

# 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

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## June 11, 2001

Strawberry harvest is in full swing. Evergreen blackberries are beginning to bloom. Some ripe raspberries are showing up and it looks like their harvest should get going around the 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> with maybe a field or two being even earlier.

**Strawberry Field Days this week:** I know everyone's pretty busy this week. But when else would you want to take a look at strawberry varieties except when they're ripe? The **OSU field day** starts at 2:30 Tuesday afternoon in Aurora, Oregon, at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center. Click [here](#) to see the agenda. The **WSU field day** is in Puyallup Thursday night from 6-8PM. You can call Pat Moore 253-445-4621 for more info.

**Deer control update:** Thanks for the responses to last week's question about deer control in strawberries. Here are the results: 1) Get a permit to shoot if damage is severe enough. 2) A portable electric fence at least six feet tall. 3) Repellants—Plantskydd and BGR. 4) Garlic oil dispensers available from Gemplers. 5) Dog hair in pop cans. A forester for Boise Cascade says that Plantskydd has kept elk off tree seedlings for four months with one application.

## Insect Monitoring

### Leafrollers:

- 1) **Orange Tortrix** larvae are showing up in both blackberries and raspberries. These guys are our primary crop contaminant. Bt applications could be helpful at this time. Since most of the larvae are in the primocane tips, coverage and penetration are essential for effectiveness. I expect the hatch to be spread out over the next few weeks due to our mild winter, and multiple Bt applications will be necessary. If trap numbers are high, effective control will probably require a Brigade (bifenthrin) application after the bees have been removed just before harvest.
- 2) **Obliquebanded leafroller** adult trap numbers continue to climb. I'm finding very few larvae left in the fields.
- 3) **Carnation Tortrix** adults are also showing up in some traps. They're about the same size and shape as orange tortrix but are darker with pumpkin orange under wings. Their larvae have not been shown to be a crop contaminant. No treatments are needed for their control.

**Crane fly:** Two newly planted Ridgefield strawberry fields have significant problems with plants disappearing to crane fly larvae. They'll be treated this week. These are fields that were previously pasture and were not fumigated before planting.

**Weevils:** Leaf notching and/or nighttime checks can confirm the presence of adult weevils. Treatment is recommended in strawberry fields with significant populations.

**Strawberry crown moth:** The first adults have been trapped in one Ridgefield area field on Friday (6/8/01). Treatment is recommended ten to fourteen days after 'consistent' adult flight has begun. That's supposed to be two of more adults in a trap two days in a row. To see what the larvae look like, [click here](#).

**Redberry mites:** A sulfur application just as bloom begins can help control redberry mites in evergreen blackberries. Be careful not to apply sulfur in hot weather. It can burn.

### Disease Monitoring:

**Fruit Molds (Botrytis, etc):** No mold problems in strawberries yet this year. Stay on top of preventative fungicide applications in caneberries as long as there is bloom.

**Phytophthora root rot:** Stress in raspberries is bringing out root rot symptoms in some fields. Leaves yellow and brown around the edges with some actual cane collapse. ([Click here to see symptoms](#)).

## Crop Work

**Caneberries:** 1) Apply fungicide for fruit mold prevention until bloom is done. 2) Can apply foliar fertilizers. 3) Treat for mites if needed. 4) Can apply sulfur to evergreen blackberries for redberry mite prevention.

**Strawberries:** 1) If necessary, apply Brigade for weevil control. 2) Check new plantings for crane fly damage. 3) Control weeds in newly planted fields.

**Blueberries:** 1) Apply fungicide for fruit mold prevention until bloom is done. 2) Can apply foliar fertilizers.

**Weather for the week:** Cool with some showers. Lows in the high 40's. Highs in the 60's.

## Upcoming Events:

**July 18, 2001: Oregon Caneberry & Blueberry Field Day** will be held in Aurora, Oregon at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center.