

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 22, 2011

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Featured Video: [Georgia Blueberry Harvest](#)

posted on May 9th

Featured Video: [OSU Extension 100 years of service](#)

They've done a lot of people a lot of good

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

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

Last Chance: Notice for U.S. Processed Raspberry Growers

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

Ballots are out & need to be returned by 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.

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

- **Blueberries:** (Tuesday, 6/21) Bloom is pretty much done for all varieties now. Green fruit is filling fast along with a strong vegetative growth surge. You can really see the difference in the early fruit fill in fields where an abundance of bees were supplied. Fast and even sizing through the clusters with 3-5 good hives per acre. This is most evident in Bluecrop and Duke. Early pollination environment was not great for these cultivars (especially Duke) but early size difference now is very evident where bees did the job. Some leafrollers causing problems in clusters and aphid numbers really starting to climb.

- **Raspberries:** (Tuesday, 6/21) We're into the second bloom fungicide applications. Growers should watch the mite levels. Weekend rain (over half inch) precluded the necessity for irrigation. But it was getting close.

Northern Washington, Whatcom County

- **Raspberries:** (Saturday, 6/18) Yellow Rust is under control for now. Mites are still on the march. It hasn't been warm enough for the miticides to give us a real good kill.
- **Blueberries:** (Saturday, 6/18) Fruit is sizing up pretty good. We've got a few aphids on the tips and a few worms in the clusters. Growers late starting to pull the bees out since the bloom very close to over. As mentioned in past weeks--lots of Shock, mostly in Duke and Bluecrop.
- **Strawberries:** (Saturday, 6/18) Birds are getting into the row ends and finding a few ripe Hoods. The rest of the field is very green yet. It'll probably be June 28 or so before we start picking up here. We've got lots of weak areas caused by weevils still showing up. No SWD.

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](#)

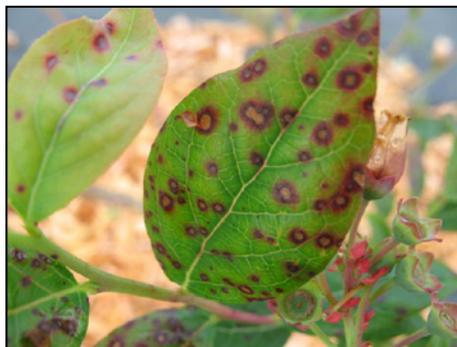
Willamette Valley, Oregon and SW Washington

- **Blueberries:** (Tuesday, 6/21) At Salem, we saw first blue in Duke on 6/20. Aphid pressure is still moderate. SWD traps having been catching a few females....and a very few males. Highest SWD counts are coming from traps set in a nearby hazelnut orchard.....hmmm? A leaf spot disease showed up in young Liberty but older Liberty were not affected.

Click on an image below to see a larger view.



First blue in Duke 6/20



Leaf spot disease in young Liberty plants

All Photos by Jeff Flake



Green berry botrytis on 6/20...the problem is mostly confined to Duke and Draper

- **Blackberries:** (Tuesday, 6/21) Early green fruit on Silvan and Black Diamond blackberries look good, with very few signs of [dry cell syndrome](#). Aphids are present in high numbers in some Silvan blackberry fields, but they do not appear to be moving onto Marions, even when these two varieties are next to each other. Fortunately, good populations of ladybird beetles in some of those Silvan fields.
- **Strawberries:** (Tuesday, 6/21) We're actually starting to pick fruit and get the crews into the strawberry fields this! week! Amazing how late this season is. In two of our recent warmer years (2006 & 2007) we started picking a month sooner than this year and were ending at just about the time we're starting in 2011. There's some small fruit out there, just hasn't sized up. Also a big difference between Totem and Tillamook in that the Tillamook fields look much better. Although some of those vigorous fields might not pick until...July?

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Classifieds

I've tried running classifieds like this in the past without much response. If this is a service you'd like to see in the Update, let me know! If you've got something to list, send it along. Even just one or two positive responses would be enough for me to give this another try. Email me by clicking [here](#). T.P.

- **1986-87 BEI over the row full size rotary harvester.** Customized to new style BEI with all fruit going up to top deck of picker. Can fill either Tote boxes or flats. Aluminum Littau picking heads with 3/8" fiberglass rods. Korvan catcher plates, Cummins engine with 3,411 hrs, all hydraulic motors. 2 new tires plus many spare parts. Asking \$30,000; email craigduyck@yahoo.com for pics or questions.

