

# 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 and industry through their commissions and councils.

September 17, 2014

Week 38

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[Video of a new research project looking at the benefits of removing old raspberry root material in the management of soilborne diseases](#) (9/15, WSU extension) A companion article is in the September edition of [Whatcom Ag Monthly](#).

[WSU's Small Fruit Horticulture Website](#) WSU's new Small Fruit Horticulturist, [Lisa Waskco DeVetter](#), is in the process of updating/revising the site. Give her some feedback on what you think!

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

## Calendar Items of Note

For complete calendar, [go here](#)

- **September 18 — Willamette Valley Grower/Fieldman Meeting** ~ Free event. 8 - 10 am North Willamette Research and Extension station, Aurora. Topic: Season review/market conditions. Dave Dunn from Willamette Valley Fruit Company will be joining us. For more information call (503-289-7287) or [email](#) Peerbolt Crop Management.
- **Newly Scheduled: October 21 & 22 — Washington Commissions' Research Review Meeting** ~ The WSU Mt Vernon Center. The Washington Blueberry Commission (21<sup>st</sup>) and the Washington Red Raspberry Commission (22<sup>nd</sup>) will be holding research review meetings. Anyone with an existing project with either Commission or wishing to make a proposal should attend. For more information contact [Henry Bierlink](#) (WRRRC Exec) or [Alan Schreiber](#) (WBC Exec)
- **Newly Scheduled: October 22 & 23 — Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research--Work Session Summit for the Centers of Excellence Grant Proposal** ~ Monarch Hotel, Portland (Clackamas). Wine Reception: October 22 @ 6:00; Work Session: October 23 @ 8:00 am-2:30 pm; [Click here](#) for all the details. Hotel and Travel Support funds available for OSU and WSU participants

### 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](#)

- **December 4-5 — WSU Small Fruit Conference & Lynden Ag Show** ~ [Go here](#) for full agenda and registration information.
- **New Posting: January 27— Oregon Blueberry Conference** ~ 8 am - 8 pm (tentative), Red Lion on the River - Jantzen Beach, Portland. For those interested in sponsorships, contact the Commission office: Oregon Blueberry Commission 503.364.2944 or [email](#). Agenda and online registration will be forthcoming.
- **New Posting: March 16-17— OSU Blueberry School** ~ From [Dr. Bernadine Strik](#): "Please put our two-day "OSU Blueberry School" on peoples radar screen. The course will be focused on blueberry production on the east and west sides and target PNW issues. More info to follow."

## Washington Red Raspberry Commission [Request for Proposals & Research Priority List](#)

November 17 is the deadline for proposal submissions. The WRRC has traditionally always had the earliest submission dates compared to the rest of the Northwest berry commissions and councils.



Hillsboro, OR grower, Will Unger & USDA plant breeder, Chad Finn looking at farm trials of new black raspberry (blackcap) selections

## 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:** (Friday, 9/12) Elliotts are still being harvested with perhaps another 7-10 days to go. Expected warm weather may speed things up. SWD pressure is very high. Some Bluecrop fields have been walked away from. Even when insecticide applications were being done every 3-4 days fields were lost to infestations. Post harvest activities are happening -- protectant sprays going on; fall soil amendments (lime, gypsum) are going on; and foliar fertilizers are being applied for improving next year's bud set.
- **Blueberries/raspberries:** (Monday, 9/15) Getting close to a wrap up here for blues in Fraser Valley. Some 3rd and 4th pick Elliotts happening but volumes are low and sort outs are high at packer. Probably another week to get it done. I have a grower that will start to pick Aurora at the end of this week. Conditions have been excellent to bring this crop on but the SWD numbers scare the heck out of me. Looking forward to a little moisture by week's end as it is incredibly dry and hot (30-32C, 86-90F) yesterday and today. Raspberry primocanes look a bit crispy in places, even with irrigation.

### Western Oregon, Willamette Valley

- **Blackberries:** (Monday, 9/15) We finished evergreens last Thursday, September 11. Earliest we have finished in the last 15 years, usually it is at least the end of September and into the first week in October.

