

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.

October 28, 2015

Week 44

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- [Agrobot automates the work of strawberry harvesting](#) (4/23, WSJ Video)
- [Mexico, after the storm—berry crop report](#) (10/26, Fresh Fruit Portal)
- US: [Light supplies of imported blueberries](#) (10/27, Fresh Plaza)

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

Berry industry events happening in the next two weeks

- **November 3 - Washington Blueberry Industry Research Review** ~ Starts at 9, [WSU Research & Extension Center](#), Mt. Vernon. **Information:** aschreib@centurytel.net/509-266-4300. *Pesticide Recertification Credits. "Covering all research funded by the Washington Blueberry Commission. A lot of relevant, useful information. All growers, their staff and members of the allied industry are encouraged to attend." Lunch provided.*
- **November 4 – Washington Raspberry Industry Research Squatable** ~ 10-4, Homestead Farms, 106 Homestead Blvd, Lynden. **RSVP to** info@red-raspberry.org/360-354-8767 **Go here** for the flyer. *"This is your opportunity to reflect on the 2016 research priorities established by the WA. Red Raspberry Commission and work towards connecting growers and researchers in the most effective projects possible. Raspberry growers and key employees are strongly encouraged to attend."*
- **New Posting: November 13—BC Blueberry Commission Fall Grower Meeting** ~ 2:30-4:30 at Krause

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](#)

Berry Farms, Langley. [Go here](#) for details. Contact: info@bcblueberry.com /604-864-2117.

- **New Posting: November 13—Mark Sweeney Retirement BBQ** ~ 5:00-7:00 at Krause Berry Farms, Langley. [Go here](#) for the details RSVP by Nov. 5 to info@bcblueberry.com /604-864-2117.

From Chris Benedict, OSU Extension, Whatcom County: "To register for the **Washington Small Fruit Conference** in Lynden (Dec. 2-4) go to this site: <http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/edu/sfc/>. The special Friday sessions are filling fast."



Regional reports

British Columbia, Fraser Valley (Friday, 10/23)

- **All berries:** Most blueberry fields have blown out irrigation lines. Some pruning has begun in smaller fields. A lot of things such as trellising, mulching, soil amendments has been done with the dry weather. Fall fungicides have been applied in many fields. Bushes have colored nicely for the most part but some are still mostly green.

Northern Washington (Monday, 10/26)

- **All berries:** Even without a hard frost, blueberries are shutting down fairly well. Many raspberries are pruned and tied already. Where the water and fertility are good there's lots of fall growth for next year. Late weeds were (are?) a bigger problem than normal. New plantings, by in large, look really good. I still think new plantings are too strong to Duke. Maybe just me....

NW Berry Commission Requests for Research Proposals

• Washington Red Raspberry Commission

- [Go here](#) for the Request for Proposals & Research Priority List
- **December 15** - *Deadline for Final Reports for 2015 projects & for submission to WRRRC for 2016 proposals. (If you send your proposals through WSU, check with them on the deadline.)*

• Washington Blueberry Commission

- [Go here](#) for the Request for Proposals & Research Priority List
- **December 1** - *Deadline for submission to WBC for 2016 proposals.*

• Oregon Blueberry Commission

- [Go here](#) for the Request for Proposals & Research Priority List
- **December 1 (10 am)** - *Deadline for submission to WBC for 2016 proposals.*

• Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission

- [Go here](#) for the Request for Proposals & Research Priority List.
- **January 4** - *Deadline for submission to ORBC for 2016 proposals.*

Photo by Tom Peerbolt

Commission News

- [Oregon Blueberry Commission Fall Update](#) *Good articles on the 2015 blueberry crop, Oregon blueberry exports, Weed management.*
- [Oregon Strawberry Commission's Fresh Market Strawberry Bulletin](#) (10/22) *Information on Charcoal Rot, a very serious disease recovered from a northwest field for the first time.*

Industry news/resources

Newsletters/ berry reports

- [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.*
- [Market Report from General Produce for Week 43](#) (10/26)
- [USDA Market News \(Fruits & Vegetables\)](#)

Magazine/website compilations

- **The Packer:** [blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).
- **Growing Produce:** [recent berry articles](#).
- **Andnowyouknow.com:** [blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).
- **Fruitnet-Eurofruit:** [recent berry articles](#).
- **Fresh Fruit Portal:** [blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).