Spotted Wing Drosophila Update for 6-21-11

This Update is a collaborative effort with contributions from OSU, USDA-ARS, WSU, and Peerbolt Crop Management.
SWD Information Websites

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

We've got one full season's experience with this insect. That's a big help. However, it isn't enough to take anything for granted. We've got a lot yet to learn.

Some important points to keep in mind:

- ***Our first and foremost goal remains minimizing crop losses for the industry in 2011.***
- This monitoring program is still a work in progress.
- While continuing to collect monitoring data, researchers are exploring various trap baiting materials, various trap height placements, and various trap field densities to improve our ability to monitor SWD, and better predict economic crop thresholds, and treatment types, and timing.
- While we've got one full season's experience with SWD, this is still another learning year for all of us—researchers, extension agents, growers, and industry consultants. There's a lot we just don't know yet.
- Growers are encouraged to be conservative, pro-active, and responsible in making their management decisions.
- We're anticipating increased pressure on the crops as the fly moves into later generations in increasing numbers. Last year this build up began about mid-July. This year...probably the same, maybe a little later with the cooler season.
- Trials are ongoing on management material efficacy and residual length for both conventional and organic cropping systems.

Regional Monitoring Comments

Central and northern Willamette Valley and Southwest Washington

- Trap counts remain low with slight increases over the last week.
- In comparing sites, trap counts are lower than at the same time in 2010.
- We're picking up about three times as many females as males.
- Cherries that haven't been treated with an insecticide remain the sites with the most catches.
- Occasional catches have also come in border areas, a couple in strawberry fields and a couple in blueberry fields. Most traps (~95%) have no catches.
- With strawberries now being harvested and blueberries starting to color, we have begun some field sampling of fruit for the presence of larvae using inundation of the fruit in a salt solution to draw out the larvae. This is a pilot program testing the efficacy/ease of use of this protocol in the field.
- No fruit contamination has been detected.

New Resources

- **B.C. introduces a new seasonal SWD monitoring report.** [Click here](#) to view the 6/2 report .
- **New WSU Eastside SWD monitoring charting system being tested:** [Click here](#). *It only has the 2010 data available right now but it's a pretty neat reporting system. The best I've seen.*

SWD in the news

- [Tiny fly can cause big trouble for Oregon's farms and gardens](#) (6/20, The Register-Guard)
- [Tiny fly causes big trouble for Ore. crops](#) (6/18, Westport News)
- [Spotted winged fruit fly worries northwest fruit farmers](#) (6/20, KUOW.org) *Eastern Washington story.*

Pest Alerts

Strawberries – Weevils - [Black Vine](#), [Rough Strawberry](#), and [Strawberry Root Weevils](#).

In southern strawberry fields, adult weevils past the stage when they begin to lay eggs (about 30 days after emergence). To minimize next year's larval population, they need to be killed ASAP.

Raspberries – [Two-spotted Spider Mites](#)

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

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.

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Pest Management & IPM Information

Diseases

- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Blackberry Rust](#) (Phragmidium Rust): evergreen blackberries. *There are infections now becoming visible in some Evergreen blackberry fields. Growers should evaluate their fields to see if a fungicide application is needed.*
- [Stamen Blight](#) Blackberries. *We're finding more incidences of Stamen Blight in both trailing and upright blackberries than usual. This disease deforms the stamens of the blossoms leading to crumbly, poorly formed fruit.*
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Powdery Mildew](#) strawberries. *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.*
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Yellow Rust](#) raspberries *Yellow Rust continues to be a major issue in many of the region's raspberry fields. It should be evaluated carefully to determine whether or not a fungicide treatment is needed.*
- [Purple Blotch](#) blackberries.
- [Phytophthora Root Rot](#) raspberries.
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Mummyberry](#), blueberries. [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
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Shock Virus](#), blueberries *Reports this season indicate a much higher level of Shock Virus symptoms than usual. If plants are suspected of showing symptoms in successive seasons, send in a test to make sure it isn't [Scorch Virus](#).*
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus](#), Marion blackberries. The telltale yellow chevron-shaped leaves are becoming apparent along with the yellow squiggly leaf patterns of the more common (and innocuous) [Calico Virus](#).

