

Small Fruit Update

News & Opinions from Peerbolt Crop Management sent out weekly during the growing season, and sporadically when we have something to share during the off-season. ~ *Tom & Anna Peerbolt*
5261 N. Princeton ~ Portland, OR 97203 ~ Office phone: (503) 289-7287 ~ Fax: (503) 289-7229
Cell phone: (503) 970-0922 ~ email info@peerbolt.com ~ <http://www.peerbolt.com>

April 16, 2001

The wet weather is really starting to get us behind schedule. A lot of planting and fieldwork needs to be done. We should see some more plant growth this week, than in the last couple of weeks, since temperatures are warming. Wet, warmer weather also means it's a better environment for fungal diseases.

Crop Work:

Caneberries: Plan for primocane control---timing depends on material or method used and vigor of field.

Blueberries: 1) Scout for winter moth. 2) If field has had problems with Mummyberry, plan control strategy. 3) Bring in bees by 10% bloom.

Strawberries: Check weak areas for root weevil or Strawberry Crown Moth larvae.

All crops: Treat existing weeds.

Insect Monitoring News: In the first weekly check of leafroller traps in the Aurora to Woodburn area, some of the Marionberry fields are all ready over 200 moths per trap per week. In checking for leafroller larvae I'm finding orange tortrix, obliquebanded, and quite a few winter moth. Due to our mild winter, there was very little winterkill of the larger instars. So, there's a wide range of the sizes in leafroller instars (from about second to fourth or fifth). This indicates the later hatch cycles could be spread out over a longer period of time making them harder to predict and control.

Chemical Control: A Section 18 exemption for the use of **Spartan** (sulfentrazone) has been submitted to the EPA. It hasn't yet been granted but there's a good chance it'll come through in the next week or so. If available it would appear to be the first choice to use immediately after planting strawberries as a substitute for Goal (which is no longer labeled for strawberries).

New OSU Small Fruit Extension agent, Dr. Wei Yang (pronounced "Way Young") is now at the North Willamette Station. He'll be working primarily on blueberries but also doing some work on the other small fruits. He and Diane Kaufman were up in SW Washington last week to get familiar with the area and meet the WSU research and extension folks. He can be reached at 503-678-1264 x 26 or emailed at wei.yang@orst.edu. It's great having someone on board doing some much-needed work. Wei comes from Cornell where he was doing blueberry research.

Weather for the week: Chance of showers all week but warmer. Lows in the mid 40s. Highs around 60.

Events

April 23 -- Washington Blueberry Commission meeting at the Puyallup Conference Center, WSU Research and Extension Center, 7612 East Pioneer Way, Puyallup, For more information contact Dorothy Anderson 360-766-6150

April 26 -- Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission meeting, North Willamette Research & Extension Center, Aurora, OR The meeting starts at 4 pm. For more information, call Janni (541-758-4043 or email Berry Works.

May 1 -- Willamette Valley Ag Professionals Association ~ McNary Restaurant, Keizer, OR. Regular luncheon meeting, guests encouraged to attend. Noon to around 1:30 pm; lunch \$7.50. For more information, contact Dan McGrath 503-931-8307.

June 12 OSU North Willamette Research & Extension Strawberry Field Day: More info as it gets closer

June 14 WSU Puyallup Research & Extension Strawberry Field Day: 6-8 pm. More info as it gets closer

For a list of other upcoming meetings of interest to growers, check out the calendar on our website

<http://www.peerbolt.com/news/newshome.htm>

v