

Small Fruit Update



Disseminating information for:

Washington

[Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#)

[Washington Blueberry Commission](#)

[Washington Strawberry Commission](#)

Oregon

[Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission](#)

[Oregon Blueberry Commission](#)

[Oregon Strawberry Commission](#)

North American Small Fruit Organizations

[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 19, 2005

Northern raspberries: Cold damage is becoming more evident in some of the baby fields. Estimates are as high as 40% loss in some fields. Other comments are that there's not as much injury to baby fields as there was last year, however.

North American blueberries: [Click here](#) for the final **2004 crop estimates** for all regions put together by the North American Blueberry Council.

Skagit County blueberries: **Dukes** are around 20% bloom.

Willamette Valley blueberries: **Dukes** are around 50% bloom.

Southern strawberries: **Totems** should hit the 10% bloom stage this week with the warmer temperatures.

Northern strawberries: Starting to send up fruiting spurs. Time to scout for aphids and apply pre-bloom controls if needed.

Job Vacancy: Whatcom County IPM There's an opening for the job that Todd Murray vacated in the Whatcom County IPM program. For a description of the position and the application process, [click here](#). And go to job # 3997 on the list. Contact [Rebecca Armstrong](#), WSU Extension, 509-335-2822.

Correction: Redberry Mite recommendations Last week we included a link to a PDF file that had inaccurate redberry mite control recommendations attributed to Rufus La Lone. [Click here](#) for a PDF file of his redberry mite control recommendations.

Industry Website of the Week: The April 2005 issue of [Pesticide/ESA News](#). (ESA is the Endangered Species Act). This newsletter gives an update on the Washington State Department of Ag's proposed plan to deal with the pesticide issues arising from the ongoing lawsuit by the Toxics Coalition. This is the suit that brought about the **pesticide buffer ruling**.

Cropwork:

All Crops: 1) Fertilizer applications. 2) Weed control.

All Caneberries: 1) In the north, scout for clay colored weevil. 2) Scout for cane diseases. 3) Control primocane growth as needed. 4) If Phytophthora root rot is a problem, can apply Ridomil for control (raspberries only). 5) Can apply foliar Fosphite, Aliette or equivalent product for root rot control. 6) Can put out pheromone traps for leafrollers. 7) In the north, can put out traps for monitoring raspberry beetle. 8) Can apply slug bait. 9) Scout for rust. 10) Scout for mites. 11) Can apply sulfur for redberry mites in susceptible blackberries.

Blueberries: 1) Get the bees in at around 10% bloom. 2) Scout for virus symptoms. 3) Can apply fungicide for fruit mold control starting at 10% bloom. 4) Scout for mummyberries and treat as needed. 5) Scout for bud damage & determine cause. 6) Scout for aphids in fields having or close to fields having blueberry Scorch virus. Control as needed.

Strawberries: 1) Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, cutworms, 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 10 %. 6) Scout for aphids and control as needed. 7) Scout for mites.

New Pest Information (Click on the blue highlighted name for scouting, pictures and decision-making guide)

Slugs: A note from a contributor: Don't forget **slug bait on strawberries and raspberries**, should be a bumper crop of slugs this year.

Insects

1) **Mites:** Low populations of mites are showing up in some [raspberry](#) and [strawberry](#) fields. None are presently at economically damaging levels.

2) **Aphids:** Early season aphid control could be necessary in situations where they can **vector viruses**. These include [blueberry](#) fields infected with or in close proximity to [blueberry scorch virus](#) and virus susceptible [strawberry](#) varieties such as Hood.

3) **Orange Tortrix Leafrollers:** Southern caneberries. Initial pheromone trap numbers from southwest Washington are showing levels more than twice that seen last year at this time.

Diseases:

1) **Mummyberry in blueberries**. The secondary infection stage—a dieback of infected vegetative growth—is now visible in some southern fields. The first stage—sprouting mummyberries on the ground—are being found throughout the growing region.

2) **Virus symptoms in blueberries:** [Blueberry Shock virus](#) symptoms showing up now in Whatcom County as well as in southern fields. [Scorch virus](#) symptoms are now showing up in southwest Washington (in the one field with a verified infection). **Test your field if you suspect virus infection.** You can call Dr. Bob Martin (USDA virologist) to arrange for testing at (541) 738-4041 or [email](#) him.

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

Insects/ Mites:

1) **Weevils:**

a) [Clay colored weevil](#) are now present in some northern raspberry fields.

b) [Rough strawberry root weevil](#) adults can now be found in some southern strawberry fields.

c) Larvae of other species such as [Black Vine](#) and [Strawberry weevil](#) are beginning to pupate in southern fields.

2) **Raspberry Beetle**: For more information on the monitoring traps, contact Colleen Burrows at cburrows@wsu.edu.

3) **Winter moth**: Blueberries.

3) **Redberry mites**: Evergreen blackberries and Marionberries.

Diseases:

1) **Yellow rust** Raspberries (new pictures have just been added to web site showing different rust spore stages)

2) **Phytophthora Root Rot**: Raspberries, Strawberries.

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.

5) **Cane and Leaf Rust** Blackberries.

Calendar

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

May 12—WSU & Washington small fruit industry meeting ~ 2pm at WSU Puyallup Station, Discussion on the small fruit pathology position. For details contact [Henry Bierlink](#) 360-354-8767 or [Tom Peerbolt](#) 503-289-7287.

May 14—Oregon Blueberry Growers Association Annual Meeting ~5:30 registration, Roth's IGA, West Salem. For more information contact Judy Ebert (503) 663-6451 or by [email](#).

For an expanded online calendar showing later event information, [click here](#).