

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.

January 20, 2015

Week 4

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- Oregon: [Low Western Oregon snowpack may impact summer irrigation](#) (1/12, Capital Press)
- Washington: [Low snowpack a worry in Washington](#) (1/9, Capital Press)
- U.S.: [Forecasts show drought continuing in California, Southwest](#) (1/16, Capital Press)

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

Hugh Daubeny, Northwest Berry Breeder
(December 6, 1931 — January 2, 2015)

To quote Hugh's obituary:

"He is ...survived by his berries, most notably the Totem Strawberry and the Tulameen Raspberry, which has become the standard for quality in raspberry production throughout the world...His career in the Research Branch of Agriculture Canada spanned nearly 40 years, first in Agassiz and later in Vancouver and Abbotsford, where he developed improved strawberry and raspberry cultivars that have had international success."

[Go here](#) for his full obituary.

I didn't personally know Dr. Daubeny, but I along with the rest of the Northwest berry industry have greatly benefitted from his labors.

Here are a few online reminders of the role he played in our industry for so many years:

- 1973: [B.C. berries best in world?](#) (Chilliwack Progress)
- 2004: [B.C.'s Best Berries](#) (BC Living)
- 2014: [Cultivated Berries](#) (The Canadian Encyclopedia)

Tom Peerbolt, SFU Editor

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

[B.C. Strawberry Growers Association](#)
[Raspberry Industry Development Council](#)
[B.C. Blueberry Council](#)

National

[North American Blueberry Council](#)



New Meeting Information

- **Free but space limited so please RSVP: February 18 — ORBC & industry sponsored Production Raspberry & Blackberry Workshop** ~ 8:30-3:30, [Woodburn Health Center](#) (formerly Wellspring Conference Center), 1475 Mt. Hood Ave., Woodburn. Two Pesticide Credits. Thanks to our industry sponsors, it is a free event but you need to RSVP since space and lunch are limited. [Go here for the draft agenda](#). Contact Peerbolt Crop Management by [email](#) or phone 503-289-7287 to RSVP.
- **North Willamette Hort Society Berry Day presentations** —Held last week on January 15th in Woodburn, The slide presentations have been posted. [Go here](#). They include:
 - 'New pest management products and registration update for berry crops' (Joe DeFrancesco)
 - 'Major and minor diseases of strawberry in California' (Steven Koike)
 - 'Weed management in berry crops' (Tim Miller)
 - 'SWD research update in berry crops' (Vaughn Walton)
 - 'Berry cultivar update' (Chad Finn)
 - 'Drip irrigation of raspberries in heavy soils' (Dave Bryla)
 - 'The latest in wage and hour regulations' (Manny Lopez)

Raspberry, Blackberry and Strawberry Plant Propagators--Update

Some changes to note for 2015 from one of our major Commercial Propagators

- [Sakuma Brothers](#) will not be supplying tissue culture plants for the 2015 season.
- They will still produce and sell [NORCAL Nursery](#) strawberry plants and field grown raspberry plants
- They are partnering with [US Berry Plants](#) (A separate business) to deal with small orders (see below).

With those changes in mind, here's a list of our major commercial plant suppliers:

Major Northwest Berry Plant Suppliers

- [Sakuma Brothers](#), Mt. Vernon, WA / [NORCAL Nursery](#), Red Bluff, CA
*Suppliers of raspberry root stock plants.
NORCAL Nursery also is a major commercial supplier of both June bearing and Day-neutral strawberries.*
- [US Berry Plants](#)
Option for smaller quantities: If you need smaller quantities of plants (meaning around an acre or less), **US Berry Plants** ships in quantities as small as 10. US Berry Plants recently assumed this role from Sakuma Brothers. Carol Rowe, Sales Representative, 360-969-9145. carolr@usberryplants.com
- [North American Plants, Inc.](#), McMinnville, OR
Suppliers of blackberry, raspberry and blueberry tissue culture plants. Along with regular commercial orders for named cultivars, they can supply a limited number of plants of many of the advanced selections for on-farm trials on request.
- [Northwest Plant Company](#), Lynden, WA

Suppliers of raspberry tissue culture and root stock plants and blackberry tissue culture plants. Along with regular commercial orders for named cultivars, they can supply a limited number of plants of many of the advanced selections for testing purposes on request.

- [Lassen Canyon Nursery](#), Manteca, CA
Suppliers of raspberry and blackberry tissue culture and root stock plants. Along with regular commercial orders for named cultivars, they can supply a limited number of plants of many of the advanced selections for on-farm trials on request.
Lassen Canyon Nursery also is a major commercial supplier of both June bearing and Day-neutral strawberries.

Other Nursery Sources of Named Cultivars

- [Nourse Farms](#)
Suppliers of all berries. Nourse Farms, based in Massachusetts but also has operations in Washington State. They have a very extensive availability list with many fresh market caneberry cultivars available from small to very large numbers.
- [Spooner Farms](#), Puyallup, WA
Suppliers of wholesale raspberry and strawberry root stock plants.



