



**July 31, 2008**

[Photos of the week](#): Bringing in the fruit: Just a few of the many people we rely on to make our living.

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

[Upcoming Meetings](#) (a calendar of small fruit related events)

[The Weather Cafe](#) by Rufus La Lone

*The Update mailing has gotten off schedule due to recent out of town meetings, the next Small Fruit Update will be sent out on Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>.*

### **Crop Reports**

#### **Raspberries**

- **British Columbia:** (7/27) Raspberries peaked this past week so this week should tell the tale. A little moisture (emphasis on little) could really help to extend things a little and improve crop size. Otherwise it appears this crop is down. Quality has been good but on the small side.
- **Northern Washington, Lynden:** (7/25) Raspberry harvest is in full swing, great quality but smaller fruit, and total production will most likely be down, down, down. Still a few fields needing miticide applications.
- **Oregon/SW Washington:** (7/30) On our way to wrapping up this crop. Overall quality remains very good. Yields also are not bad at all. A better crop than was expected due mainly to very good weather through harvest.

#### **Blueberries**

- **British Columbia:** (7/27) Blueberries continue to harvest well as hand picks. Quality is very good but volumes are off. Second pick on Dukes will be slim. Machine picking could start late this coming week (Aug 1). Bluecrop ripening well, but the crop is definitely going to be down. Elliotts still do not appear to be sizing; so, I would suspect that yields could be off.
- **Northern Washington, Lynden:** (7/25) Blueberries are 10-14 days away from machine harvest. I'd like to get them off before the birds eat them all. Good size in the Duke, good crop in the Hardibblue, Bluecrop are down.
- **Oregon/SW Washington:** (7/30)
  - **Processed:** Duke and Bluecrop are coming in. With Rubels starting later this week. Yields so far seem to be a little below last year.
  - **Fresh:** A few Dukes still coming in with very mixed size and quality. Into the second wave of Bluecrop with very good looking fruit. Brigitta is coming in with quality great but yields very much down. Ozarkblue and Legacy should start the end of this week. Our strange weather year/crop cycle continues with it looking like some Elliotts will actually start some time next week—not as far off their regular schedule as most of the other varieties. Some Ozarkblue and Elliott fields are on the same ripening schedule.

#### **Blackberries (7/30)**

- **Oregon processed:** The Marionberry harvest peaked late last week and picks are now declining with a week to 10 days left. Quality is still pretty good. Yields and overall crop, as expected is going to be down.
- **Oregon fresh:** Obsidian and Silvans are finished. Kotatas are picking but having a hard time competing with quality and price on the fresh market. Navaho will be starting late this week.

### **Tissue analysis & soil testing**

*Post harvest is the best time to do most soil and leaf testing for nutrient management planning.*

- **Blueberries:** Tissue testing and pH monitoring are most critical. Complete soil tests don't correlate as well with plant needs as tissue tests. [Click here](#) to view OSU's Blueberry Nutrient (and testing) Guidelines.
- **Caneberries:** While annual soil testing has been the industry norm, Oregon State's recently updated nutritional guide recommends annual leaf testing with soil tests done just every few years. [Click here](#) to view OSU's Caneberry Nutrient (and testing) Guidelines.

### **Industry News**

- **Raspberries Rank High With Consumers:** [Click here](#) for this article regarding a recent survey on healthnewsdigest.com.
- **Michigan farmers expecting long, bountiful blueberry season:** [Click here](#) for this article posted on a Michigan Television station's website.

### Regional Updates

- **B.C. Blueberry Council IPM newsletter for July 24:** [Click here.](#)
- **New Jersey Blueberry Bulletin for July 28:** [Click here](#), and then click on July 28. Great synopsis on tissue testing in blueberries. It's time for taking them in our region, also.

### On-going Pest Information

#### Birds, blueberries

#### Insects

- [Yellow mites](#), northern raspberries.
- [Twospotted Mites](#), [Raspberries](#).
- [Orange Tortrix leafrollers](#), southern caneberries:
- [Strawberry Crown Moth](#), southern strawberries.
- [Aphids](#), blueberries.
- [Redberry Mites](#), late ripening blackberries.
- [Obliquebanded leafrollers](#), northern blueberries.
- [Weevils](#), strawberries, blueberries: For more weevil information, click on these links: [rough strawberry root weevil](#), [black vine root weevils](#), [strawberry root weevils](#).
- [Strawberry Crown Moth](#), southern [caneberries](#).
- [Blueberry Gall Midge](#), blueberries.

#### Diseases

- [Blackberry rust](#), evergreen blackberries: We're seeing a new flush of active infections on the primocanes in some fields.
- **Blueberry fungal diseases:** [Alternaria Fruit Rot](#), [Anthracnose Ripe Rot](#), [Botrytis](#), [Mummyberry](#).
- **Blueberry virus diseases:** [Shock Virus](#), [Scorch Virus](#).
- **Raspberry and blackberry fungal diseases:** [Yellow Rust](#), [Botrytis](#), [Cane and Leaf Rust](#), [Phytophthora Root Rot](#), [Purple Blotch](#).
- **Raspberry and blackberry virus diseases:** Raspberry Bushy Dwarf virus, [Raspberries](#), [Marionberries](#).

### Cropwork

**Caneberries and blueberries:** Nutrient testing is recommended immediately post-harvest. (see above)

#### All crops

- Pay attention to new plantings of all berries for weeds, water, insects, diseases and nutrient deficiencies.
- Weed control.
- Maintain adequate soil moisture.

#### **Blueberries—Harvest ongoing.**

- Bird damage management.
- Scout for fruit disease problems (e.g. Mummyberry, Botrytis, Alternaria, Anthracnose) & determine cause.
- Scout for leafrollers and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Scout for aphids.
- Scout for weevil notching.

#### **Blackberries—Harvest ongoing in the south.**

- Scout for potential crop contaminants. Treat as needed.
- Scout for rust and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Can treat for fruit mold if needed.

#### **Raspberries—Harvest ongoing in all regions.**

- Scout for potential crop contaminants. Treat as needed.
- Scout for fruit disorders (e.g. crumbly fruit, dry cell) and determine cause.
- Scout for mites and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Can treat for fruit mold if needed.

#### **Strawberries—Processed harvest finished.**

- Check weak areas for root weevil larvae, strawberry crown borers and/or root disease problems.
- Watch for weevil notching and plan for weevil management as needed.

- Treat for strawberry crown moth in southern fields as needed.
- After harvest, allow field to lie dormant for 3-4 weeks before mowing, watering and fertilizing.