Berry research blogs

- [Strawberries and Caneberries](#) by Mark Bolda, UC Davis Berry Extension Agent. **Recent Entry: (10/13) Is Anthracnose a Concern on Strawberry in Fall 2015?** *Reports on recent insect and disease research and observations in California.*
- [Team Rubus](#) by Gina Fernandez, North Carolina State Small Fruit Specialist. **Recent Entry: (9/29) Lots and lots of rain! Caneberries beware!** *Reports on issues in blackberries and raspberries from the Southeast.*

Food Safety

- [Learning to 'bridge the GAPs' for small and mid-sized farms](#) (10/26, Food Safety News)

Marketing

- [Companies honored by PMA for packaging contributions](#) (10/25, Fruit Grower News)
- [Driscoll's announces now "Taste a New Tradition" raspberry campaign for the holidays](#) (10/22, andnowyouknow.com)

Technology

- [U.S. Government seeking required drone user registry](#) (10/19, Growing Produce)

Genetics/Breeding

- [Breeding techniques will improve in the search for superior traits](#) (10/21, Fruit Grower News)
- [New plant breeding techniques: Innovation breakthrough or GMOs in disguise?](#) (10/26, Ag Professional)

West

- Oregon: [Specialty crop grants will aid diverse Oregon producers](#) (10/20, Capital Press)

North America

- [North American Raspberry and Blackberry Conference scheduled for March 2-4](#) (9/17, Fruit Grower News)

International

- Argentina: [Wish Farms see impressive Argentinean growth and demand](#) (10/23, Andnowyouknow.com)

- Chile: [El Nino slows start of Chilean blueberry campaign](#) (10/23, Fresh Fruit Portal)
- Chile: [Chile about to expand on Taiwanese blueberry market](#) (10/26, Fresh Plaza)
- Peru: [Blueberry exports will increase by 100% next year](#) (10/16, Fresh Plaza)



Grower Resources

- [Fall weed control in established fruit crops](#) (10/20, MSU Extension)

Events [Go here for Full Event Calendar](#)

Regional Commission/Council meeting schedules

- **October 28 — Oregon Strawberry Commission** ~ Research Meeting 11, Regular meeting noon, McMenamins Restaurant - 310 NE Evans St, McMinnville. [Go here](#) for the agenda
- **October 28 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission** ~ Lynden, WA. Contact: henry@red-raspberry.org
- **November 5 — Washington Blueberry Commission** ~ 11 am at the WSDA building, 21 N. 1st Ave., Room 238, Yakima. Contact: 509-266-4300 or heather@centurytel.net.
- **November 10 — Oregon Blueberry Commission** ~ noon at the Chemeketa Events at Winema, Building 48, Room 210, Salem. Contact: jenny@ostlund.com
- **December 2—Washington Red Raspberry Commission** ~ at the [Washington Small Fruit Conference](#), Lynden, WA. Contact: henry@red-raspberry.org. [Go here](#) for the details
- **December 16 — Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission Annual meeting** ~ Wellspring Medical Center, Woodburn. Details TBA Contact: berries@oregon-berries.com
- **January 12 — Oregon Blueberry Commission** ~ noon at the Chemeketa Events at Winema, Building 48, Room 210, Salem. Contact: jenny@ostlund.com (research updates 7:30-11:30 am; committee mtngs 11:30am-12:30pm; Commission mtng 12:30pm)

Regional Berry Events

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- **New Posting: November 13—Mark Sweeney Retirement BBQ** ~ 5:00-7:00 at Krause Berry Farms, Langley. [Go here](#) for the details RSVP by Nov. 5 to info@bcblueberry.com /604-864-2117.
- **December 1 — Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research Conference** ~ at the Monarch Hotel, Portland. [Go here](#) for details. Contact: berries@oregon-berries.com
- **December 2-4 — Washington Small Fruit Conference** ~ at the NW Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA. [Go here](#) for more information and to register.

- **New Posting: January 11-12 — PNW Pest Management Meetings 75th Annual Pacific Northwest Insect Management Conference** ~ At the Hilton Hotel, 921 SW 6th Ave, Portland, OR 97204. Proceedings from the previous years can be viewed [here](#). Details to follow.
- **New Posting: January 12 — Washington Blueberry Workshop** ~ at Central Washington University (Sue Lombard Hall), Ellensburg. WSU Extension & the Washington Blueberry Commission, [Go here](#) for the details & registration links. Information: [Lisa Devetter](#); 360-848-6124.
- **New Posting: January 14 — North Willamette Horticulture Society Berry Day** ~ Clackamas County Event Center, Canby, OR. Details TBA
- **January 25 — Oregon Blueberry Conference** ~ at the Red Lion on the River, Jantzen Beach, Portland. Email Contact: jenny@ostlund.com
- **Change of Date: March 9— 11th Annual Production Workshop for Commercial Raspberry & Blackberry Growers** ~ Wellspring Conference Center, 1475 Mt. Hood Ave., Woodburn. Details TBA.

National & International Berry Events

- **November 2-3 — National Processed Raspberry Council** ~ Seattle Airport Marriott. Contact Tom Krugman, 360-354-0948, tkrugman@redrazz.org.
- **March 2-4 — 2016 North American Raspberry & Blackberry Conference** ~ Williamsburg, Virginia. [Go here](#) for all the details.

Fall crop work/pest management activities

It looks like an early fall. Keep these tasks in mind. Timing will depend on weather and plant stage.

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 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.
- Can apply drench for [weevil larvae](#) management.

Archived Small Fruit Updates

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

[42-SFU10-16-15](#)

[40-SFU09-29-15](#)

[37-SFU09-09-15](#)