

Small Fruit Update

Industry News Highlights

Week 39 / September 28, 2017



Small Fruit Update is on its fall/winter publication schedule. This means the full newsletter is only published every other week. However, even on "off" weeks when we don't send you a link to a new issue on our website, we'll still keep you up-to-date on industry happenings with a compilation of news and resources:

Featured Meetings:

Oct. 4 - 5: Washington Raspberry Research Review Meeting (Oct. 4) & Washington Blueberry Research Review Meeting (Oct. 5): both events 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at WSU Mt Vernon Research & Extension Center, 16650 WA-536, Mt Vernon, WA 98273. [Go here](#) for the raspberry research review agenda. [Go here](#) for the blueberry research review agenda. Pesticide credits are expected to be provided at both meetings. Lunch is also provided. For more information on these meetings, contact [Alan Schreiber](#) at [509 266 4300](tel:5092664300).

Remote viewing sites available at: WSU Clark County, Heritage Farm Admin. Building, 1919 NE 78th St. Vancouver, WA 98665 **and** WSU Prosser Research and Extension Center. PLEASE RSVP if you plan on attending: justin.odea@wsu.edu or [845-943-9808](tel:8459439808).

News Links:

Weather/Water

- [Northwest drought retreats: seasonal outlook turns colder, wetter](#) (9/22, Capital Press)

Labor

- [Foreign guestworkers help ag face a growing shortage](#) (9/21, Capital Press)

Breeding

- [UC Davis strawberry breeding program lawsuit settled](#) (9/18, Growing Produce)

Pesticides & pollinators

- [Tale of two neonicotinoid bumble bee studies—And how science can be massaged](#) (9/26, Genetic Literacy Project)

Food Safety

- [Cyclospora cases go through the roof: CDC can't find source](#) (9/20, Food Safety News)

Companies

- [2016 Rankings of the 100 largest ag retailers in the U.S.](#) (Croplife)
- [Dole Food lays off another 400 berry workers](#) (9/20, Fruit Grower News)

Politics

- [USDA nominees give top priority to larger farm exports](#) (9/20, Agriculture.com)

Organic

- [Amazon-Whole Foods combination may lead to organic price war, economist says](#) (9/25, Capital Press)
- [Organic sales up 23% over 2016](#) (9/20, USDA)
- [Fraudulent "organic" products may be reaching U.S.](#) (USDA report—35 page pdf)

North America

- [Maine Wild blueberry crops falls with disease](#) (8/27, WPXI.com)
"Mummyberry...and other factors could cut the crop as much as 36 percent..."
- [Unanswered questions remain for Florida blueberry after Irma](#) (9/26, Fresh Fruit Portal)

Trade/International

- [2017 International Blueberry Organization \(IBO\) summit held in southern China's Qujing City](#) (9/21, Produce Report)
- Argentina: [First blueberries of the season touch down in Miami](#) (9/26, Fresh Fruit Portal)
- Serbia: [Blackberry production providing great opportunities for Serbian growers](#) (9/27, Fresh Plaza)
- [China delays deadline for implementing food import rules after industry pushback](#) (9/25, Reuters)
- Europe: [Frozen food products are more popular](#) (9/27, Fresh Plaza)

Misc.

- [What's better for you, fresh, dried or frozen fruit?](#) (9/26, SBS)

Research

- [Folate-rich "Alpha strawberry" discovered in Australia](#) (9/26, Fresh Fruit Portal)

Grower Resources

- [Application of biodegradable plastic mulches on tissue culture red raspberry](#) (September issue, Whatcom Ag Monthly) *This would apply to new blackberry plantings also.*
 - [Don't neglect late-season irrigation of blueberries](#) (9/15, MSU Extension)
 - [Dispelling the rumors: Using biologicals and biochemicals in IPM programs](#) (9/1, Growing Produce)
 - [Getting better results from your biopesticide program](#) (9/13, Growing Produce) *7 minute video*
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