Upcoming Regional Events

[Go here for Full Event Calendar](#)

- **New Posting: January 21, 2015 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission** ~ 1-5, 1796 Front Street, Lynden, [Go here](#) for the agenda and information packet. Call 360-354-8767 or [email Henry Bierlink](#) for more information.
- **January 21, 2015 — Oregon Strawberry Commission** ~ 12pm at Jake's Deli, 1208 SW Baker St., in McMinnville. [Go here](#) for the agenda. Call 541-758-4043 or [email Philip Gutt](#) for more information.
- **January 27, 2015 — Oregon Blueberry Conference** ~ Red Lion Hotel at Jantzen Beach, Portland. [Go here](#) for the program and registration links.
- **January 29-31 — Horticulture Growers Short Course at the Pacific Agriculture Show**, Tradex, Abbotsford, BC. [Go here](#) for the agenda. [Go here](#) for registration and show information.
- **New Posting: February 11 — NW Center for Alternatives to Pesticides Blueberry Workshop** ~ at the WSU Mt Vernon Research Station, 9-4, [Go here](#) for the agenda and registration details. *Topics include organic management options for mummyberry, SWD and weeds.*
- **February 18 — 9th Annual ORBC Production Workshop for Commercial Raspberry and Blackberry Growers** ~ at the Wellspring Conference Center in the Silverton Health Building, 1475 Mt. Hood Ave., Woodburn, OR. [Go here for the draft agenda](#). For more information, call the Peerbolt Crop Management office (503)289-7287 or [email Lora Liegel](#).
- **March 16-17 — OSU Blueberry School** ~ LaSells Stuart Center, Corvallis. [Go here](#) for the event website. This a great event brought back after a few years “by popular demand”. It brings together a whole lot of

expertise on northwest blueberries and is for both new and experienced growers. They're also in need of industry sponsors to cover expenses. [Go here](#) for sponsorship information.

Upcoming National Berry Events

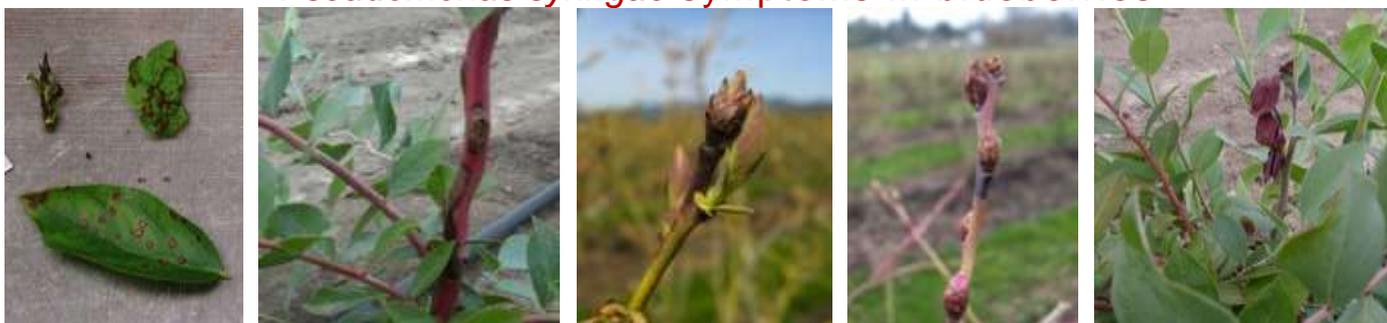
- **February 3-6 — NASGA Conference** ~ At the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Ventura, CA. [Click here](#) for details.
- **February 24-27 — North American Raspberry & Blackberry Association Annual Conference** ~ Fayetteville, Arkansas. Includes tour of U Arkansas blackberry breeding research (Dr. John R. Clark). For more information, contact info@raspberryblackberry.com or visit www.raspberryblackberry.com.
- **February 24-27 — North American Blueberry Council and the US Highbush Blueberry Council Spring Meetings** ~ Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. [Go here](#) for the Feb 24 optional tour info; [go here](#) for the meeting schedule; [go here](#) for the registration form.

Pest Management

Bacterial Blight (*Pseudomonas syringae*), blueberries.

- [Click here](#) for a PCM Research Update on bacterial blight first posted on 1/3/13.

Pseudomonas syringae symptoms in blueberries



Photos are from Joyce Loper's & Virginia Stockwell's power point presentation of their work on this disease

- Late January and February can bring warm spells that can cause blueberry buds to start swelling.
- These swelling buds are vulnerable to infection by the ever present bacteria, *Pseudomonas syringae*, especially during warm, wet weather.
- Once infected, those buds are vulnerable to subsequent freeze damage at a higher temperature than buds that aren't infected.
- If warm, wet weather is predicted, applications of copper can help prevent *Pseudomonas* infections
- **Caution:** Many strains of this bacteria are resistant to copper compounds. Avoid over applying to help minimize resistance.

