

# Small Fruit Update



## Disseminating information for:

### Washington North American Small Fruit Organizations

[Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#)

[Washington Blueberry Commission](#)

[Washington Strawberry Commission](#)

### Oregon

[Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission](#)

[Oregon Blueberry Commission](#)

[Oregon Strawberry Commission](#)

[North American Blueberry Council](#)

[U.S. Highbush Blueberry Association](#)

[North American Bramble Growers Association](#)

[North American Strawberry Growers Association](#)

[Weather Forecast](#) by Rufus La Lone.

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports](#)

April 5, 2005

Welcome to the [Oregon Blueberry Commission](#), our latest Update sponsor. As you can see above, we've also rearranged some of the ongoing Update links as well as **added connections to same North American industry organizations**. We are not an island...

**All Areas:** South—wet, Northern Washington—wetter, British Columbia—wettest. Field activities are very limited in most areas. In the south, we seem to be a bit drier and are getting some caneburning, fertilizing and fungicide applications done.

**All Blueberries:** Same as last week--It's prime time and prime conditions for **mummyberry infections** in blueberries. Get the controls on whenever possible. This is the type of weather pattern that can allow the disease to really build up due to the difficulty in getting protective fungicides in place. Control materials like [Pristine \(click for label\)](#) can also give control of potential fruit mold.

**Southern Raspberries:** Caneburning going on in a lot of fields this past week. Flower buds are beginning to separate and emerge in younger fields.

**Southern Strawberries:** The first open flowers I've seen this season showed up in a field of the early ripening variety, 'Honeoye'. It's time to begin serious scouting in weak areas to determine cause. See weevil information below.

## New Pest Information

### Diseases:

1) [Phytophthora Root Rot](#): Raspberries, Strawberries.

a) These are prime conditions for the spread of Phytophthora. It's a water mold with spores that can actually spread to the roots of adjacent plants by **swimming in water-saturated soil**. The longer the soil stays saturated, the more opportunity for the disease to spread.

b) If you have had a Phytophthora root rot problem or if your field tends to stay saturated, consider using a **fungicide drench**. [Ridomil Gold](#) is pretty volatile and needs to be watered in well for effectiveness. It should be applied just before or during rain—shouldn't be a problem right now.

c) The other fungicide options that can be applied as foliar sprays are **Fosphite, Aliette or their equivalent product**. These have not been shown to be as effective in raspberries as a Ridomil drench but have shown good results in strawberries or in areas where Ridomil resistance is present.

d) Suggestions to **minimize root rot problems:** 1) Plant on a well draining soil 2) Improve drainage (tile or subsoil) 3) Plant on raised beds. 4) Increase soil calcium levels with gypsum, ag lime and/or dolomite. 5) Use a more root rot tolerant variety.

2) [Cane and Leaf Rust](#) Blackberries. I'm finding this disease at higher levels than usual in a couple of **Marion blackberry and Evergreen Thornless blackberry fields**. Usually treatments are not made for it alone but if infestations get bad enough, plants can be defoliated and canes can become very brittle. Click on blue highlighted name for photos and control options.

3) [Yellow rust](#) Raspberries. The spore stage that looks like a yellow blister on the top of leaves is now starting to show up in some southern raspberry fields.

**Insects** (Click on the blue highlighted name for scouting, pictures and decision-making guide)

1) **Weevils:**

a) [Clay colored weevil](#) are now present in some northern raspberry fields. Scout for feeding symptoms and/or go out at night and look for the adults.

- b) [Rough strawberry root weevil](#) adults can now be found in some southern strawberry fields. Still pretty much down in the soil around the base of the plants. Most larvae recovered are late instars and just about to pupate.
- c) Larvae of other species such as [Black Vine](#) and [Strawberry weevil](#) are also just beginning to pupate in southern fields.

