



July 7, 2009

[You Tube link of the week:](#) A Washington state blueberry promotional video from a couple of years ago including an interview with Richard Sakuma, Sakuma Brothers Farms in Mount Vernon.

[Photos of the week:](#) Willamette Valley blackberries and raspberries have some sunscald fruit from the heat wave. Damage so far seems relatively light. Left photo: Sunburned raspberries. Right photo: Sunburned Marionberries (Photos taken a couple of years ago during worse heat wave).

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

[Cold Storage Report](#)

[Upcoming Meetings](#)

[Berry Innovation:](#) We've updated the articles and added videos to the Berry Innovation website.

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.

Whatcom County, Northern Washington (7/6/09)

- **Blueberries:** Showers and rain the last couple of days are not helping quality. Sizing and coloring are moving along; get your bird repellents going.
- **Raspberries:** Hot weather last week cranked up the harvest and gave us a lot of good, quality fruit. Now we've got a couple of days of rain; so, most is going into barrels. Most growers are picking through it and keeping up with the fruit. Warm weather is forecast to return this weekend. Could use some weather breaks right now.
- **Strawberries:** Strawberries are all but over.

Skagit County, Northern Washington

- **Blueberries:** (7/3/09) Blues sizing up well. Small groups of starlings starting to work the blues in flocks of up to 30 birds. We are giving bird abatement falconers a try this season. We're hoping to cut our bird damage losses. So far so good from what I have seen.
- **Raspberries:**
 - (7/2/09) First raspberry harvests in Skagit are in, and quality looks very good so far. I'm told IQF will start early next week.
 - (7/3/09) Harvesting raspberries, cleaning up the field on the first machine pick before we get into IQF. So far, quality is good.
- **Strawberries:** (7/3/09) Strawberries finished with Tillamook Sunday (7/4/09). We had a great season in terms of volume and quality.

Eastern Washington (7/2/09)

- **Blueberries:** Harvest is in full swing. Weather for harvest is excellent. Yields appear to be good. No insect or disease issues.

Willamette Valley, Oregon and SW Washington (7/5/09)

- **Blueberries:** Dukes are coming in with very good quality but not a very good price. Ripening between fields seems more variable this year with some fields almost done and others just starting. First picks are also not as heavy as were anticipated. It's looking like the overall tonnage increase will be smaller than expected.
- **Raspberries:**
 - **Processed:** The hot weather didn't do us any good. Some soft, sunburned fruit to pick through as well as root rot collapse coming on strong in the vulnerable fields. Still some good fruit coming on. Should have the majority of it in before Marions really get going.
 - **Fresh:** Tulameen is coming in. Quality is good.
 - **Blackcaps:** Excellent fruit set on blackcaps this year. Harvest has started.
- **Blackberries:**
 - **Processed:** Silvans are coming in with Marions, and Kotatas are scheduled to start major picking late this week. The heat caused some sunburn but doesn't look to have done major damage. A few Boysens are also now starting to come in.

- **Fresh:** Metolius are finished. Obsidian's still going. Kotata are expected to start by the end of the week.
- **Strawberries:** Processed harvest is finished. Still some good fresh market fruit from day-neutral varieties being picked.
- **Red Currants:** Now coming in. Quality is very good.

Blueberry Pocket Field Guide Available

- "A Field Guide to Identification of Pests, Diseases and other Disorders in Blueberry Fields", recently published by the British Columbia Blueberry Council, is now available for \$15 (US) per copy. For more information and ordering details please email info@bcblueberry.com.

WSU Mt Vernon NWREC Events (from Tom Walters, WSU Small Fruit Horticulturist)

- **July 9**—Field day and NARF (*Northwest Agricultural Research Foundation*) advisory meetings at the Station. This is our big field day when we show off all the research that goes on here at the Center. Some berry-related, some not. [Click here](#) for logistics and information.
- **July 16**, 3-5pm. Berry grower field day here at the Mount Vernon R&E Center following Pat Moore's mechanical harvesting field day at Sakuma Brothers Farm. I'll show work on fumigation alternatives for growers, methyl bromide alternatives for raspberry nurseries, blueberry and raspberry varieties, and strawberries under tunnels. Dr. Lynell Tanigoshi will present research on managing insects in small fruits. For directions, [click here](#), more information call 360-848-6120 or email Tom, [click here](#).

Field Day Information

- **July 8**—**OSU Caneberry Open House**
 - 1pm. OSU North Willamette Research & Extension Center. Aurora, OR.
 - Sponsored by the [Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission](#).
 - [Click here](#) for the agenda and logistics. Call 503-678-1264 ext. 110 for more information.
- **July 15**—**OSU Blueberry Field Day** ~ Time 1-5pm. North Willamette Research & Extension Center. Aurora, OR. [Click here](#) for the agenda and logistics. Due to OSU budget restraints there will be a \$20 charge per person to cover costs, payable on site. No pre-registration is needed. Call 503-678-1264 ext. 110 for more information.
- **July 16** – **Raspberry Machine Harvesting Field Day** Sakuma Bros, Burlington, WA 1:00pm to 2:30pm. This will be the first summer that this planting will be harvested. There are 100 different raspberries in this planting: 58 WSU selections, 36 BC selections, 5 cultivars and 1 ORUS selection.
- **July 21** – **Raspberry Machine Harvesting Field Day** The Randy Honcoop Farm, Lynden, WA 11:00am-1:00pm. This planting was harvested for the first time in 2008 and several of the selections appeared very promising.
- For information/directions contact Pat Moore, WSU Raspberry and Strawberry Breeder, 253-445-4525 moorepp@wsu.edu

