



May 26, 2009

[You Tube link of the week](#): Wild blueberries in Maine. The first question after watching this is--do they always use those hand rakes or do they have machines? [Click here](#) for a look at their mechanical harvester situation.

[Photos of the week](#): Marionberry virus symptoms: Calico virus which has no economic impact on the crop. Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus (RBDV) which causes crumbly fruit and major yield decreases.

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

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

[Upcoming Meetings](#)

Online Trade Magazine for the Berry Industry: [Click here](#) for the (revised) Berry Innovation News website. This has been developed by us (Peerbolt Crop Management) with funding support from the Washington Red Raspberry Commission.

- **Purpose:** To be a primary source for berry growers of links and information on developments in technology, cultivar development, equipment, food safety and other issues where timely knowledge can make a big difference in a farm, processor or supplier's profitability.
- **Funding:** This is a new type of venture for PCM in that this is a commercial site that will be completely supported by advertising and industry sponsors with no public or commission funding.
- **State of the Site:** This is the equivalent of growing a new crop for us. We're in the process of developing a network of reliable information sources, looking for advertisers/sponsors, and getting up to speed on the economics of maintaining a commercial website.
- **Needed:** Sponsors, advertisers, information sources and user feedback to make [Berry Innovation News](#) useful to you. Email or call with any of the above. Anna@peerbolt.com, 503-289-7287.

Blueberry Insecticide Maximum Residue Level (MRL) Caution: Brigade WSB has had blueberries added to the U.S. label. However, no MRL has been established for Brigade in Japan. **Brigade (bifenthrin) should not be used on any blueberries going to Japan.** USDA's MRL Database: [Click here](#) to check on the MRL for any pesticide in any crop in any market.

Regional reports

These reports are from individuals within the region and are their particular observations. They are included to give an impression of the present 'state of the industry' and regional activities.

British Columbia, Fraser Valley (5/26/09)

- **Raspberries:** Raspberries are about 7 days from significant bloom start. There is bloom now on weaker plants, Malahat and Rudyberry. Growth on non-winter injured plants is very good and the warm shower of today (May 26) should really push things along prior to bloom next week.
- **Blueberries:** This past weekend brought on a huge increase in bloom on the blues. The timing for good weather, bees and Bluecrop bloom could not be better. Duke bloom in upper Fraser Valley drawing to completion with lots of green fruit formed. Seems to be filling fast as well, with warm moist soil conditions. Overall the crop continues to look very good.

Whatcom County, Northern Washington (Thursday 5/22/09)

- **Blueberries:** If the forecast holds, we're going to get some real nice weather. Blueberries are past full bloom. It looks pretty heavy over all. We'll soon see how many blooms actually got pollinated during the cool, wet period.
- **Strawberries:** Strawberries are at full bloom with the 2nd bloom fungicide for fruit mold prevention going on.
- **Raspberries:** Raspberries are approaching bloom. Pre-bloom Diazinon going on now through next week for Raspberry Beetle (& other insect) control. Remarkably low levels of bugs so far.

Willamette Valley, Oregon and SW Washington (5/26/09)

- **Blueberries:** The weather doesn't get much better than this. We've got a lot of moisture in the ground yet. Dukes are finished blooming, Bluecrop is almost finished, Elliotts are past 50%. Pollination looks very good. It's hard to find a downside on the crop end right now. Have to resort to talking about the price outlook for that.

- **Blackberries:** Ditto on the weather. Silvans up to about 35-40% bloom. Marions getting near 10%. It's coming out slowly with these low 70 degree days. Keep it coming!
- **Raspberries:** Bloom is 10-20%. Good color although lateral extension seems behind. No rust or mite problems. We've got a lot of very happy bees right now. Bloom sprays are going on this week.
- **Strawberries:** The third and last bloom sprays have gone on most fields. The bloom is quickly finishing. While there's a little red showing up in Tillamook and Totem fields, harvest is still looking a couple of weeks away from starting. It could be longer if the weather stays cool.

Newsletters/Updates

- **New Jersey Blueberry Bulletin for 5-18-09:** [Click here.](#)

Pollinator/bee Updates

- **USDA Survey Reports Latest Honey Bee Losses:** [Click here](#) (USDA, 5/19/09)
- **New England's blueberry crop get some help from visiting bees:** [Click here](#) (The Boston Globe, 5/22/09)
- **(Maine) Blueberry Farmers Deal with Shrinking Bee Population:** [Click here](#) for story & video (5/25/09, WCSH 6, Portland, Maine)

Industry news/resources

- **Berries Shine in Otherwise Sluggish Quarter:** [Click here](#) (The Packer, 5/22/09)
- **(Australia) Strawberry Farmers to Lose Millions:** [Click here](#) (The Daily, 5/23/09) Last week's downpour and flooding caused huge losses down under.
- **Interest Grows in California Blueberry Industry:** [Click here](#) (The Packer, 5/22/2009)
- **God Proclaims Raspberries 'Now Even More Berrilicious':** [Click here](#) (The Onion, 2/17/99) So...it's ten years old. So...it's not real news. Is it?