Starling management

- Right now starlings are starting to think about fledging (*you know they are...*). Population control becomes very difficult once that starts because they multiply rapidly. This is a major pest species that needs year round management attention.
 - [Click here](#) for a starling fact sheet.
 - [Click here](#) for a starling nesting fact sheet.

If they're thinking about fledging, you need to think about managing them.



Industry news/resources

Newsletters/ berry reports

- [Small Fruit News for January](#) from the Southeast U.S. extension consortium 25 page newsletter with a lot of relevant information on berry production in the SE U.S.
- [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.

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](#).
- **Fruitnet-Eurofruit:** [recent berry articles](#).
Recent stories for the various berries from Fresh Fruit Portal.

Berry research blogs

- [Strawberries and Caneberries](#) by Mark Bolda, UC Davis Berry Extension Agent. **Recent entry (1/16): Blueberry School Offered at Oregon State & 2015 Annual Strawberry Production Research Meeting on February 20** Reports on recent insect and disease research and observations in California.
- [Team Rubus](#) by Gina Fernandez, North Carolina State Small Fruit Specialist. **Recent entry (1/9): Winter Injury Talk Savannah, GA Part 2** Reports on issues in blackberries and raspberries from the Southeast.

Climate/Water

- California: [Survey: More Sierra snow, less water equivalent](#) (12/30, Western Farm Press)
- U.S.: [Relatively dry week ushers in few Drought Monitor changes](#) (1/15, Western Farmer-Stockman)

Regulatory Agencies

- [FDA to begin implementing food safety rules](#) (1/12, Capital Press)

Labor

- [Presidential order likely to hurt agriculture](#) (1/8, Capital Press)
- [Use of H-2A workers to increase despite wage hike](#) (1/8, Capital Press)

Marketing

- [Local claims are rising star as sun sets on organic claims](#) (1/14, Food Navigator)

Technology

- [BBC introduces small fruit filling machine](#) (1/13, The Packer)
- [Effort to boost high-speed internet access in rural areas](#) (1/15, Ag Professional)
- [First ag drone company garners FAA approval](#) (1/7, Precision Ag)

Intellectual Property

- [Court upholds California grape commission patents](#) (1/9, Fresno Bee)

Research/Plant Breeding

- [California strawberry commission awarded more than \\$1 million to reduce fumigation](#) (1/14, Growing Produce)
- [Small Fruit News for January](#) from the Southeast U.S. extension consortium 25 page newsletter with a lot of relevant information on berry production in the SE U.S.
 - Information on the recent strawberry cultivar released from the University of Florida: 'Sensation (Florida 127)'.
 - An in-depth report from the University of Georgia Southern Highbush Blueberry program (pg 11-16).

The West

- California: [Strawberry farmers dream of Chinese market](#) (1/14, Politico)
- Oregon: [Northwest Ag Show grows in the rain](#) (1/14, Capital Press)
- Oregon: [OSU Blueberry School set for March 16-17](#) (1/8, Capital Press)

North America

- [Growers try their hand at next wave of berry crops](#) (1/2, Growing Produce)
- [What you need to know about Aronia, Goji & Saskatoon berries](#) (1/2, Growing Produce)
- Georgia: [Southeast show focuses on food safety, sustainability](#) (1/13, The Packer)
- Florida: [Florida starts strawberry shipments a week late](#) (1/6, The Packer)
- Florida: [Florida strawberry season starts strong](#) (1/14, The Ledger)

- Nova Scotia: [Bumper blueberry crop with yields growing by 50%](#) (1/12, Halifax Herald)

International

- [Dollar strength may be exerting fresh pressure on commodities](#) (1/15, Ag Professional)

Mexico

- [Mexican \(strawberry\) production poses stiff competition for Florida growers](#) (12/24, The Packer)
- [Low temperatures, loss of blackberries](#) (1/12, Fresh Plaza)
- [Jalisco exports over 90% of berry production](#) (1/8, Fresh Plaza)

Chile

- [Promising future for Chilean blueberries in China](#) (12/19, Fresh Plaza)

Europe

- [“Good balance between blueberry production and consumption growth”](#) (1/16, Fresh Plaza)
- Poland: [Launch of new berry processing plant](#) (1/13, Fresh Plaza)

Peru

- [Fruit exports grew 800% over 11 years](#) (1/16, Fresh Plaza)

Other

- Australia: [Blueberry demand outstrips supply](#) (1/15, Fresh Plaza)



Archived Small Fruit Updates

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

[02-SFU01-06-15](#)

[49-SFU12-01-14](#)

[47-SFU11-18-14](#)