The heat just dried them up this year. Yields were still good but not up to the potential that was out there. SWD pressure is immense, just go look at a patch of wild blackberries, can't get close without breathing them in. In another week I will test the evergreens just to see what is out there, they will not have been sprayed for a couple weeks.

## Information on Emerging Potential Pest -Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

- From [Dr. Bernadine Strik](#) (Friday, 9/12): "At the OSU North Willamette Research & Extension Station in Aurora we are picking Prime- Ark 45 along with some other late blackberries such as Chester Thornless. We have Brown Marmorated Stink Bug in our PrimeArk45 and they are doing damage. I'd appreciate knowing if others are seeing this new insect pest in their late blackberries."



Above: BMSB damage in Prime-Ark45 blackberries (Photo by Amanda Vance on 9/3/14)  
Below: BSMB adults on Prime-Ark45 blackberries (Photo by Bernadine Strik on 8/26/14)



## Industry news/resources

### Newsletters/ berry reports

- [British Columbia Berry Grower Magazine](#) Quarterly. The fall issue is now posted online. Articles include raspberry industry review, berry research updates and the potential uses of drones in the future.
- [BC Blueberry IPM Newsletter](#) (9/14) Weekly by [ES Croppconsult](#). Sponsored by the BC Blueberry Council.
- [Whatcom Ag Monthly](#) Produced by WSU Whatcom County Extension. Includes excellent berry crop information.
- [National Berry Report](#) Daily fresh market berry reports. Hosted by the California Strawberry Commission, this report is generated from data from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service and is updated daily.
- [The Source](#) (9/15) marketing news from The Produce News.
- [Weekly Market Report](#) (9/15) from General Produce Company

### Magazine/website compilations

- **The Packer:** [blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).  
Recent stories and fresh market pricing for the various berries from The Packer.
- **Growing Produce:** [recent berry articles](#).
- **Fresh Fruit Portal:** [blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).

Recent stories for the various berries from Fresh Fruit Portal.

### Berry research blogs

- [Strawberries and Caneberries](#) by Mark Bolda, UC Davis Berry Extension Agent. *Reports on recent insect and disease research and observations in California.*
- [Team Rubus](#) by Gina Fernandez, North Carolina State Small Fruit Specialist. **Recent entry (9/9): Evaluation of raspberries for tunnel and field production in North Carolina** *Reports on issues in blackberries and raspberries from the Southeast.*

### Climate/Water

- [Forecasters still anticipate weak El Nino](#) (9/8, Capital Press)

### Regulatory Agencies

- [Dept. of Labor fights return of 'hot goods' fines](#) (9/10, Capital Press)

### Labor/Immigration

- [Labor battle, Sakuma enlists history, immigration reform](#) (9/10, Capital Press)

### Market Research

- [Added menu offering open up opportunities for blueberries](#) (9/12, The Packer)

### Market

- [Blueberry prices up as domestic deals wind down](#) (9/4, The Packer)

### Technology

- [Video interview with Wilbur-Ellis's Matt Wilson about AgVerdict software](#) (9/9, Precision Ag)

### Variety Development

- Spain: [Imara, a new raspberry variety with maximum earliness](#) (9/15, Fresh Plaza)

### Research

- [Study tracks shipping temperatures for berries, other produce](#) (9/11, The Packer)
- [Farmers, researchers testing microbials](#) (9/12, Capital Press)

### Pest Management

- [EPA approves new methyl bromide alternative](#) (9/12, Capital Press)
- [Specialty crop and minor-use pesticide prioritization set for 2015 by IR-4](#) (9/12, MSU Extension)
- Michigan: [Michigan spotted wing Drosophila 2014 summary report](#) (9/11, MSU Extension)

