



# SMALL FRUIT UPDATE

December 21, 2016 / Week 51

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## THE WEATHER CAFE

Rufus La Lone's uniquely informative long-range, Pacific Northwest forecasts.



## COLD STORAGE REPORTS

Cold storage trends compiled from the USDA-NASS Monthly Cold Storage Reports by Rufus La Lone.



The 76th Annual Pacific Northwest Insect Management Conference is coming up, and you're encouraged to attend.



## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS:

- **USHBC—Fresh & Frozen Blueberry sales 2011-2015** This is an 80 page PDF of a power point presentation. Besides blueberries its got a lot of overall berry sales information including caneberries and strawberries.
- **SWD proves formidable fruit foe** (12/12, Fruit Grower News)
- Washington State: **Blueberries in production surge in state, county** (12/14, Lynden Tribune)
- **Radical change is coming to grocery business as Amazon, Walmart, Lidl and Alsi get aggressive** (12/8, Forbes)
- **Hottest new food safety treatment, cold plasma, can kill 99.9% norovirus on blueberries** (12/7, Food Safety News)
- **Will major food regulations disappear under the new administration?** (12/16, Food Dive)
  - o Associated link: **House Freedom Caucus list of regulations recommended for elimination** (12/15, Breitbart)

## SPONSORS

[Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#)  
[Washington Blueberry Commission](#)  
[Washington Strawberry Commission](#)  
[Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission](#)  
[Oregon Blueberry Commission](#)  
[Oregon Strawberry Commission](#)  
[B.C. Strawberry Growers Association](#)  
[Raspberry Industry Development Council](#)  
[B.C. Blueberry Council](#)  
[North American Blueberry Council](#)

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 **The Northwest Berry Foundation** and is funded entirely by the Northwest berry growers and industry through their commissions and councils.



## EDITOR'S NOTE

Tom Peerbolt, SFU Editor

This year reminds me of the supposedly Chinese traditional curse, "May you live in interesting times." Enough of interesting I think a lot of us would opt for peace, predictability and stability. Don't see anyone forecasting that for the near future. Still, providing people with ever increasing supplies of great quality, healthy food is something worth doing. No one ever said farming (or supporting farmers with supplies, knowledge and research) was going to be easy.

Thanks to all of you for the work of this past year. In spite of all the obstacles, the berries just seem to get better and better.

Best wishes to all,  
Tom Peerbolt, SFU Editor

**Farm machinery videos: Latest Smart Agricultural Equipment part 46** (12/13, Youtube) This is for equipment geeks. This guy posts a lot of videos of equipment being used in all kinds of crops. Some amazing stuff.

### Upcoming Pacific Northwest Insect Management Conference:

- 10 am to 4:30 pm January 9th, and 8:30 am to 4:30 pm January 10th in Portland, OR.
- The meeting covers insect/arthropod pest research in field, row, vegetable, seed, small fruit and other crops in the Pacific Northwest and Intermountain West. This is not a "spray" meeting only; reports dealing with biological control, IPM, info-chemicals, etc., are encouraged.
- Meeting registration (on site) begins at 9 am on Monday, January 9, 2017.
- Pesticide license recertification credits will not be offered.
- Registration: \$50 (\$10 for students); We encourage you to register online with a credit card ahead of meeting [here](#), or check or cash only if in person.
- The Northwest Berry Foundation now provides support for this long-running annual meeting. This is the 76th year. All are welcome!

## GROWER RESOURCES

- **Fall Creek Nursery 2017 Variety Showcase (Slideshow)** (12/5, Growing Produce)
- **EPA's worker protection manual revised** (12/12, Fruit Growers News)
- Michigan State Extension new Factsheet available for SWD management in Organic Small Fruit Production. **Go Here.**

## NW BERRY COMMISSION REQUESTS FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

- **Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission**
  - **Go here** for the Request for Proposals & Research Priority List.
  - January 6, 2017 - Deadline for submission to ORBC for 2017 proposals.
- **Oregon Strawberry Commission**
  - **Go here** for the Research Priority List and the Request for Proposals
  - January 6, 2017 - Deadline for submission to OSC for 2017 proposals.

## BERRY INDUSTRY CALENDAR



If you'd like to add a meeting or event to the calendar, contact the [Northwest Berry Foundation office](#) at 503-285-0908. Company events are listed in purple.

