

Small Fruit Update



Providing Northwest berry growers with the information they need when they need it.

The Small Fruit Update is sent out weekly during the growing season by [Peerbolt Crop Management](#) and is funded entirely by the Northwest berry growers & industry through their commissions & councils.

June 7, 2011

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Story of the Week: Oregon & Korea & blueberries:

This week a lot of progress was made toward making it possible for fresh blueberries to be shipped to Korea. However, an inaccurate, premature press story has caused some problems. Hopefully, we can move forward with this very promising partnership.

1. The correct story: [Blueberry Trade Announcement Premature](#) (Capital Press, 6/07)
 2. One of the national stories: [Oregon may ship blueberries to S. Korea in July](#) (The Packer, 6/06)
- [The Weather Cafe](#) by Rufus La Lone / [Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

Notice for U.S. Processed Raspberry Growers

You have the opportunity to vote on forming a National Processed Red Raspberry Council

- **When:** Ballots are out & need to be returned between June 8th and June 24th.
- [Click here](#) for the processed raspberry statistics and the economic reasons for funding this program.
- [Click here](#) for the federal Register document explaining this process.
- [Click here](#) for information from the Washington Red Raspberry Commission
- You can also call either commission office for information. WRRRC: 360-354-8767. ORBC: 541-758-4043.

Newly Received Meeting Information

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

June 14 —SW Washington: WSU Spotted Wing Drosophila & Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Workshop ~10am- 12pm for small fruits growers; 1pm- 3pm for home gardeners and small-scale organic farmers. 78th Street Heritage Farm/WSU Clark County Extension at 1919 NE 78th Street in Vancouver, WA. Please [RSVP](#) for either the morning or afternoon session to Todd Murray; 509-427-3931; space is limited. [Click here](#) to read the flyer for more information.

New Washington Berry Event Being Organized

This event consolidates the Washington Raspberry and Blueberry industry annual meetings, expands the WSU Small Fruit Workshop (normally held at this time) to two days instead of one, and provides growers & industry vendors with new opportunities. More details as this evolves.

- **Name:** Washington Small Fruit Conference and the Lynden Ag Show.
- **Dates:** December 8-9, 2011.

- **Location:** Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA. With remote viewing site in Eastern Washington & various side events.
- **Format:** Two days of berry seminars running concurrently with a two day Ag Show. An industry dinner and various research coordination and commission planning meetings will also take place.
- **Sponsoring Organizations:** Washington Red Raspberry Commission, Washington Blueberry Commission, Washington State University Extension, Whatcom Farm Friends.
- **For further information:** Contact [Henry Bierlink](#) (360) 354-8767.

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

Welcome weather the last 3 or 4 days has started drying up fields that looked like a war zone the last couple months. Still lots of deep ruts and holes that have to be filled in before the crop closes in on the rows.

- **Blueberries:** (Monday, 6/06) Elliotts are approaching full bloom and the presence of good weather and temps is really aiding bee activity and pollination for this variety as well as Liberty and a good portion of Bluecrop. Lots of green fruit and early fruit fill seems be good so far. Lots of scorch and shock calls. I'm also seeing herbicide damage from this year and last. Glyphosate is the main culprit. Really take care close to the plants especially post harvest when there is field cleanup going on and plants are more likely to internally accumulate the herbicide.
- **Raspberries:** (Monday, 6/06) Raspberries are probably going to get the first bloom sprays later this week. Lots of early blooms opened on the weekend and there are lots ready to pop any day. Tell tale signs of root rot appeared with the weekend heat as well.

Northern Washington, Whatcom County

- **Raspberries:** (Friday, 6/03) Yellow Rust is spreading fast in the raspberries. Bloom is starting as are the mites. Lots of Diazinon is going on. Be careful with it around bees.
- **Blueberries:** (Friday, 6/03) More shock virus symptoms than we expected. Bloom is winding down in Reka, Bluecrop, Bluejay, 1613's (Hardiblues). It's still heavy in Jersey, Draper, Liberty.
- **Strawberries:** (Friday, 6/03) Pretty much full bloom, watch for mites here also.

Willamette Valley, Oregon and SW Washington

We had our first day over 80°F (27°C) this last Saturday. Definitely into a drier, warmer pattern. Great pollination weather just in time for the blackberry and raspberry bloom. Keep on top of the soil moisture now to maximize fruit sizing.

