

# Small Fruit Update



**Providing Northwest berry growers with the information they need when they need it.**

*The Small Fruit Update is sent out weekly during the growing season by [Peerbolt Crop Management](#) and is funded entirely by the Northwest berry growers and industry through their commissions and councils.*

**November 26, 2013**

**Week 48**

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**[Whatcom Ag Monthly](#)** *November issue. Produced by WSU Whatcom County Extension. Excellent information this month includes:*

- **Washington Small Fruit Conference and Lynden Ag Show 's** agenda & contact information (December 5 & 6)
- **WSU's New Small Fruit Horticulture Program Leader, Lisa Wasko DeVetter:** An Interview. She starts 3/1/14 in Mt. Vernon.
- **Discussions over Labor Issues:** A report by Henry Bierlink & Alan Schreiber, Executive Directors of the WRRRC and the WBC on their meeting with Department of Labor Officials.

[The Weather Cafe](#) by Rufus La Lone    [Small Fruit Cold Storage report](#)

### Items of note:

- *The Whatcom Ag Monthly issue highlighted above has an article on a meeting with representatives of the federal Department of Labor. Definitely worth reading.*
- *We've got a one page fact sheet on who receives this newsletter. [Click here](#) if you're interested.*
- *The US Highbush Blueberry Council has issued an SWD research priority list ([See page three](#)). There's a lot of time and money going into managing this new insect. We want to be sure the growers are heard in how they would like that money spent. That's what our commissions, councils and associations are for.*

*We've made it to another Thanksgiving. A reminder to take a moment (or day or week...) to be grateful & appreciative for it all.*

*Thanks,*

*Tom Peerbolt, SFU Editor*

### Disseminating information for: Washington

[Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#)  
[Washington Blueberry Commission](#)  
[Washington Strawberry Commission](#)

### Oregon

[Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission](#)  
[Oregon Blueberry Commission](#)  
[Oregon Strawberry Commission](#)

### British Columbia

[Fraser Valley Strawberry Growers Association](#)  
[Raspberry Industry Development Council](#)  
[B.C. Blueberry Council](#)

### National

[North American Blueberry Council](#)



*Sandhill cranes over raspberries, Woodland, WA.*

### **British Columbia, Fraser Valley** (Sunday, 11/24)

- We thankfully have dried out by now after wicked rains up to Monday last week. Then we dipped a few degrees below freezing, strong winds for two days and it got dry. No more SWDs flying around, hurray! All the leaves are now down in blueberry and raspberry fields with a lot of post leaf drop sprays now going on. Above freezing temps right now and warming up with rain to come back sooner than later.
- All sorts of meetings are happening. Excellent research was done this past season on both sides of the border, superb collaborations, thank you all!

## **Grower Resources**

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- [Integrated Pest Management Webinars now available online](#) (11/1, MSU Extension)
- [Maximum Residue Levels](#) (Growing Produce video) *This is a nice, basic introduction to what MRL's are.*
- [New approach for managing strawberry root weevil and black vine root weevil](#) (11/5, Growing Produce)

### **British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture Plant Health Lab resources**

- **New:** [How to submit plants for diagnosis fact sheet](#)
- [Description brochure of the BC Ministry's Plant Health Laboratory](#)
- Contact information for Maria Jeffries, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture's Plant Health Coordinator: 604-556-3127; [Maria.Jeffries@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Maria.Jeffries@gov.bc.ca)

### **Meeting Scheduled for Willamette Valley Russian Caneberry Grower Community**

***"We would really like as many Russian and bilingual growers (and farm managers or partners in the business) to attend."***

- **December 20 — OSU Fertilizer Nutrient Management Programs in Caneberries with Russian translation** ~ 1-3 PM at the North Willamette Research & Extension Center, Aurora. A workshop for the Russian community presentations will be translated as well as handouts in both English and Russian.
- Workshop is free but for indicating how many will participate, registration is requested. Call Jan Egli at 503-678-1264 x 110 by December 17 to register.
- [Click here](#) for flyer with more information (in English & Russian)





## **US Highbush Blueberry Council's Spotted Wing Drosophila Industry Research Priorities**

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**Statement of explanation:** *US blueberry growers and their supporting industries are facing a critical pest management issue caused by the recent introduction into North America of the exotic vinegar fly, Drosophila 'Suzukii'. In response to this, the USHBC has developed the following list of research priorities to direct as many resources as possible toward projects that can best minimize the immediate economic impact this insect is having on our growers.*

### **Listed in order of Importance**

- 1) Accelerate the development and implementation of regional insecticide management programs as the best short term response to this exotic insect pest.
- 2) Develop practical monitoring and risk forecasting/assessment tools.
- 3) Address pesticide residue management issues regarding:
  - a. Export markets and MRL standards.
  - b. Worker and food safety standards.
  - c. Effects of weather and spray additives on residues and efficacy.
- 4) Address post harvest handling and develop practical 'kill step' protocols.
- 5) Expand organic production management options.
- 6) Improve coordination of research projects and communication between all stakeholders and researchers both within the various regions and nationally.



## Industry news/resources

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### Newsletters/ Berry reports

- [British Columbia Berry Grower Magazine](#) (Winter issue)
- [The Source](#) (11/25) Marketing report from The Produce News.
- [National Berry Report](#) Daily fresh market berry reports. Hosted by the California Strawberry Commission, this report is generated from data from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service and is updated daily.

### Magazine/website compilations

- **The Packer:** [blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).  
Recent stories and fresh market pricing for the various berries from The Packer.
- **Growing Produce:** [recent berry articles](#).
- **Fresh Fruit Portal:** [blueberries](#), [blackberries](#), [raspberries](#), [strawberries](#).  
Recent stories for the various berries from Fresh Fruit Portal.

