

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.

January 10, 2012

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Featured article: [Organic Agriculture May be Outgrowing Its Ideals](#)
(12/30, New York Times)

Featured video: [Discovery Channel report on "Fresh Results Blueberry operations"](#) (5/12, YouTube)

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

Regional Report

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.

Northern Washington, Whatcom County

Berries: (Friday, January 6) Wet and windy up here, raspberry and blueberry pruning well under way. Copper sprays following the pruning as weather allows. Vacations and meetings filling the voids.

Caneberry workshop scheduled during the Northwest Ag Show

Wednesday, January 25, the Portland Expo building, Room D 202-203.

We did this last year for the first time and it was pretty successful, so...we're taking advantage of the many exhibitors at the show by having some address berry needs directly along with some of our public researchers and growers. Free with show ticket.

2 pesticide credits applied for. The agenda:

- 8-8:50 AM **Harvester Developments** for the 2012 season
- 8:50-9:40 AM **Spotted Wing Drosophila spray management trial results**
 - § Denny Bruck, USDA, Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research
 - § Jeff Flake, Pan American Berry Growers
- 9:40-10 AM Break
- 10-10:50 AM **Sprayer Technology for Small Fruits:** Manufacturer Updates
- 10:50-11:40 AM **Pesticides in Caneberry Production:** Supplier Updates & review of label changes
 - § Joe DeFrancesco, Oregon State University

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](#)

- § Michelle Armstrong, Wilbur-Ellis
- § Tom Peerbolt, Peerbolt Crop Management

Event Calendar

- For more comprehensive event calendar, [click here](#).
- **January 12—North Willamette Hort Society Berry Day** ~ Clackamas County Fairgrounds, Canby, OR. [Click here](#) for the agenda and registration information.
- **New listing: January 12—Washington Blueberry Commission** ~ 10 AM, WSU Mt. Vernon Research and Extension Center, Mt Vernon, WA. Contact [Alan Schreiber](#) 509-266-4300 for information.
- **January 16-18—North American Raspberry & Blackberry Conference**~ Kalahari Resort, Sandusky, OH. Educational sessions and two workshops. Held in conjunction with the Ohio Produce Growers & Marketers Congress, with a large trade show and multiple tracks of educational sessions. For more information, visit www.raspberryblackberry.com, email
- **January 18—Oregon Strawberry Commission meeting** ~ Noon, Roth's West, 1130 Wallace Rd NW, Salem. [Click here for the Agenda](#). For more information, call 541-758-4043 or [email Philip Gutt](#).
- **January 24—Oregon Horticulture Society Blueberry Seminar**~ Portland Expo Center (held in conjunction with the Northwest Ag Show). [Agenda](#).
- **New listing: January 25—Oregon Horticulture Society Raspberry & Blackberry Seminar** ~8-noon, Portland Expo Center (held in conjunction with the Northwest Ag Show). *See agenda above*.
- **January 25—Washington Red Raspberry Commission meeting** ~ Lynden, WA. Contact [Henry Bierlink](#) or call 360-354-8767 for more information.
- **January 26 – 28—Pacific Agriculture Show & Horticulture Growers' Short Course** ~ Tradex Exhibition Center (Abbotsford Airport), Abbotsford, BC. [Click here](#) for the agenda and registration information.
- **February 18-22—International Strawberry Symposium** ~ Beijing, China. These International Society for Horticultural Science crop specific meetings are held every 3-5 years. [Click here](#) for details.
- **March 6—Oregon Blueberry Commission meeting** ~ 8am- research updates, 10:30am- committee meetings, 12pm- Commission meeting, location TBA. Call (503) 364-2944 for more information or [email Brian Ostlund](#).
- **New listing: February 15-16—Washington Farm Labor Association 8th Annual Labor Conference** ~ Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA. [Click here for details](#).

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Crop Production Factsheet

- [Using Gypsum in Fruit Production](#) (Michigan State Extension)

Industry News/Resources

Newsletters

- [Michigan State Fruit News](#) (1/5)
- Market scope: [blueberries](#) [blackberries](#) [raspberries](#) [strawberries](#)
Recent stories & fresh market pricing for the various berries from The Packer.
- [‘The Source’](#) (1/4) *Market updates from The Produce News.*

Food Safety

- [Report damns ‘significant weaknesses’ in FDA food safety oversight](#) (12/15, FoodProductionDaily.com)

Labor/Immigration

- [Senate raises bipartisan objections to new farm labor regulations](#) (12/23, The New American)
- [Growing problem: Tough immigration laws tough on harvests](#) (1/2, Supermarket News)

Health

- [Two top nutritionists recommend blueberries](#) (1/2, FreshPlaza)

West

- [AgWeatherNet December Weather Review for Washington](#) *“December of 2011 was one of the driest Decembers on record...”*

- [California Strawberry Commission launches recipe blog](#) (1/6, FreshPlaza) [Click here](#) for the blog.

National

- [Florida strawberry crop in high demand](#) (12/23, The Packer)
- [Asian pest \(SWD\) lands in Maine, worries berry growers](#) (1/7, Boston.com)
- [Strawberry growers embrace Winterstar, a sweet newcomer](#) (12/28, Tampa Bay Times)
- [Catch the worldwide blueberry wave](#) (January, Fruit Grower News) *Report on Mark Villata's talk at the Great Lakes EXPO in Michigan*

International

- [Argentina's blueberry hotspot closing with increased volumes](#) (1/2, FreshFruitPortal.com)
- [Blueberries from Chile : Season Projections for 2011/2012](#) (10/2011, FreshFruitPortal)
- Chile: [Vital Berry hopes to beat record exports to China](#) (12/19, FreshPlaza)
- U.K.: [White strawberries & purple potatoes trends for next year's gardeners](#) (12/27, The Telegraph)

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Archived Small Fruit Updates

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

[12-15-11](#)

[11-16-11](#)

[10-22-11](#)