- **Strawberries:** (Monday, 6/06) Here it is June 6 and I could hardly find a strawberry with any color in the Totem and Tillamook fields in SW Washington yesterday. Sure looks like it's at least two weeks away from today from starting on strawberries— June 16-18. The 20th is a Monday—maybe waiting until then. We've got the WSU (6/14 in Puyallup) and OSU (6/15 in Aurora) strawberry field days coming up. Growers won't be able to say they can't attend because they're harvesting this year.
- **Blueberries:** (Monday, 6/6) It's still a good looking crop but Shock virus has hit a lot of fields hard. More losses in more fields over the whole region than I can remember. Dukes and Liberty seem especially hard hit. Duke harvest will probably start around July 7th.

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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](#)

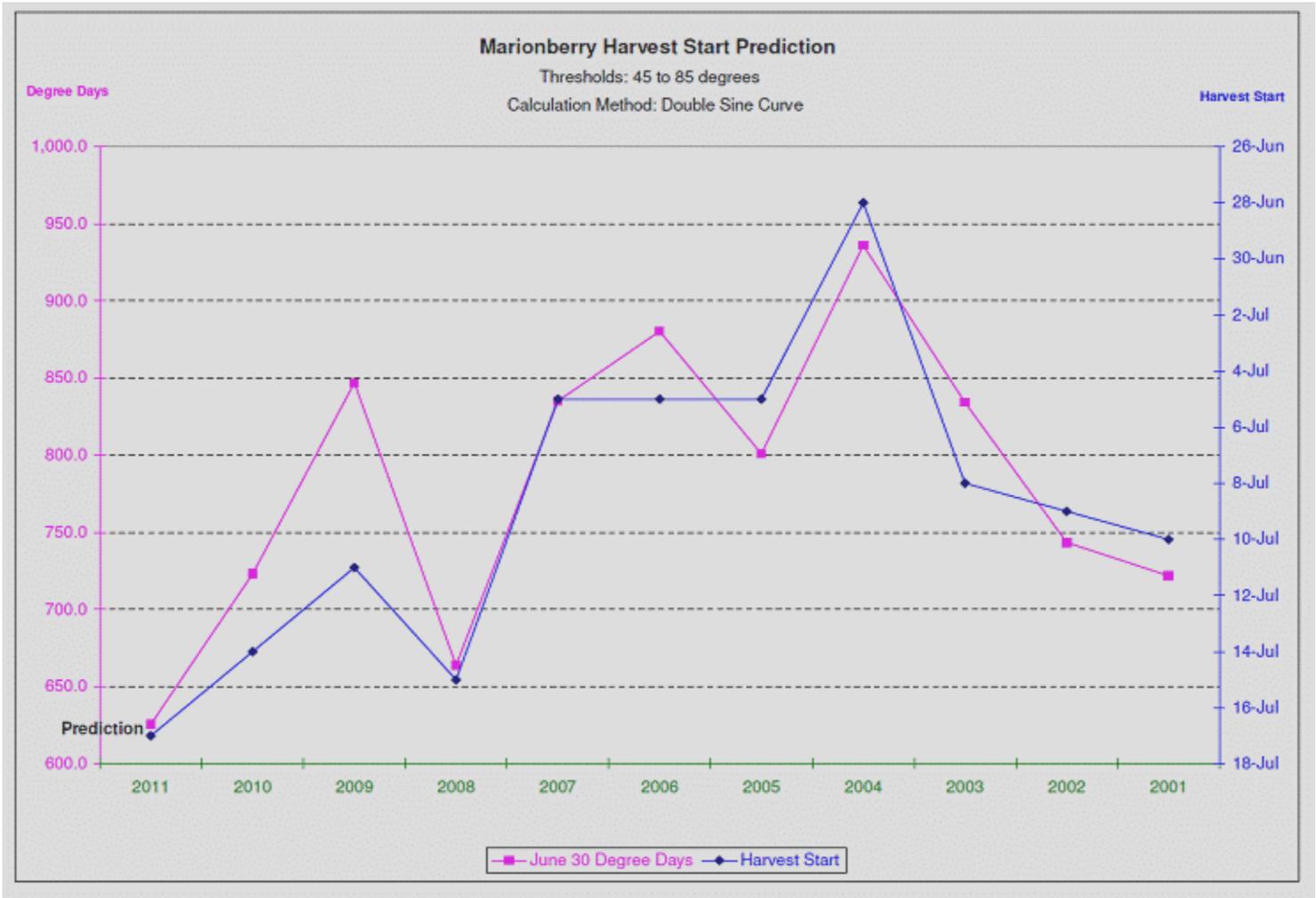
British Columbia

[Fraser Valley Strawberry Growers Association](#)