**January 9 — Oregon Blueberry Commission Research Updates/**Commission meeting. Chemeketa Events at Winema, Building 48, Room 210&B. Contact [Lisa Ostlund](#) for details.

**January 9-10 — Pacific Northwest Insect Management Conference** Hilton Hotel, Portland, OR. Contact the [Northwest Berry Foundation](#) at 503-285-0908 for more details.

**January 10-12— North Willamette Horticulture Society Meetings-** Canby, OR. [Go here](#) for program and registration information.

**January 13 — Oregon Strawberry Commission** noon-3 p.m. at McMinnamin's Hotel Oregon. Contact [Philip Gutt](#) for more details.

**January 16 — Blueberry Conference All day**, Salem Convention Center, Salem. [Go here](#) to register and see the program [here](#). Contact [Lisa Ostlund](#) for details.

**January 17 — OVS Grower Conference Berry Meeting** Salem Convention Center, Salem, OR. [Go here](#) to download the agenda and register online or contact [Lisa Gossett](#) for more information.

**January 18 — Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission Meeting** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Hayden's Lakefront Grill in Tualatin, OR. Salem. Contact [Philip Gutt](#) for more information.

**January 26-28 — Pacific Agriculture Show / Horticulture Growers' Short Course**, Tradex, Abbotsford, B.C. [Visit their website](#) for more information. See the agenda [here](#).

**February 15 — Oregon Strawberry Commission Annual Grower's Meeting**, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at North Willamette Research & Extension Center in Aurora, OR. Contact [Philip Gutt](#) for more details.

**February 16-17— On-farm Food Safety Trainings for Oregon Produce Farmers-** Mid-scale produce farms at NWREC, Aurora on Feb. 16. Small-scale diversified produce farms at Food Innovation Center in Portland. [Go here](#) for program and registration information.

**March 1 — North American Blueberry Council Spring Meeting and Dinner** at the Crowne Plaza Phoenix Airport Hotel in Phoenix, AZ. Hotel Room Reservation information [is here](#). Please make your room reservation directly with the hotel. The cut-off date is January 28, 2017.

**March 1-3 — U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council Spring Meeting** at the Crowne Plaza Phoenix Airport Hotel in Phoenix, AZ. Hotel Room Reservation information [is here](#). Please make your room reservation directly with the hotel. The cut-off date is January 28, 2017.

**March 8 — The Northwest Berry Foundation's Annual Blackberry & Raspberry Production Workshop** Woodburn, OR. For more information, contact [Jo Peterson](#) or call the NBF office at 503-285-0908

**March 13 — Oregon Strawberry Commission** 6 p.m.- 9 p.m. at McMinnamin's Hotel Oregon. Contact [Philip Gutt](#) for more details.

**March 21 — Oregon Blueberry Commission** Noon (Budget preparation) Chemeketa Events at Winema, Building 48, Room 210. Contact [Lisa Ostlund](#) for details.

**March 28-30 — Berry Health Benefits Symposium 2017.** Pismo Beach, CA. Register and get info [here](#).

**April 25 — Oregon Blueberry Commission** Noon (Budget hearing) Chemeketa Events at Winema, Building 48, Room 210. Contact [Lisa Ostlund](#) for details.

**May 4 — Oregon Strawberry Commission** 6 p.m.- 9 p.m. at McMinnamin's Hotel Oregon. Contact [Philip Gutt](#) for more details.

## CLIMATE/WATER

- Washington State: [Winter outlook turns colder, wetter](#) (12/19, Capital Press)
- Oregon: [Audit faults water resources dept. data collection, analysis](#) (12/15, Capital Press)
- [California storm moves from soggy north to bone-dry south](#) (12/16, Capital Press)
- California: [Latest compromise drought relief bill receives praise, opposition](#) (12/7, Capital Press)
- California: [Western growers applaud passage of water bill into law](#) (12/20, Fresh Fruit Portal)

## PESTICIDES

- [Pesticide residues practically nil according to annual USDA survey](#) (12/13, Growing Produce)

## LABOR

- California: [Wage laws will prompt farmers to cut laborers' hours, survey finds](#) (12/8, Capital Press)

## TECHNOLOGY

- [Organic edible coating can quintuple the shelf life of fruit](#) (12/14, Grub Street)
- [Robotic strawberry picker gets \\$1 million funding from the National Science Foundation](#) (12/13, Fruit Grower News)
- [Sonar Bot used to predict produce yield](#) (12/8, Andnowyouknow.com)

