

Small Fruit Update



News and opinions from [Peerbolt Crop Management](#) and [BerriesNW](#) sent out weekly during the growing season, and sporadically when we have something to share in the off season.

January 19, 2011

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Links

[Video of the Week](#): The Oxbo (Korvan) 8000 Single-Drop Blueberry Harvester. It's been developed for fresh market quality picking.
[Video of the Week 2](#): Food Investigations—Blueberries faked in cereals, muffins, bagels and other food products.
[The Weather Cafe](#) by Rufus La Lone
[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

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.

Skagit County, Northern Washington

- **Blueberries/raspberries: (1/16)** 58° F and raining in Skagit Sunday on saturated soils. We could have blueberries under water Monday if it keeps up.

Willamette Valley, Oregon and SW Washington

- **Blueberries: (1/17)** Came home Sunday night to 2 feet of water over the road, baby field 50% under water, probably 30% of the farm under water. By Monday noon, the water is down to 6" over road. No signs of winter damage. This could be a flood year. Pruning is going on right now.

[Assessing Cold Damage in Caneberries](#)

Click on the title above for photos and suggested assessment techniques from Michele Warmund, Horticulture professor at the University of Missouri and Dr. Bernadine Strik, Horticulture professor and berry extension specialist at Oregon State University.

[Got any information on Sylvester Johnson---pro baseball player & boysenberry grower?](#)

I got a request this last week from a writer doing a book on Mr. Johnson. I hadn't heard of 'Syl Johnson' before, but he was a right-handed pitcher from Portland who had a nineteen-year pro career in the thirties and forties. He died in 1985 and appears to have lived in northwest Oregon both before and after his pro career. Oregon Sports Hall of Fame link: http://www.oregonsportshall.org/sylvester_johnson.html

Anyone know anything about him? Was he a berry grower? If you've got anything, contact me (tom@peerbolt.com), and I'll send it along to the writer.

Disseminating information for:

Washington

[Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#)
[Washington Blueberry Commission](#)
[Washington Strawberry Commission](#)

Oregon

[Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission](#)
[Oregon Blueberry Commission](#)
[Oregon Strawberry Commission](#)

British Columbia

[Fraser Valley Strawberry Growers Association](#)
[Raspberry Industry Development Council](#)
[B.C. Blueberry Council](#)

Job Opening for Grower Relations/Food Safety Manager

[Click here](#) for the details. It's with Oregon Berry Packing in Hillsboro, Oregon.

Industry News/Resources

Newsletters

- ['The Source'](#) (1/12) Market updates from *The Produce News*
- [The Small Fruit News](#) (1/11)
This is a quarterly publication from the [Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium](#). It's a large pdf file (22.5 MB) so it could take a while to download.

West

- [Oregon Ag Director Optimistic](#) (1/11, Western Farmer-Stockman)

National

- [NRCS Providing Funds for Seasonal High Tunnel Pilot Program](#) (1/11, Growing Produce News)
 - [Click here](#) for NRCS high tunnel project funding by state
- [Blackberry industry starting marketing association](#) (1/13, The Packer)
- [Driscoll's celebrates National Blueberry Pancake Day \(January 28\)](#) (1/11, The Packer)
 - [Click here](#) for a YouTube video celebrating National Pancake Day.
- [Strawberry volumes may be tight for Valentine's Day](#) (1/12, The Packer)

International

- [Chilean promotion strategy deep and wide](#) (1/10, The Produce News)
- [Argentina: Blueberry harvest nearing end](#) (1/14, Fresh Plaza)
- [Awe Sum Organics Chilean blueberry program in full swing](#) (1/11, Fresh Plaza)
- [Chile: Blueberry production growing consistently](#) (1/10, Fresh Plaza)

Food Safety Issues

- [Produce suppliers face urgent changes as food safety rules tighten](#) (1/14, The Packer)
- [Food Safety law may streamline import chain](#) (1/7, The Packer)
- [Over-regulating farms won't make food safer](#) (1/12, Food Safety News) This is an opinion piece and the comments below the article need to be read to give a more rounded view of the issue.
- [FDA Food Safety Modernization Act: Out of the Box](#) (1/6, Food Safety News)

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Meeting Information

For more comprehensive meeting schedule, [click here](#).

- **January 20 — Oregon Strawberry Commission meeting** ~ 12 pm, Roth's IGA, Salem, OR. Contact [Philip Gutt](#), or call 541-758-4043 for more information.
- **January 25-27 Northwest Ag Show** at the Portland Expo Center. [Click here](#) for the Ag Show agenda. The following two berry sessions are being held in conjunction with the Ag Show.
- **January 25 — Oregon Horticultural Society Annual Conference Blueberry Session** ~ 9 am- 1 pm, Grand Ballroom, Red Lion Hotel on the River.
 - The featured speaker will be Dr. Juan Silva from Mississippi State University speaking on "Food Safety in Blueberry Operations".
 - [Click here](#) for the complete blueberry session agenda.
- **January 26— Oregon Horticultural Society Annual Conference Caneberry Session** ~ 8 am- 12 pm ~ Portland Expo Building, Room D 202-203 We're taking advantage of the many exhibitors at the show by having some address caneberry needs directly. For more information, contact [Tom Peerbolt](#) 503-289-7287. 3 pesticide credits applied for. The agenda:
 - 8-8:50 AM **Harvester Developments** for the 2011 season
 - 8:50-9:40 AM **SWD Management:** Sprayer Technology for Larger Acreages
 - 9:40-10 AM Break
 - 10-10:50 AM **SWD Management:** Sprayer Technology for Smaller Acreages

- 10:50-11:40 AM **Pesticides in Caneberry Production: Supplier Updates**
- **January 26 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission meeting** ~ Lynden, WA. Contact [Henry Bierlink](#) or call 360-354-8767 for more information.
- **January 27- 29 — 13th Annual Pacific Ag Show and Grower Hort Short Course** ~ Abbotsford, B.C., Canada. [Click here](#) for more information. [Click here](#) for the brochure.
- **February 8— Washington Blueberry Commission meeting**~ All day grower meeting at WSU Mt. Vernon Station. To be simulcast to the WSU Prosser Research station. Contact [Alan Schreiber](#) 509-266-4300 for more information.
- **February 9 — Washington Blueberry Commission meeting** ~ Mt. Vernon station. Contact [Alan Schreiber](#) 509-266-4300 for more information.
- **February 24 — Oregon Strawberry Commission Annual Growers meeting**~ TBA. North Willamette Research & Extension Center, Aurora, OR. 2009-2010 reports will be presented. Contact [Rachel Denu](#) for more information.
- **March 2 — ORBC Annual Pre-Production Workshop** ~ Full day workshop at Wellspring, Woodburn, OR. Agenda to come.

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Archived Small Fruit Updates

(for older Updates [click here](#).)

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