[Raspberry Industry Development Council](#)

[B.C. Blueberry Council](#)

- **Raspberries and blackberries:** (Monday, 6/06) Bloom in raspberries is well past 10%. Some rust issues are showing up especially in young fields. Great pollination weather. Marionberries are somewhere around 30% bloom. This past warm weekend brought a lot out. Finally got the plants moving.
- **Blackberries:** (Monday, 6/03) This graph shows degree days accumulated on June 30 each year from 2001 to 2010, when we started Marionberry harvest, and the projected degree days we will accumulate on June 30 of this year (actual through May 31) based on forecasts and historical averages. There are some outliers (2009) but most years line up within reason. If this is correct we will start Marionberry harvest on July 17. Start date is defined as the first day we receive 50,000 pounds at the plant, not the first day of harvest. All weather information is from Salem airport.



Pest Alerts

All Crops - Spotted Wing Drosophila

This past week has seen a slight increase in SWD activity in the Northwest with more traps picking up one or two adults. Most catches are females and associated with wild blackberry borders or cherries. A large majority of monitoring traps had no catches. There are no indications of any need to treat any Northwest berry fields for this pest at this time. SWD Information Websites---

[Peerbolt Crop Management](#) [Oregon State Univ.](#) [B.C. Ministry of Ag.](#) [WSU Westside](#) [WSU Eastside](#)

Raspberries - Yellow Rust

Yellow Rust is now changing spore stages and becoming more visible. It should be evaluated carefully to determine whether or not a fungicide treatment is needed.

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Raspberries - [Twospotted Spider Mites](#)

There are reports of economically damaging levels of mites in the northern raspberry growing areas. Evaluate mites to determine if a miticide application is needed.

Strawberries - [Powdery Mildew](#)

Warm, humid, dry weather with a lot of new growth provide ideal conditions for Powdery Mildew. Unlike most fungal diseases, this one prefers drier, but humid conditions. Susceptibility is cultivar dependent.

Blueberries - [Shock virus](#)

Reports this season indicate a much higher level of shock virus symptoms than usual. In particular, Duke and Liberty varieties have been often mentioned as displaying the symptoms. Affected plants show symptoms for one year and then return to production. The virus is spread through pollen by bees. There are no treatment options other than letting the virus run its course. If plants are suspected of showing symptoms in successive seasons, send in a test to make sure it isn't [Scorch Virus](#).

Blueberries - [Alternaria Fruit Rot](#)

As blueberry bloom starts to finish, it's time to consider whether you need to prevent Alternaria and Anthracnose problems from showing up in the fruit. Alternaria can infect the fruit beginning at the end of bloom and throughout the fruit development stage, up until harvest. Infections remain latent until the fruit ripens. Infected fruits exhibit a shriveling or caving-in of the side of the berry and can become watery in storage.

Blueberries - [Anthracnose Ripe Rot](#)

If you've had problems with Anthracnose, prevention of a reoccurrence needs to begin at petal fall. Symptoms: First, blighting of shoot tips; then, a few flowers turn brown or black. Leaf spots, when they occur, are large or small and roughly circular. As infected berries ripen, the flower end may soften and pucker. Under warm and rainy conditions, salmon-colored spore masses form on infected berries. After harvest, spore masses form rapidly on infected fruit when in cellophane-covered baskets or in plastic clamshell packs.

Pest Management & IPM Information

Diseases

- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Blackberry Rust](#) (Phragmidium Rust): evergreen blackberries.
- [Purple Blotch](#) blackberries.
- [Phytophthora Root Rot](#) raspberries.
- **Risk is high:** [Yellow Rust](#) raspberries. See [alert](#).
- **Prime Time to scout for:** Blueberries - [Mummyberry](#) [Click here](#) for a Mummyberry fact sheet from MSU.

Viruses

- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Aphids/Scorch virus](#) - British Columbia blueberries - vector (aphid) management
From the B.C. Pest Alert: "Blueberry scorch virus is transmitted by aphids. An effective aphid control program should be used by all growers." You can email the B.C. Blueberry Council's research coordinator, [Karina Sakalauskas](#) (or call her at 604-613-2133) for more information

Insects/Mites

- [Raspberry Beetle](#), northern raspberries.
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Twospotted Spider Mites](#), raspberries, strawberries. See [alert](#).
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Azalea Bark Scale](#), blueberries.
- **Prime Time to monitor for with pheromone trap:** [Strawberry Crown Moth](#), southern strawberries.
- **Prime Time to monitor for with pheromone trap:** [Orange Tortrix leafrollers](#), southern raspberries & blackberries.
- [Leafroller larvae](#), blueberries.
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Blueberry Gall Midge](#), blueberries.

