

# Peerbolt Crop Management News & Opinions

Seasonal updates sent out weekly during the growing season, and sporadically when we have news & opinions to share during the off-season. ~ *Tom & Anna Peerbolt*

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We're again adding a few people to this list so we'd just like to repeat some of the ground rules—**1)** Since this is going out to many sources, we're going to keep any recommendations broad in most cases rather than specific---more like informal reminders. If you want specifics on anything, call Tom. **2)** If you have something you'd like to share with others in this *News* form, let us know and we'll try to get it out in an upcoming issue. **3)** We'd prefer to send this to you by email rather than fax, so if you can switch please let us know. **4)** One more disclaimer—This is meant to be our opinion and isn't to be taken for anything other than that. Rates, timing and anything else affecting your crop should always be used according to label recommendations and/or your own best judgment.

## Meeting about the future of the Vancouver Research Station Tuesday (10/17)—6:30-8:00 PM:

As mentioned in past newsletters, there's a reassessment underway regarding our local Research and Extension Station. The new WSU Director of Westside Research Programs, Dean Glauwe, will be using this meeting to help him determine the station's future uses. As Blair Wolfley, the station's director says, "This meeting is critical to our (the station's) future in the region." I will be giving a short (10 minute) presentation on my viewpoint on the current state of the small fruit industry in our area. Obviously, it'd be very useful to have as many different viewpoints and grower/industry support as possible. Come if you can! It'll be at the station. Call Terry or Vicki at 360-576-6030 for more information. If you can't make it but have some input, let me know and I'll pass it on.

**Strawberry Crown Moth** has been found in high numbers in a strawberry field in the Ridgefield area. These have been a sporadic problem in Washington County (OR) but before this I haven't seen them in the southwest Washington area.

**Symptoms:** Areas of weakened or dead plants.

**Description:** White, six-legged larvae that overwinter in strawberry crowns and roots. Mature larvae are about 1" long.

**Adults:** The adult moths fly June through July and lay their eggs on the undersides of leaves.

**Detection:** Larvae can be found by checking crowns and roots. Pheromone traps put out in May-June to catch adults will determine if and when to treat. (Keep this in mind for next spring)

**Treatment:** No treatment at this time of year. In cases of heavy infestation field should be plowed out immediately, thoroughly shredding all roots and crowns to prevent spread of the pest in the spring.

**Chemical Control:** **Thiodan** and **Guthion** are registered for control. Spray timing is determined by the pheromone trap counts in late spring/ early summer. Timing can be difficult because it can coincide with harvest.

**Blueberries:** Time to apply **copper** to help control bacterial canker. Spray again in November.

**Week's Weather:** Rain/showers returning on Friday and into next week. Highs around 60. Lows 45-50.

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