2) [Orange Tortrix Leafrollers](#): Southern caneberries. It's time to get **pheromone traps** set out to determine the initial level of the orange Tortrix adult populations. Judging from some initial trap counts and our very mild winter, we're in for another year of high crop contaminant pressure from this pest.

3) [Winter moth](#): a) **Blueberries**. Watch flower buds for webbing and feeding symptoms. If populations are doing economic damage, a prebloom application of Diazinon or a pre or post bloom application of a BT formulation can be used. b) **Raspberries**. We're recovering quite a few larvae from southern raspberry fields. As long as feeding is occurring on the leaves, the damage being done is minor and requires no controls. However, they should be monitored for potential bud feeding damage.

**Chemical Control Update:** (click on blue underlined name to see label)

**Blueberry and strawberry fruit mold control options** this year include [Pristine](#) (pyraclostrobin & boscalid), [Switch](#) (cyprodinil & fludioxonil), [Captevate](#) (fenhexamid & captan), [Elevate](#) (fenhexamid), and Captan. The first application is recommended to go on at 10% bloom. Alternate or tank mix materials to avoid resistance and ensure control of a broad spectrum of fungal diseases.

**Cropwork:**

**All Crops:** 1) Plan for spring fertilizer applications. Many growers are applying now. 2) Weed control.

**All Caneberries:** 1) In the north, scout for clay cooler weevil. 2) Scout for cane diseases. 3) Control primocane growth as needed. 4) Can drench for borer control. 5) If Phytophthora root rot is a problem, can apply Ridomil for control (raspberries only).

**Blueberries:** 1) Get the bees in at around 10% bloom. 2) Scout for virus symptoms. 3) Scout for Winter Moth larvae and treat as needed. 4) Scout for mummyberries and treat as needed. 5) Scout for bud damage & determine cause. 6) Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control at 10% bloom.

**Strawberries:** 1) As plants start growing, scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, strawberry crown borers or root disease problems. 2) Can apply slug bait. 3) Till row centers. 4) Can apply foliar Fosphite, Aliette or equivalent product for root rot control. 5) Plan for fungicide applications when bloom gets to around 10 %.

**Ongoing Seasonal Pest Information** (Click on blue highlighted pest name for pictures, scouting and control information)

**Insects/ Mites:**

[Redberry mites](#): Evergreen blackberries and Marionberries.

**Diseases:**

1) **Alert:** [Mummyberry in blueberries](#). Mummyberries are now being found sprouting throughout the northwest growing region. The wet weather increases the likelihood of infections.

2) **Blueberry Viruses:** [Blueberry Shock virus](#) symptoms are showing up in southern blueberry fields. [Scorch virus](#) symptoms are also due to show up in blueberries. If you suspect that your blueberry field has a virus problem you can call Bob Martin to arrange for testing at (541) 738-4041 or [email](#) him.

3) [Purple Blotch](#): Blackberries. Lesions are easy to spot right now.

4) [Cane Blight](#): Raspberries. A good time to spot symptoms of cane blight is as the buds break.

**Other Pests:**

1) [Voles/meadow mice](#): All crops. Click on the highlighted name for information on scouting, baiting and bait stations.

2) [Slugs](#): Strawberries.

**Calendar**

For an expanded online calendar, [click here](#).

**April 7— Oregon Strawberry Commission** ~ Noon, Allesandro's restaurant, Salem, OR Call 541-758-4043 or [email](#) for information. [To see the agenda, click here](#).

**April 11—Washington Blueberry Commission** ~ 10 AM, Chicona Room, WSU Puyallup Station, 7612 Pioneer Way E., Puyallup, WA. Call Dorothy Anderson at 360-766-6150 or by [email](#) for more information.

**May 11—Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission** ~ 5:30 Sweet Briar Inn, Tualatin, OR Call 541-758-4043 or [email](#) for information.

**May 14 — Oregon Blueberry Growers Association Annual Meeting** ~ Roth's IGA, West Salem. For more information contact Judy Ebert (503) 663-6451 or by [email](#).

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