



July 25, 2007

[Event Calendar](#)

[Weather Forecast](#) by Rufus La Lone

[Photo of the Week](#): Blueberry Gall Midge feeding damage.

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

## Crop Reports

### **Raspberries**

- **Oregon/Southwest Washington:** Definitely on the tail end of harvest. After early and mid season harvest having excellent quality and very good yields, the combination of record heat followed by wet and cool has degraded the quality of the later picks. Fruit has softened and increased in mold.
- **Whatcom County (Northern Washington):** Last week was much wetter in northern Washington than in Oregon. Fields stressed from the heat two weeks ago got hit by very unusual heavy July rainstorms. Poor yields and a lot of mold are showing up.

### **Blueberries**

- **Oregon:** The cool, damp weather didn't help fruit quality or quantity. Harvest slowed down significantly. Bluecrop continues coming in—a little on the soft side. Brigittas are picking. Legacy will start later this week. The present clear, warm weather combined with the slow harvest last week should bring in a lot of fruit.
- **Whatcom County (northern Washington):** Fruit has been very slow ripening with some Duke hand picking going on and just starting yet on machine pick. Quality potential is still good and the warm, dryer weather coming up should help to bring it on.
- **British Columbia:** Slow ripening fruit this last week has growers behind schedule and impatient to get some fruit in. This week should see a welcome weather break.

### **Blackberries**

- **Oregon processed:** Up until the heat a couple of weeks ago, crop quality was excellent and quantities were very good for Silvan, Kotata, Black Diamond and early Marions. The heat followed by wet/cool weather degraded fruit quality and now there's a whole lot of mold. The other factor that's greatly impacting the harvest is that some processors unexpectedly stopped receiving, which has left significant fruit without a home. Some berries are being left in the field unpicked. Meanwhile — Evergreen blackberry king berries are coloring. The crop quality looks very good but there's a lot of concern over market conditions for the late fruit.
- **Oregon fresh:** Some good quality Kotata are still coming in. Triple Crown are into their third pick. Chesters have just started trickling in. Growers have had to pick through some poor quality fruit due to the weather conditions but quality and quantities are now improving.

### **Other Small Fruits**

- **Oregon fresh market red and white currants** are now coming in with very good quality fruit.

### Tissue analysis & soil testing

- **Post harvest** is the best time to do most soil and leaf testing for nutrient management.
- **In blueberries**, tissue testing and pH monitoring are recommended. [Click Here](#) to view OSU's Blueberry Nutrient (and testing) Guidelines.
- **In caneberries**, while annual soil testing has been the industry norm, Oregon State's recently updated nutritional guide recommends annual leaf testing with soil tests every few years. [Click Here](#) to view OSU's Caneberry Nutrient (and testing) Guidelines.

### Industry News

- **WSU Raspberry Breeding Program Article:** [Click Here](#) for a Seattle Times article about a raspberry variety tasting WSU held with regional chefs and other food professionals.

## New Pest Information

### Insects

- **[Blueberry Gall Midge](#), blueberries:** Gall midge feeding symptoms are becoming much more prevalent in many fields. While feeding on the vegetative growing tips is easy to see, there's still no evidence that it correlates to any economic damage, so evaluate the need for control measures carefully. The increased lateral bud breaks that result from damaged growing tips can cause stunting in new fields but might actually be beneficial in some fields.
- **[Fall webworm \(tent caterpillars\)](#), blueberries:** [Click here](#) for a general information sheet. These are showing up in blueberry fields at this time of year.

### Diseases

- **[Anthracnose Ripe Rot](#), blueberries:** Infections have been identified in some B.C. blueberry fields. As infected berries ripen, the flower end may soften and pucker. Under warm and rainy conditions, salmon-colored spore masses form on infected berries.
- **[Cane Blight](#), raspberries:** The window for treating raspberries for cane blight is immediately following harvest. Infection takes place by water splashing spores into the machine catcher plate wounds on the primocanes.

## Ongoing Pest Information

(Click on blue, underlined pest name to link to further scouting information, photos, and control options)

### Insects

- **[Orange Tortrix leafrollers](#):** southern caneberrries:
- **[Aphids/Scorch Virus](#):** northern blueberries.
- **Strawberry Crown Moth:** [southern strawberries](#).
- **[Mites](#),** raspberries.
- **[Mites](#),** strawberries.
- **[Weevils](#):** strawberries, raspberries, blueberries. For more weevil information, click on these links: [Rough Strawberry Root Weevil](#), [Black Vine Root Weevils](#), [Strawberry Root Weevils](#).
- **[Obliquebanded leafrollers](#),** blueberries, raspberries.
- **[Raspberry Beetle](#):** northern raspberries.
- **[Redberry Mites](#):** Evergreen blackberries.

### Diseases

- **Armillaria Root Rot, B.C. blueberries:** From Mark Sweeney with the B.C. Ministry of Ag: [Click here](#) to link to Michigan State's information and photos.
- **[Blackberry \(Phragmidium\) Rust](#):** Evergreen blackberries:
- **[Powdery Mildew](#),** strawberries.
- **[Godronia Canker](#),** blueberries.
- **Viruses, blueberries:** [Shock virus](#) , [Scorch Virus](#)
- **[Mummyberry](#),** blueberries.
- **[Botrytis](#):** blueberries.
- **[Botrytis](#):** raspberries.
- **[Yellow Rust](#),** raspberries.
- **[Alternaria Fruit Rot](#),** blueberries.
- **[Cane and Leaf Rust](#),** blackberries.

[Birds](#), blueberries

## Cropwork

### Raspberries & blackberries:

- **Harvest ongoing** 1) Scout for potential crop contaminants. Treat as needed. 2) Scout for mites. 3) Scout for aphids. 4) Can treat for fruit mold if needed. 5) Scout for fruit disorders (e.g. crumbly fruit, dry cell) and determine cause. 6) Treat for cane blight immediately after harvest if needed.

### Late ripening blackberries:

- 1) Scout for rust and treat as needed. 2) Scout for mites. 3) Scout for potential crop contaminants. Treat as needed.

### Blueberries:

- **Harvest ongoing throughout region** 1) Scout for fruit disease problems (e.g. Mummyberry, Botrytis, Alternaria, Anthracnose) and determine cause. 2) Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm. 3) Can apply fungicides for fruit mold prevention. 4) Scout for weevil notching on lower leaves. 5) Can treat for Alternaria and/or

Anthracnose Fruit Rot. 7) Scout for Tip Blight/cane dieback symptoms and determine cause. 8) Implement controls to prevent bird-feeding damage.

**Strawberries:**

- **Harvest finished.** 1) Can treat for weevils and other insects. 2) Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, Strawberry Crown Moth, root disease or soil problems. 3) Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm. 4) Scout for weevil notching leaves. 5) Scout for aphids. 6) Scout for Two-Spotted Mites and Cyclamen Mites. 7) Scout for Powdery Mildew and treat as needed. 8) After harvest allow fields to lie dormant for 3-4 weeks before renovating.