Meeting Information

- **June 4— BC Blueberry Council Annual General Meeting:** 7:00-9:00 pm, Newlands Golf and Country Club, Langley BC. All growers are invited for a market update and book release of the Commission's pocket field guide, "A Field Guide to Identification of Pests, Diseases and other Disorders in Blueberry Fields". Growers attending will get a guide for free. Additional guides will be \$20 a copy (Canadian dollars). [Sonja Ring](#) (604) 613 2133.
- **June 10—OSU Strawberry Open House~** 2 pm. North Willamette Research & Extension Center. Aurora, OR. [Click here](#) for the flyer with full information. There will be a \$10 charge per person, payable on site. No pre-registration is needed.
- **June 16—WSU Strawberry Open House~** 3-5 pm. Goss Farm, Puyallup . The field day will consist of an informal tour of the WSU strawberry plots. See some of the most promising new WSU selections (such as WSU 2602 and WSU 2606, both early and WSU 2776 and WSU 2833, both late). It is also an opportunity to discuss directions for strawberry research. For directions or further information, contact [Pat Moore](#), 253-445-4525.
- **June 16—Caneberry Leafrollers, Parasitoids and Farm Landscape Ecology: A Beneficials Farm Walk~** 2-5 PM with a pot luck at 5 Hinsvark Berry Farm, Woodburn, OR . Sponsored by the Integrated Plant Protection Center at OSU. [Click here](#) for more information. You can call or [email](#) Gwendolyn Ellen to register or with questions 503-737-6272.
- **June 22-23—The International Berry Health Benefits Symposium~** Monterey, California. Hosted by the [National Berry Crops Initiative](#), seven North American berry organizations join together to feature the latest research by scientists worldwide on berries and human health.

Ongoing Pest Management Information

Diseases

- [Powdery Mildew](#), strawberries.
- [Blackberry Rust](#) (Phragmidium Rust), evergreen blackberries.
- [Yellow Rust](#), raspberries.
- [Alternaria Fruit Rot](#), blueberries.
- [Anthracnose Ripe Rot](#), blueberries.
- [Mummyberry](#), blueberries.
- [Purple Blotch](#), blackberries.
- [Shock Virus](#), blueberries.
- [Scorch Virus](#), blueberries.
- [Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus](#), Marionberries.

Insects

- [Raspberry Beetle](#), northern raspberries.

- [Twospotted Mites](#), strawberries.
- [Azalea Bark Scale](#), southern blueberries.
- [Weevils](#), strawberries: Weevil pupae are being recovered. Adult emergence is beginning. For more weevil information, click on these links: [Rough Strawberry Root Weevil](#), [Black Vine Root Weevils](#), [Strawberry Root Weevils](#).
- [Winter Moth/ Bruce Spanworm](#), blueberries.
- [Aphids/Scorch Virus](#), blueberries.
- [Blueberry Gall Midge](#), blueberries.
- [Twospotted Spider Mites](#), raspberries.
- [Yellow Mites](#), northern raspberries.
- [Aphids](#), strawberries.

Cropwork

Blueberries

- Can apply Mummyberry control materials and/or take other Mummyberry management actions.
- Apply aphid control as needed.
- Scout for scale insects.
- Scout for weevil notching.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control starting at 10% bloom.
- After petal fall can treat for Alternaria and/or Anthracnose.

Blackberries

- Burn back primocanes as needed.
- Scout for Phragmidium Rust in Evergreens.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Bring in bees by 10% bloom.
- Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control starting at 10% bloom.

Raspberries

- (Northern areas) Scout for Clay-Colored Weevil.
- Scout for Rust.
- Can apply phosphite material for Root Rot control.
- Can burn back primocanes as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Bring in bees by 10% bloom.
- Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control starting at 10% bloom.

Strawberries

- Check weak areas for Root Weevil larvae, Strawberry Crown Borers and/or root disease problems.
- Till row centers.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Can apply phosphite material for Root Rot control.
- Watch for Weevil leaf notching and plan for Weevil management if needed.
- Can apply a fungicide for fruit mold control starting at 10% bloom.
- Plan to put out pheromone traps for Strawberry Crown Moth in southern fields.