

### **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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### **August 13, 2001**

The passage of last week's farm aid bill by Congress appears to carry some very promising news for Washington raspberry growers. A ten million-dollar Washington State block grant is earmarked for specialty crop growers. Raspberries are in line to receive a significant amount. Oregon specialty crop growers are also set to receive a block grant but I haven't heard how much yet. We should know more details by the end of the month but potential uses of these funds could be to pay the anti-dumping suit costs, pay for growers' assessment fees, and/or direct payments to growers based on pounds of fruit harvested this season. I'll let you know as information comes available.

**WSU Vancouver Research and Extension Station Field Day** will be held August 22 from 1-4 pm at the station on 78<sup>th</sup> Street. Subjects covered will include irrigation efficiency, small fruit disease, weed, and insect control and new raspberry variety testing. Two Washington and/or Oregon pesticide recertification credit hours. Call Vicky Darnel for more information at 360-576-6030.

**A Raspberry Commission Research Priority Meeting** has been scheduled to follow the Vancouver Field Day on Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. All growers, researchers and other interested parties are invited. It will take place from 4-5:30 at the Station. Henry Bierlink, the commission exec, and Arturo Flores, the research chair, will be there. Call Henry Bierlink for more information 360-354-8767.

### **Insect Monitoring**

**Leafrollers:** Treat evergreen blackberries with high trap counts before harvest. Larvae of both orange tortrix and OBLR are present in some fields.

**Two-spotted spider mites:** 1) Population levels of two-spots are building to significant levels in some raspberry fields. 2) Some of the newly planted strawberry fields are showing increased mite populations. None are at treatable levels.

### **Disease Monitoring:**

**Powdery Mildew:** Significant injury has been done to some of the newly planted Totem strawberry fields by powdery mildew this last couple of weeks. Some renovated fields have also needed to be treated.

**Rust:** Defoliation of the primocanes is the major worry with rust at this point in the season.

### **Crop Work**

**Strawberries:** 1) Check fields for mites. 2) Treat for powdery mildew if needed.

**Raspberries:** Monitor mites and rust for potential defoliation of primocanes. Treat if needed

**Evergreen Blackberries:** 1) Apply fungicide for fruit mold prevention if needed. 2) Treat for leafrollers and other harvest contaminants if needed.

**Weather for the week:** Clear and dry. Highs in the 80's. Lows in the upper 50's.