

# Small Fruit Update



Disseminating information for the [Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#) , [Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission](#) and [Oregon Strawberry Commission](#).

**August 26, 2003**

Christmas Tree assn conference  
Vancouver Station changes

As the harvest season winds down, there's not as much need to get this Update out every week so you'll be seeing it a little less often. If you have any feedback on format, content or anything else, please pass it on to Tom and Anna Peerbolt-503-289-7287 or [email](#). I'd really like to thank those of you who help keep us informed on what's been going on in the Northern and Southern growing areas.

The Caneberry Pest Management Strategic Plan (PMSP) we've been developing is now posted on the USDA website site at <http://pestdata.ncsu.edu/pmsp/pdf/WACaneberryPMSP.pdf>. The activity and efficacy tables section still needs a little work and will be posted soon

## Crop updates:

**Blackberries:** Late season varieties like **Evergreen Thornless**, **Hull** and **Chester** are now being harvested in the South.  
**Blueberries:** Elliotts are being harvested in the South. Blueberry harvest ongoing in the North.

## Insect Update

- 1) Spider mites** are of concern in raspberries and strawberries. Monitor populations closely. Click on the following to see twospotted and yellow mites ---(<http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/comhort/nooksack/ipmweb/Insect%20%20Sheet.html>).
- 2) Weevils:** Black Vine and Rough Strawberry Root Weevil adults are present in many strawberry and raspberry fields. Scout for Rough Strawberry adults down in the crown and in the detritus around the crown.
- 3) Redberry mite** infected berries are showing up in some late season blackberries. Berries never ripen but remain shiny, brick red and hard. Mites feed within the fruit drupelets and are too small to be seen without a strong hand lens or scope. Treatment consists of preventative sulfur applications from budbreak through bloom.
- 4) Blueberry Tip Midge** This is a very small insect whose larva feeds on blueberry floral and vegetative buds. Symptoms of infestation include premature floral bud abortion, leaf curl, stunted growth, and blackened tips. For more information and pictures go to <http://edis.at.ufl.edu/IN458>. We're still determining the extent of this pest and its damage in our region.
- 5) Raspberry Crown Borers** are now flying. Unfortunately we don't yet have a good pheromone lure for monitoring this flight. You can scout for crown borer damage by looking for weak stands with wilting canes. To see their larvae and damage click on <http://www.peerbolt.com/photos/insects/rcb.htm>.
- 6) Black-headed fireworm:** Continue to scout cranberries for black-headed fireworm.
- 7) Aphids.** Monitor aphids closely. In virus susceptible strawberry varieties like Hood they should be controlled at low population thresholds to prevent virus spread. The same is true in any blueberry fields infected with Blueberry Scorch virus.

## Disease Update:

- 1) Mummyberry** infected blueberries are evident as the fruit ripens. Infected fruit is shriveled and discolored. ([click here for picture](#)).
- 2) Spur blight** foliar and cane damage is also now visible in some raspberry fields. For information and pictures go to <http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/comhort/nooksack/ipmweb/Disease%20Sheet2.htm>.
- 3) Powdery Mildew.** Keep an eye out for powdery mildew in strawberries. Leaves will curl up and expose a purple coloration on the bottom.

## Cropwork:

**Caneberries:** 1) Treat for insect harvest contaminants in late season blackberries if needed. 2) Fungicide can be applied for fruit mold prevention. 3) Scout for redberry mite damage in blackberries. 4) Take soil samples. 5) Scout for spider mites.

**Blueberries:** 1) Rotate bird control/scare devices to protect ripening fruit from damage. 2) Scout for mummyberry infected fruit. 3) Scout for weevil feeding in the lower suckers. 4) Scout for Blueberry Tip Midge.

**Strawberries:** 1) Scout for weevils. 2) Scout for cyclamen mites. 3) Scout for two-spotted mites. 4) Take soil samples. 5) Scout for powdery mildew.

**Cranberries:** 1) Scout for black-headed fireworm. 2) Can apply fungicide to prevent fruit mold.

**Chemical Control Update**

Some growers are applying bifenthrin (**Capture** or **Brigade**, depending on crop) for late season weevil control in strawberries and raspberries.

**Weather for the week:**

**(South):** Warm and dry. Highs in the 80s. Lows in the 50s.

**(North):** Great. Highs in the high 70s. Lows in the low 50s.

**Calendar:**

**September 10 Washington Red Raspberry Commission** meeting at the WSU Research Station Auditorium in Mt. Vernon, WA., 1-5 pm. For information call 360-354-8767 or email [WARedberry@aol.com](mailto:WARedberry@aol.com)

**September 17 Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission** meeting at the North Willamette Station ( [NWREC](#) ) in Aurora, OR at 6:00 pm For information call 541-758-4043 or [E-mail](#).

**September 24 Oregon Strawberry Commission** meeting Alessandro's restaurant in Salem, OR at 5:00 pm For information call 541-758-4043 or [E-mail](#)

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