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Industry News/Resources

Immigration/Labor

- [Farm owners, workers worry about immigration law's impact on crops](#) (ajc.com, 6/3)
- [Ag industry faces labor woes in immigration debate](#) (Associated Press, 6/4)
- [UC Davis says immigration crackdown would drive up farm costs](#) (fresnobee.com, 6/6)
- [Rising labor costs could trigger changes in produce industry](#) (UC Davis, 6/6)

Newsletters/Blogs

- [B.C. Blueberry IPM Newsletter for June 6](#)
- [New Jersey Blueberry Bulletin](#) (5/31/11)
- Market scope: [blueberries](#) [blackberries](#) [raspberries](#) [strawberries](#)
The week's stories & fresh market pricing for the various berries from The Packer.
- ['The Source'](#) (6/06) *Market updates from The Produce News.*

West

- [Raspberry growers to vote on national referendum](#) (The Bellingham Herald, 6/2)
- [Advent of warm weather means growers starting to pick local strawberries](#) (The Canadian Press, 6/6)

National

- [Blueberry referendum set for July](#) (Growing Produce, 6/7)
- [From Smurfberrries to blueberries: Gourmet Trading Co. teams with upcoming movie "The Smurfs"](#) (PRLog, 5/26)
- [Vanishing of the bees: ask the documentary's directors anything \(live Q&A\)](#) (Huffpost Green, 6/7)

International

- (U.K.) [Raspberry revival: Dry weather leads to bumper crop of soft fruit a fortnight earlier than usual](#) (MailOnline, 6/7)
- [Chile hopes to export blueberries to China](#) (FreshPlaza, 6/6)
- [Organic IQF strawberries produced in Argentina](#) (FreshPlaza, 6/1)
- (Chile) [Protesters march for agricultural reform](#) (FreshFruitPortal, 6/7)

Meeting Information

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

June 14 — WSU Spotted Wing Drosophila & Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Workshop ~ 10am- 12pm for small fruits growers; 1pm- 3pm for home gardeners and small-scale organic farmers. 78th Street Heritage Farm/WSU Clark County Extension at 1919 NE 78th Street in Vancouver, WA. Please [RSVP](#) for either the morning or afternoon session to Todd Murray; 509-427-3931; space is limited. [Click here](#) to read the flyer for more information.

June 14 — WSU Strawberry Field Day ~ 2-4pm. 15403 Bowman Hilton St E, Puyallup, WA 98372. Call 253-445-4525 or email [Pat Moore](#) for more information.

June 15 — North Willamette Research Station Strawberry Open House ~ 1pm. 15210 NE Miley Road, Aurora, OR 97002. Call 503-678-1264 for more information.

June 22-26 — The 10th International Rubus and Ribes Symposium ~ Zlatibor, Serbia. To register and for more information [click here](#) or contact: [Prof. Dr. Mihailo Nikolic](#), Faculty of Agriculture, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia. Phone: (381)63 801 99 23 or contact [Brankica Tanovic](#), Pesticide & Environment Research Inst., Belgrade, Serbia. Phone: (381) 11 31 61 773.

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June 27-29 — 4th Biennial Berry Health Benefits Symposium ~ West Lake Village, CA. Conference focuses on berries and their impact on human health and wellness. Cutting edge research presentations from International scientists in the field. Special one day session for berry industry on how to implement the berry health message into marketing and R & D programs. Visit www.berryhealth.org to learn more or contact Cat McKenzie - catmc@peak.org or call 541-456-2264.

July 6 — North Willamette Research Station Caneberry Open House ~ 1pm. 15210 NE Miley Road, Aurora, OR 97002. Call 503-678-1264 for more information.

July 13 — North Willamette Research Station Blueberry Field Day ~ 1pm. 15210 NE Miley Road, Aurora, OR 97002. Call 503-678-1264 for more information.

July 20 — Raspberry machine harvesting selection evaluation ~ 1-3pm. Sakuma Brothers Farm, Mt. Vernon. Call Pat Moore at 253-445-4525 or Tom Walters at 360-848-6124 for information.