Newsletters

- **British Columbia Blueberry Commission IPM Newsletter for 7-2-09:** [Click here.](#)
- **New Jersey Blueberry Bulletin for 6-29-09:** [Click here.](#)
- **Michigan State Blueberry IPM Newsletter for 7-7-09:** [Click here.](#)
- **Michigan State Fruit Crop Advisory for 7-6-09:** [Click here.](#)

Industry news/resources

US/Canada

- **Naturipe Farms celebrates national blueberry month:** [Click here](#) (7/6/09 Fresh Plaza)
- **Make it a berry month!:** [Click here](#) (7/5/09 HealthNewsDigest.com)
- **Canadians are eating healthier:** [Click here](#) (7/6/09 Toronto Sun) The Canadians are doing their part—eating more blueberries!
- **B.C. raspberry and strawberry breeders give new varieties First Nation names:** [Click here](#) (6/30/09 The Canadian Press)
- **Oregon Legislative session's outcome frustrates Ag:** [Click here](#) (7/2/09 Capital Press)
- **Biden announces rural broadband funding:** [Click here](#) (7/1/09 Capital Press)
- **ICE (*Immigration & Customs Enforcement*) to focus on employers in immigration crackdown:** [Click here](#) (7/6/09 The Packer)

International

- **(UK) Albion has twice the flavor of other strawberry varieties, say scientists:** [Click here](#) (7/6/09 Fresh Plaza)

New Pest Management Information

- **Alert: [Botrytis Fruit Rot](#), northern raspberries:** With showers/rain over the last couple of days and warm/humid weather coming, the risk of fruit rot is high. Growers should consider a fungicide application between picks.
- **[Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus](#), northern raspberries:** Crumbly fruit symptoms of RBDV are now very evident in infected fields.
- **[Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus](#), Marionberries:** The diagnostic yellow leaf pattern and crumbly, poorly formed fruit are now present in some Marionberry fields.
- **[Aphids/Scorch Virus](#), blueberries:** Aphid numbers are rising in all areas. Fields treated earlier with Admire are showing good control. [Scorch Virus](#).
- **[Phytophthora Root Rot](#), raspberries:** The heat of the last week has exacerbated the typical cane collapse associated with Phytophthora in southern raspberry fields.
- **[Birds](#), blueberries, Whatcom County, northern Washington:** Whatcom County has a bird hazing brochure available at fertilizer outlets and at Farm Friends. Propane cannons can be annoying to the birds AND your neighbors, so be considerate. Call Henry Bierlink, Washington Red Raspberry Commission, 360-354-8767 or [email](#).

Ongoing Pest Management Information

Diseases

- **[Yellow Rust](#), raspberries. [Alternaria Fruit Rot](#), blueberries. [Anthracnose Ripe Rot](#), blueberries.**
- **[Mummyberry](#), blueberries. [Shock Virus](#), blueberries. [Scorch Virus](#), blueberries.**

Insects

- **Alert: [Orange Tortrix Leafrollers](#), southern blackberries and raspberries:** The larval hatch that causes our major crop contaminant problems is ongoing in many caneberry fields in SW Washington and Oregon.
- **Alert: [Weevils](#), southern strawberries, raspberries:** Adult emergence of all major weevil species continues. For more weevil information, click on these links: [Rough Strawberry Root Weevil](#), [Black Vine Root Weevils](#), [Strawberry Root Weevils](#).
- **Alert: [Strawberry Crown Moth](#), southern strawberries and caneberreries:** SCM adults continue to emerge in many southern strawberry and caneberry fields. First control treatments should be timed to go on 10-14 days after first consistent trap catches.
- **Caution: [Blackberry Rust](#) (Phragmidium Rust), evergreen blackberries.** Some Evergreen fields are seeing a resurgence of rust infections. These are showing up in significant numbers on the buds and blossoms. While not an optimal time to treat this disease an application of the appropriate fungicide should be considered.
- **[Blueberry Gall Midge](#), blueberries. [Raspberry Beetle](#), northern raspberries. [Twospotted Spider Mites](#), raspberries. [Yellow Mites](#), northern raspberries.**
- **[Aphids](#), strawberries.**

Cropwork

All crops: Monitor soil moisture and irrigate as needed.

Blueberries—Harvest ongoing in Oregon, SW and Eastern Washington

- North--Scout for leafrollers and treat as needed.
- Maintain bird damage management.
- Apply aphid control as needed.
- Scout for scale insects.
- Scout for weevil notching.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- After petal fall can continue to treat for Alternaria and/or Anthracnose.
- Scout for ripe fruit fungal diseases.

Blackberries—Harvest beginning in Oregon

- Scout for Phragmidium Rust in Evergreens.
- Scout for Cane and Leaf Rust.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Can apply insecticide pre-harvest for insect crop contaminants.
- Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control.
- Scout for insect crop contaminants.
- Scout for ripe fruit fungal diseases.

Raspberries—Harvest ongoing

- Scout for mites and treat as needed.
- Scout for aphids.
- Scout for Yellow Rust.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.

- Can apply insecticide pre-harvest for insect crop contaminants.
- Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control.
- Scout for insect crop contaminants.
- Scout for ripe fruit fungal diseases.

Strawberries—Processed harvest finished

- Check weak areas for Root Weevil larvae, Strawberry Crown Borers and/or root disease problems.
- Watch for Weevil leaf notching and plan for Weevil management if needed.
- Plan for post-harvest treatments for SCM and/or weevils as needed.
- Scout for fruit quality issues such as mold.