## ORGANICS

- [Managing SWD in organic small fruit](#) (12/13, MSU Extension)
- [\\$3.8 million awarded for research in support of organic farmers](#) (12/12, Fruit Grower News)

## MARKETING/PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

- [Chilean dried berry company diversifies product line to expand horizons](#) (12/20, Fresh Fruit Portal)  
[Go here](#) for associated photo gallery.
  - [IQF fruits & vegetables market is expected to generate huge profits -- 2015-2025](#) (12/8, SAT Press Releases)
  - [Retailers' produce standards defined \(opinion\)](#) (12/15, The Packer)
  - [Commercially grown strawberries are not genetically engineered](#) (12/16, Fresh Plaza)
- Associated factsheet: [DNA, Technology, and Florida Strawberries](#)

## BERRY RESEARCH BLOGS

### **NEW RESOURCE: [USDA Specialty Crops Newsletter for November](#)**

#### **[Strawberries and Caneberries](#)**

by Mark Bolda, UC Davis Berry Extension Agent. Reports on issues from California. *Recent Entry: (10/19) Chill hours accumulated this year and what to make of them*

#### **[Team rubus](#)**

By Gina Fernandez, North Carolina State Small Fruit Specialist. Reports on issues in blackberries and raspberries from the Southeast. *Recent Entry: (10/13) Blackberry and raspberry seasonal checklist fall 2016*

#### **[Blackberry and Raspberry Information Resources from NC State Extension](#)**

## NEWSLETTERS & BERRY REPORTS

### **[WhatCom AG Monthly](#)**

Produced by WSU Whatcom County Extension. Excellent berry information.

### **[National Berry Report](#)**

Daily fresh market berry reports generated from data from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service. Hosted by the California Strawberry Commission.

### **[Weekly Market Report from General Produce](#)**

### **[Weekly Chilean Blueberry Committee Crop & Exports report](#)**

### **[USDA Market News \(Fruits & Vegetables\)](#)**

## MAGAZINE/ WEBSITE COMPILATIONS

**FRUIT GROWER NEWS:** [blueberries](#), [raspberries](#) and [blackberries](#)

**FRESH PLAZA:** [fruit](#)

**THE PACKER:** [blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).

**GROWING PRODUCE:** [recent berry articles](#).

**FRUIT GROWER NEWS:** [blueberries](#), [raspberries](#) & [blackberries](#)

**ANDNOWYOUKNOW.COM:**

[blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).

**FRESH FRUIT PORTAL:** [blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).

# Industry news/resources

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## COMPANIES

- **Blueberry breeding and nursery company names manager of its US breeding program** (12/2, Fresh Plaza) Fall Creek Nursery has named Dr. Paul Sandefur.
- **Primus to award Hortifrut Mexico best average for quality, safety audits** (12/15, Fresh Fruit Portal)
- **Monsanto shareholders approve Bayer deal** (12/13, Fresh Fruit Portal)
- **Camposol to open Chinese office** (12/16, Fresh Fruit Portal)

## NORTH AMERICA

- Michigan: **blueberry producers to vote on research, education program** (12/8, Fruit Grower News)

## THE WEST

- Oregon: **Oregon senate confirms Taylor as head of ODA** (12/14, Capital Press)

## TRADE

- **U.S. produce industry has 'benefited substantially' from globalization, say expert** (12/7, Fresh Fruit Portal)
- Washington State: **Farmers rely on overseas customers to buy crops, boost prices** (12/15, Capital Press)
- **How global standards impact food, beverage processors** (12/13, Refrigerated & Frozen Foods)
- **Why the US and Europe are lobbying against China's latest food safety legislation** (12/13, Food Dive)
- Chile/China: **First imported blueberry charter flight lands at Hefei City** (12/16, Fresh Plaza)
- **Map of largest trading partners in the world** (12/13, Fresh Plaza)
- **"We have found the way to export blueberries to Dubai in optimum conditions"** (12/16, Fresh Plaza)

## INTERNATIONAL

- South America: **South American blueberry industry entering peak harvest season** (12/16, Fresh Plaza)
- China: **Peruvian blueberries debut at gourmet tasting party** (12/16, Fresh Plaza)
- Peru: **Camposol to close the year with 15,000 tons of blueberry sown** (12/20, Fresh Plaza)



ARCHIVES

[SFU 45: 11-09-16](#)

[SFU 47: 11-23-15](#)

[SFU 49: 12-7-16](#)

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