

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.

October 22, 2011

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Featured Articles:

- [Blueberry production south of the border](#) (10/14, Carlos Garcia-Salazar, MSU Extension)
- [Jensen Farms packing operation fatally flawed](#) (10/20, Food Safety News) *Details on the cantaloupe/Listeria situation*
- [Jensen Farms passed audit before deadly outbreak](#) (10/20, The Packer) *They passed a Primus audit—96 out of 100 points*

[The Weather Cafe](#) by Rufus La Lone/ [Small Fruit Cold Storage](#)

The Lynden Ag Show & Washington Small Fruit Conference

December 8-9, Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden

- This is the first year for this event.
- It combines a trade show along with two days of seminars organized by WSU Whatcom County Extension for berry growers.
- [Click here](#) for Ag Show details.
- [Click here](#) for Vendor/Sponsor opportunities.
- [Click here](#) for Small Fruit Conference information.
- The [Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#) and the [Washington Blueberry Commission](#) will be having their annual meetings in conjunction with this event.

Video of the Week: "[I Wanna be an Entomologist so Freakin' Bad](#)" (9/16, ESA Website) *I just couldn't leave this out.*

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.

Willamette Valley, Oregon and SW Washington

- **Blueberries:** (Monday, October 17) Salem - It feels wrong but we are spraying for SWD today. The Aurora variety continues to pump out beautiful fruit and we continue to protect it. Can anyone tell me when 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](#)

National

[North American Blueberry Council](#)

shuts down egg laying? It appears that in this late season, we will leave several tons/a of green Aurora berries on the bush. Hand pick labor is now fully involved in wine grape and conifer bough harvest keeping blueberry picking crews small. Despite the cool start to the year, yields appear to be up across most varieties and quality (sans Elliott) up as well. We just finished our fall phosphite application and are preparing to apply fall herbicides. Much trellising is planned for this winter to help keep fruit off of the ground next summer.

- **Blackberries:** (Friday, October 14) We got done with evergreens October 5, given the late start thought we would be going well into the month. Yields were below average but quality was great. Guys are getting some fall spraying done with this break, finishing up training and cutting down this year canes. Plenty of fishing and hunting going on too.

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Event Calendar

For more comprehensive event calendar, [click here](#).

- **October 26 — Washington Blueberry Commission meeting** ~ Regular commission meeting in Lynden. Contact [Alan Schreiber](#) 509-266-4300 for more information.
- **October 26 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission meeting** ~ Lynden, WA. Contact [Henry Bierlink](#) or call 360-354-8767 for more information.
- **RESCHEDULED to November 22 October 27 — Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission meeting** ~ Noon, Langdon Farms. Call 541-758-4043 or [email](#) Philip Gutt for more information.
- **November 8 — Oregon Blueberry Commission meeting** ~ 12pm. Santiam Room, West Salem Roth's IGA Salem, Oregon. Call (503) 364-2944 for more information or [email](#) Brian Ostlund.
- **November 15 — Phosphorus Management Seminar (Berry/Vegetable Production)**, Lower Mainland Hort. Improvement Assn. ~10-3:30 Ramada Inn Langley [Click here](#) for details
- **December 1-2 — Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research Annual Conference**, Portland, OR. [Click here](#) for details.

Grant Opportunities

- **Washington Red Raspberry Commission.** [Click here](#) for the Request for Proposals & Priorities. Deadline is November 14, 2011.
- **Oregon Blueberry Commission.** [Click here](#) for details. Deadline is December 1, 2011
- **Washington State Commission for Pesticide Registrations.** [Click here](#) for details. Deadline is November 13.

2011 plant sale totals

Thanks to Dr. Pat Moore, WSU raspberry and strawberry breeder, for compiling these figures. And thanks to the participating nurseries for sharing this information (Cedar Valley Nursery, Norcal Nursery, North American Plants, Northwest Plant Co., Nourse Farms, & Spooner Farms)

[Raspberries](#)----[Blackberries](#)----[Black Raspberries](#)----[Strawberries](#)

Chemical Pest Management Material Update

From OSU Pesticide Specialist, Joe DeFrancesco:

- **“Clarifications on the cancellation of Pristine & Cabrio labels for blueberries:** Retailer distributors have 18 months to sell product they have on hand; however, supplies are limited and they will probably run out prior to that time. Since the tolerances for boscalid and pyraclostrobin will not be cancelled by EPA, growers can still use product they have on hand as long as the package labeling lists blueberries.”
- [Click here](#) for the announcement from the manufacturer.

Classifieds

- **BBC Tech Color Sorta** for sale. Originally purchased in 2002, works great. Richard Anderson, Mount Vernon, WA (360) 391-3279, rick@soundpensionadvisors.com

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Industry News/Resources

Newsletters

- [Michigan State Fruit News](#) (10/19)
- Market scope: [blueberries](#) [blackberries](#) [raspberries](#) [strawberries](#)
Recent stories & fresh market pricing for the various berries from The Packer.
- [‘The Source’](#) (10/19) *Market updates from The Produce News.*
- [The Bluespaper for October](#), US Highbush Blueberry Council
- [Small Fruit News for October](#) from the Southern Small Fruit Consortium

Food Safety

- [FDA reveals details of foreign farm inspections](#) (10/11, The Packer)
- [Recent outbreaks underscore traceability’s importance](#) (10/11, The Packer)

Labor/Immigration

- [It’s what they asked for](#) (10/19, New York Times editorial) *“Alabama’s new anti-immigrant law, the nation’s harshest, went into effect last month), and it is already reaping a bitter harvest of dislocation and fear. Hispanic homes are emptying, businesses are closing, employers are wondering where their workers have gone. Parents who have not yet figured out where to go are lying low and keeping children home from school.”*

International

- [Dole takes over SunnyRidge](#) (10/11, The Packer)
- (Serbia) [Raspberry farmers hold protest in Belgrade](#) (10/8, B92)
- [Congress OKs 3 trade deals](#) (10/12, Politico)

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Crop work

All crops

- Weed management.
- Apply lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer.
- Scout for vole damage.

Blueberries post harvest

- Can apply copper or Bordeaux for bacterial canker.
- Prune out canker-killed branches and remove them from the field.
- Scout for weevils and weevil notching.

Caneberries post harvest

- Can cut out old floricanes now and tie up primocanes.
- Scout and mark problem weed areas that could be treated in the winter.
- Can subsoil and till in raspberries after harvest. The soil fractures much better when it is dry so it's best to do this before the fall rains start.
- For fields coming out this year, can basally spray with Roundup if perennial weeds are present.
- Can apply Ridomil for root rot control.
- Can apply copper or Bordeaux after tying up canes.
- Can drench for borer control.

Strawberries post harvest

- Can apply fertilizer.
- Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, Strawberry Crown Moth, root disease or soil problems.
- Scout for weevil notching on leaves.
- Can apply drench for weevil larvae management.

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Archived Small Fruit Updates

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

[09-13-11](#)

[08-31-11](#)

[08-23-11](#)