July 20 — Berry Grower Field Day ~ 3-5pm. WSU Mt. Vernon Research Station. Call Pat Moore at 253-445-4525 or Tom Walters at 360-848-6124 for information.

July 21 — Raspberry machine harvesting selection evaluation ~ 11am-1pm. Randy Honcoop's farm in Lynden. Fumigation Field Day to follow. Time TBA. Call Pat Moore at 253-445-4525 or Tom Walters at 360-848-6124 for information.

July 22 — B.C. Berry Field Day 1-4 pm. Contact Chaim Kemppler for more information call 604-853-1551 or 604-819-0175.

July 22 & 23 — "Eat Your Berries!- The Oregon Berry Festival" ~ 11am- 6pm. Portland, OR. Ecotrust Building, 721 NW 9th Ave (NW 10th & Johnson). Taste and buy some of the season's best berries and also sample amazing products made with Oregon's berry bounty. [Click here](#) for details.

Summer Field days

Oregon State – OSU North Willamette Research Station

15210 NE Miley Road, Aurora, OR 97002. Call 503-678-1264 for more information.

- **June 15 — Strawberry Open House** ~ 1pm.
- **July 6 — Caneberry Open House** ~ 1pm.
- **July 13 — Blueberry Field Day** ~ 1pm.

Washington State – Mt. Vernon

Call Pat Moore at 253-445-4525 or Tom Walters at 360-848-6124 for information.

- **June 14 — WSU Strawberry Field Day** ~ 2-4pm.
- **July 20 — Raspberry machine harvesting selection evaluation**~ 1-3pm at Sakuma Brothers Farm, Mt. Vernon.
- **July 20 — Berry Grower Field Day**~3-5pm at the WSU Mt. Vernon Research Station.
- **July 21 — Raspberry machine harvesting selection evaluation**~ 11am-1pm at Randy Honcoop's farm in Lynden.
- **July 21 — Fumigation field day** following the mechanical harvest trial at Randy's ~ Lynden location TBA.

British Columbia

- **July 22 — B.C. Berry Field Day** ~ 1-4pm. Contact Chaim Kemppler for more information or call 604-853-1551 or 604-819-0175.

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Crop work

All crops

- Scout for voles and treat as needed.
- Weed management.
- Fertilizer program.

Blueberries

- Scout for Winter Moth/Spanworm and treat as needed.
- Scout for leafroller larvae feeding.
- Stay on top of aphid management where Scorch virus transmission is an issue.
- Scout for virus symptoms and send in samples for testing as needed.
- Scout for weevil notching.
- Can apply fungicides for fruit/blossom rot from 10% bloom through the end of bloom.
- After petal fall, can treat for alternaria and anthracnose prevention if needed.
- Scout for scale insects.

Blackberries

- Scout for Purple Blotch and treat as needed.
- Burn back primocanes as needed.
- Can put out pheromone trap to monitor for leafrollers.
- Scout for virus symptoms & send in samples for testing as needed.
- Bring in bees around 10% bloom.
- Can apply fungicides for fruit/blossom rot from 10% bloom through the end of bloom.

Raspberries

- Burn back primocanes as needed.
- (northern areas) Scout for Clay Colored Weevil feeding and treat as needed.
- Scout for Cane Blight and Cane Botrytis symptoms.
- Scout for virus symptoms & send in samples for testing as needed.
- Can apply a phosphite material for stronger root growth and root rot prevention.
- Scout for Yellow Rust and assess treatment options.
- Scout for spider mites and treat as needed.
- Bring in bees around 10% bloom.
- Can put out pheromone trap to monitor for leafrollers.
- Can apply fungicides for fruit/blossom rot from 10% bloom through the end of bloom.

Strawberries

- Watch for weak growing areas and check plants for weevil larvae, root rot and/or cold damage.
- Scout for weevil adults and notching.
- (Southern strawberries) Scout for Strawberry Crown Moth larvae & put out pheromone monitoring traps.
- From 10% bloom on, can apply a fungicide for fruit/blossom rot.
- Can apply a phosphite material for stronger root growth and root rot prevention.
- Can apply slug bait.
- Scout for Powdery Mildew and treat as needed.
- Scout for Two Spotted Spider Mites and predatory, beneficial mites.
- Scout for aphids and treat as needed

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Archived Small Fruit Updates

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

[05-31-11](#)

[05-24-11](#)

[05-18-11](#)