### International

- China/Mexico: [Mexican officials to visit China to speed up berry export protocol](#) (9/16, Fresh Fruit Portal)
- Chile: [Profits blossom for Hortifrut in 2013-14](#) (9/15, Fresh Fruit Portal)
- Poland: [Polish blueberries--slide show](#) (Fresh Fruit Portal)
- North Korea: [North Korea blueberry producers enjoy bountiful harvest](#) (9/9, Fresh Fruit Portal)
- Australia: [New multi-million blueberry farm in Queensland has difficult start](#) (9/12, Fresh Plaza)
- Italy: [White strawberry jam – an idea for those allergic to red strawberries](#) (9/12, Fresh Plaza)

Stories from *The Packer* on Argentinean blueberries all posted on 9/12:

- [Look for early start for Argentina blueberry deal](#)
- [Argentinean blueberries business updates](#)
- [DHL sets record for charters](#)
- [Naturipe's Rocio variety going to Argentina](#)



## Event calendar

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- **September 18 — Willamette Valley Grower/Fieldman Meeting** ~ Free event. 8-10 am North Willamette Research and Extension station, Aurora. Topic: Season review/market conditions. For more information call (503-289-7287) or [email](#) Peerbolt Crop Management.
- **September 18 — Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission** ~ 6 pm. At Langdon Farms Golf Club. [The agenda](#). Call 541-758-4043 or [email Phillip Gutt](#) for more information.
- **September 23 — Oregon Blueberry Commission** ~ 12 pm, at Chemeketa Events at Winema, Building 48, Room 210. Contact Bryan Ostlund for more information at 503-364-2944 or [by email](#).
- **September 24 — Oregon Strawberry Commission** ~ At Langdon Farms Golf Club. Call 541-758-4043 or [email Phillip Gutt](#) for more information.
- **October 1 — North American Blueberry Council (NABC) 2014 Fall Meeting**. Rosemont, Illinois, Hyatt Rosemont Hotel. The USHBC will hold meetings at the same hotel on Oct 1-3. [Registration form](#) and more information. [Tentative schedule](#).
- **Newly Scheduled: October 21 — Washington Commissions' Research Review Meeting** ~ The WSU Mt Vernon Center. The Washington Blueberry Commission and the Washington Red Raspberry Commission will hold a joint research review meeting. Anyone with an existing project with either Commission in 2014 or wishing to make a proposal in 2015 should attend this meeting. For more information contact [Henry Bierlink](#) (WRRC Exec or [Alan Schreiber](#) (WBC Exec)
- **October 29 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission** ~ Board meeting in Lynden. [Contact Henry Bierlink](#) for more information.
- **November 11 — Oregon Blueberry Commission** ~ 12 pm, at Chemeketa Events at Winema, Building 48, Room 210. Contact Bryan Ostlund for more information at 503-364-2944 or [by email](#).
- **November 16 — 19 Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting** at the Oregon Convention Center, downtown Portland.
- **November 17-18 — National Processed Raspberry Council** ~ Seattle Airport Marriott, Seattle, WA. For more information, contact Tom Krugman, 360-354-0948.
- **November 19 — Oregon Strawberry Commission workshop** "Fresh market strawberries: What it takes to be successful." 8am-7pm, lunch and dinner provided. Admittance is free. Woodburn, OR. More details to follow. Contact Lora Liegel by phone (503-289-7287) or [email](#) for more info.
- **December 3 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission** ~ Annual Meeting in Lynden in the evening. [Contact Henry Bierlink](#) for more information.
- **December 4-5 — WSU Small Fruit Conference & Lynden Ag Show** ~ [Go here](#) for full agenda and registration information.
- **January 6, 2015 — Oregon Blueberry Commission** ~ Research updates 7:30-11:30am; Committee meetings 11:30am-12:30pm; Regular Commission meeting 12:30pm. At Chemeketa Events at Winema, Building 48, Room 210. Contact Bryan Ostlund for more information at 503-364-2944 or [by email](#).
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## Archived Small Fruit Updates

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

[36-SFU09-04-14](#) [35-SFU08-27-14](#) [34-SFU08-20-14](#)