Insects/Mites

- [Raspberry Beetle](#), northern raspberries.
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Twospotted Spider Mites](#), raspberries, strawberries. See [alert](#).
- [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.
- **Prime Time to monitor for with pheromone trap:** [Obliquebanded Leafrollers](#) in [Blueberries](#), [Raspberries](#), [Blackberries](#).
- [Leafroller larvae](#), blueberries, caneberries.
- **Prime Time to scout for:** [Blueberry Gall Midge](#), blueberries.

Industry News/Resources

Newsletters/Blogs

- [B.C. Blueberry IPM Newsletter for June 17](#)
- [Michigan Blueberry Newsletter for June 21](#)
- [New Jersey Blueberry Bulletin](#) (6/13/11)
- Market scope: [blueberries](#) [blackberries](#) [raspberries](#) [strawberries](#)
Recent stories & fresh market pricing for the various berries from The Packer.
- [‘The Source’](#) (6/20) *Market updates from The Produce News.*

Immigration/Labor

- [Mandatory E-Verify bill introduced](#) (6/15, The Packer)

West

- [Profits prove a tough crop to grow for B.C.’s conventional farmers](#) (6/13, Vancouver Sun)
- [Oregon berries finally arriving on shelves](#) (6/20, OPB News)
- [Berries finally here after cold, wet spring in Whatcom County](#) (6/19, The Bellingham Herald)
- (B.C.) [Strawberry pickings remain slim-Unusually cold and wet spring weather has delayed berry ripening by weeks](#) (6/20, The Province)
- (CA) [Valley heat wave has some farmers concerned](#) (6/22, FreshPlaza)
- [OSU Extension offers free advice online](#) (6/14, Gazette Times)
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National

- [Naturipe to promote berries on popular morning show](#) (6/17, Produce News)
- [Surprising Benefits of Blueberries](#) (6/15, AOL Healthy Living)

International

- [Chile’s venture capitalists opt for agro-innovation](#) (6/17, FreshFruitPortal)
- Eastern Canada: [Strawberries a bit late, but yields look good](#) (6/10, Fresh Plaza)
- Australia: [Raspberries take on a new colour](#) (6/17, Fresh Plaza)

Meeting Information

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

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.

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. [Click here](#) for the agenda and other information.

July 13 — North Willamette Research Station Blueberry Field Day ~ 1pm. 15210 NE Miley Road, Aurora, OR 97002. [Click here](#) for the agenda and other information.

July 20 — Raspberry Machine Harvesting Selection Evaluation ~ 1-3pm. Sakuma Brothers Farm, Mt. Vernon, WA. 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, WA. 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, WA. 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 Kempler](#) for more information: 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.

- **July 6 — Caneberry Open House** ~ 1pm. [Click here](#) for the agenda and other information.
- **July 13 — Blueberry Field Day** ~ 1pm. [Click here](#) for the agenda and other information.

Washington State – Mt. Vernon

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

- **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 Kempler](#) for more information or call 604-853-1551 or 604-819-0175.

Crop work

All crops

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

Blueberries

- Fertilizer applications: *OSU recommended timing for split applications in the Willamette Valley is 1/3 in late April, 1/3 in mid-May and 1/3 in mid-June.* [Click here For OSU's "Nutrient Management in Blueberries" \(16 page pdf\).](#)
- 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 weevils and weevil notching.
- Can apply fungicides for fruit/blossom rot from through the end of bloom.
- After petal fall, can treat for Alternaria and Anthracnose prevention if needed.
- Scout for scale insects.

Blackberries

- Can put out pheromone trap to monitor for leafrollers.
- Scout for leafroller larvae and treat as needed to prevent fruit contaminant problems.
- Scout for Phragmidium Rust in Evergreen blackberries.
- Scout for Stamen Blight symptoms on blooms.
- Scout for virus symptoms & send in samples for testing as needed.
- Can apply fungicides for fruit/blossom rot through the end of bloom.
- Scout for Cane and Leaf Rust.

Raspberries

- 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.
- Can put out pheromone trap to monitor for leafrollers.
- Scout for leafroller larvae.
- Can apply fungicides for fruit/blossom rot through the end of bloom.
- Can apply clean up insecticide just before harvest for crop contaminant management.

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.
- Can apply a fungicide for fruit/blossom rot through the end of bloom.
- 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.
- Scout for fruit formation issues like cat-facing.
- Scout for fruit quality issues such as mold.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.

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Archived Small Fruit Updates

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

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[06-07-11](#)

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