



Disseminating information for the [Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#).

April 8, 2002

This is the first time we've included information from contacts in Whatcom County (we will refer to this area as North and SW Washington & Oregon as South). Thanks to those contributing. Remember these are observations and opinions, please rely on your local field service people, consultants and extension service for verification, details and recommendations.

As I mentioned last week, this is an evolving process so if you've got **suggestions and/or comments** you can pass them on to either the [WRRC](#) or us ([Tom & Anna Peerbolt](#)). Let us also know if you've got calendar items.

New plantings--A lot of plantings are going in. Plan to fertilize and get weed control down after the soil settles a few days after planting.

Cropwork:

Blueberries: 1) Apply fertilizer. 2) Bring in bees at 10% bloom. 3) Can apply copper or Bordeaux for bacterial blight. 4) If mummyberry has been a problem in the field, treat at vegetative bud break. 5) Scout for winter moth. If insecticide needed, be sure to apply several days before bees are brought in. 6) Weed control.

Strawberries: 1) Treat for root rot with Aliette (or equivalent). 2) Scout for mouse and vole damage and bait if necessary. 3) Check weak areas for root weevils, cranefly larvae and/or Strawberry Crown Moth. 4) Scout for cyclamen and two-spotted mites. 5) Can apply fertilizer. 6) Weed control.

Caneberries: 1) Caneburn when primocanes get around five or six inches tall--First fields were burned this week in the South. 2) Apply fertilizer. 3) Lime sulfur (with or without oil) can be applied for disease and mite control. 4) (North) Scout for Claycolored weevils.

Insect update:

1) Check for Winter Moth in Blueberries. We're still not finding any in SW Washington or Whatcom County. There was a report of a hatch in Skagit County a couple weeks ago. When scouting, you would see a small amount of webbing tightly holding a dying flower-bud-cluster together with a small green caterpillar feeding inside.

2) Leafroller pheromone traps were set out this week in caneberry fields in the South. I'm also finding some leafrollers in blueberries.

3) Claycolored weevils are emerging in Whatcom County but no feeding damage to raspberries yet. In the North, look for adults in the duff of the hills.

Disease Update:

Mummyberries are sprouting in blueberry fields North & South. Be ready to treat when the vegetative buds start opening. Repeat in 10-14 days. ([click here for picture of fruiting cups](#)) Washington growers can use **Orbit** (Propiconazole). Oregon has an OK to use **Indar** (Fenbuconazole). **Funginex** (Triforine), if you can find it, is still legal to use in both. If you're trying to avoid chemical applications, now is the time to destroy as many of the developing fruiting cups as possible by raking or cultivating the soil.

Chemical Update:

1) For primocane control this year we've got **Aim (Carfentrazone)** as an option. A few details--1) Rate is 4 ounces per sprayed acre. 2) Quick burndown with no residual activity. 3) Use at least 40 gallons water per sprayed acre. 4) Need to use the recommended rate of either crop oil or a silicon surfactant to ensure a good burn. 5) 80% of uptake happens in the first 20 minutes after application and it's rainfast in an hour (according to the FMC rep). 6) It's weather neutral but will be taken up faster by a more vigorously growing plant. 7) Addition of a nitrogen fertilizer can heat up the burn.

2) A caution on using **Spartan (Sulfentrazone)** on strawberries. It can cause significant leaf burn if applied over actively growing plants.

3) **Admire (Imidacloprid)** now has a label for aphid management on blueberries.

Winter injury in raspberries: Still too early to really know how much damage has occurred in the North. We have an estimate of 10-30% loss in a baby field in Whatcom County. Some growers are trying to push damaged canes with a foliar spray of urea, zinc & boron. Check with your consultant for details.

Cold Storage reports available: There's a link on the navigation bars on our website <http://www.peerbolt.com> that will take you to the small fruit Cold Storage reports posted on the Northwest Berry and Grape Infonet. Thanks to Rufus Lalone (Smucker's) for compiling these reports and to Wei Wang (OSU Extension) for posting them.

Blueberry Commissioner seats are up for election in Whatcom & Skagit counties next month. Nominations are due ASAP. Contact Dorothy & Gus Anderson of the Washington Blueberry Commission at 360-766-6150

Weather:

(South.) Clouds and rain. Highs around 60. Lows between 40 and 45.

(North) Clouds and rain. Highs in the mid 50s. Lows between 35 and 40.

Calendar:

April 11: The **Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission** is having a Nutraceutical Benefits Seminar at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center in Aurora, Oregon. To get an accurate count for lunch you must contact the ORBC office at 541-758-4043 with your lunch reservations. To see the agenda click [here](#).

April 23 The **Oregon Blueberry Commission** is meeting at the West Salem Roth's IGA, Doaks Ferry Meeting Room. Call 503-370-3790 if you'd like to attend.

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