:** [Click here.](#)

New Pest Information

Blackberry rust, evergreen blackberries: We're seeing a new flush of active infections on the primocanes in some fields.

On-going Pest Information

Birds, blueberries

Insects

- **Yellow mites**, northern raspberries.
- **Twospotted Mites**, [Raspberries](#).
- **Alert: Orange Tortrix leafrollers**, southern caneberries: As blackberry harvest gets into full swing this week—watch these populations closely! Growers are advised to treat as needed to prevent major fruit contaminant problems.
- **Strawberry Crown Moth**, southern strawberries.
- **Aphids**, blueberries.
- **Redberry Mites**, late ripening blackberries.
- **Obliquebanded leafrollers**, northern blueberries.
- **Weevils**, strawberries, blueberries: For more weevil information, click on these links: [rough strawberry root weevil](#), [black vine root weevils](#), [strawberry root weevils](#).
- **Strawberry Crown Moth**, southern [caneberries](#).
- **Blueberry Gall Midge**, blueberries.

Diseases

- **Blueberry fungal diseases:** [Alternaria Fruit Rot](#), [Anthracnose Ripe Rot](#), [Botrytis](#), [Mummyberry](#).
- **Blueberry virus diseases:** [Shock Virus](#), [Scorch Virus](#).
- **Raspberry and blackberry fungal diseases:** [Yellow Rust](#), [Botrytis](#), [Cane and Leaf Rust](#), [Phytophthora Root Rot](#), [Purple Blotch](#).
- **Raspberry and blackberry virus diseases:** Raspberry Bushy Dwarf virus, [Raspberries](#), [Marionberries](#).

Cropwork

All crops

- Pay attention to new plantings of all berries for weeds, water, insects, diseases and nutrient deficiencies.
- Weed control.
- Maintain adequate soil moisture.

Blueberries—Harvest ongoing.

- Bird damage management.
- Scout for fruit disease problems (e.g. Mummyberry, Botrytis, Alternaria, Anthracnose) & determine cause.
- Scout for leafrollers and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Scout for aphids.
- Scout for weevil notching.

Blackberries—Harvest ongoing in the south.

- Scout for potential crop contaminants. Treat as needed.
- Scout for rust and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Can treat for fruit mold if needed.
- Can apply sulfur for redberry mite control.

Raspberries—Harvest ongoing in all regions.

- Scout for potential crop contaminants. Treat as needed.
- Scout for fruit disorders (e.g. crumbly fruit, dry cell) and determine cause.
- Scout for rust and treat as needed.
- Scout for mites and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.

- Can treat for fruit mold if needed.

Strawberries—Processed harvest finished.

- Check weak areas for root weevil larvae, strawberry crown borers and/or root disease problems.
- Watch for weevil notching and plan for weevil management as needed.
- Treat for strawberry crown moth in southern fields as needed.
- After harvest, allow field to lie dormant for 3-4 weeks before mowing, watering and fertilizing.