### Berry research blogs

- [Strawberries and Caneberries](#) by Mark Bolda, UC Davis Berry Extension Agent. **Recent entry: 11/19—Announcing A farming without fumigants symposium** Reports on recent insect and disease research and observations in California.
- [Team Rubus](#) by Gina Fernandez, North Carolina State Small Fruit Specialist. **Recent entry: 11/21—2014 Caneberry meetings on the East Coast** Reports on issues in blackberries and raspberries from the Southeast.

### Pesticides

- Canada: [Delegate receives MRL for blueberries, cherries](#) (11/19, Ag Annex)
- [Oregon Department of Ag takes steps to protect pollinators from pesticide impacts](#) (11/21, ODA)
- [Oregon restricts insecticides after bumblebee deaths](#) (11/25, Ag Professional)

### Pollinators

- California: [Experts discuss ways to boost honeybee forage](#) (11/13, AgAlert)

### Technology

- [USDA pays \\$123,463 to develop harvest-aiding robots](#) (11/15, Fresh Plaza)
- [Forum to examine use of drone technology in agriculture](#) (11/22, Capital Press) Meeting is on 12/9 in McMinnville, Oregon. Free but need online ticket for admission. [Click here](#) for site.

### Research/Breeding

- [Project looks to predict strawberry shelf life, reduce waste](#) (11/6, The Grower)
- [A new double-cropping black raspberry](#) (11/20, Growing Produce)
- Florida: [Blueberry breeder James Olmstead breaking new ground](#) (11/15, Growing Produce)

### Politics & Ag

- [Group 'disgusted' by lack of immigration bill](#) (11/14, The Packer) *United Fresh Produce Association is 'the group referred to.*
- [Farm bill remains challenge](#) (11/12, Politico)
- [Farm bill talks stall, sides far apart on food stamps](#) (11/21, Reuters)

### Business

Profile: [Naturipe rebounds in Chile as expansions and a new product wait on the horizon](#) (11/25, AndNowYouKnow)

### West

- British Columbia: [Agrifoods export program gets \\$4.3 million boost](#) (11/22, The Province)

- California: [Most California produce tested had no detectable pesticide](#) (11/13, The Packer)

### North America

- Florida: [Strawberry volume expected to start early](#) (11/11, The Packer)

### International

(FFP=Fresh Fruit Portal)

- Argentina: [Citromax increase blueberry exports to U.S. and Europe](#) (11/14, Fresh Plaza)
- [Chile and Peru together, plan to export to China and India](#) (11/25, Fresh Plaza)
- Chile: [Naturipe expects big blueberry deal](#) (11/14, The Packer)
- Chile: [Freeze creates questions about Chilean volume](#) (11/14, The Packer)
- Chile: [Chile plans January blueberry promotion blitz in Asia](#) (11/22, FFP)
- Chile: [Chile wants to win over Europe with fresh blueberries](#) (11/14, Fresh Plaza)
- Chile: [Grower Direct's marketing kicks off Chilean blueberry deal in US](#) (11/12, Fresh Plaza)
- Spain: [Spanish raspberry exports to the EU on the rise](#) (11/12, Fresh Plaza)
- China: [Chinese company invests in organic blueberry export scheme](#) (11/13, FFP)
- Chile: [Hortifrut reports strong results in third quarter](#) (11/12, FFP)

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## Event calendar

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- **December 3-6 — 2013 Southeast Strawberry Expo** ~ Durham, N.C. [Click here](#) for details. A joint conference of the North Carolina Strawberry Assn. & the North American Strawberry Growers Association.
- **December 5 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission Annual meeting** ~ in Lynden, WA. Call 360-354-8767 or [email Henry Bierlink](#) for more information.
- **December 5-6 — Third Annual Lynden Ag Show and Washington Small Fruit Conference** ~ in Lynden, WA. [Go here for more information.](#)
- **New posting: December 9 — Precision Farming Forum—Unmanned Aerial Systems** ~ 8:30-5:30, Yamhill Fairgrounds, McMinnville, Or [Click here](#) for information & online tickets. Event is free.
- **December 9-11—2013 Far West Agribusiness Winter Conference** ~ Red Lion Hotel, 2525 N. 20th Ave, Pasco, WA. [Click here](#) for the conference web page.
- **December 10-12 — Great Lakes Expo** ~ Grand Rapids, Michigan. Early registration deadline is November 20th. [Click here](#) for details.
- **December 13 — OSU Blueberry Pruning Workshop** ~ 9 am-12 pm English, 1-4 pm Spanish. At [NWREC](#), Aurora, OR. [Click here](#) for agenda. Contact Wei Yang [by email](#) for more information.
- **December 18 — ORBC Annual Growers Meeting** ~ The 2012-13 FY ORBC Reports will be presented at Wellsprings Medical Center in Woodburn, OR. Meeting starts at 8 am. Call 541-758-4043 or [email](#) Phillip Gutt for more information.
- **New posting: December 20 — OSU Fertilizer Nutrient Management Programs in Caneberries with Russian translation** ~ 1-3 PM at the North Willamette Research & Extension Center, Aurora. A workshop for the Russian community presentations will be translated as well as handouts in both English and Russian. “*We would really like as many Russian and bilingual growers (and farm managers or partners in the business) to attend.*” Workshop is free but for indicating how many will participate, registration is requested. Call Jan Egli at 503-678-1264 x 110 by December 17 to register. [Click here](#) for flyer with more information (in English & Russian)
- **January 6, 2014 — Oregon Blueberry Commission** ~ Chemeketa Events at Winema, Building 48, Room 210. 8:00-11:00 am: Research updates; 11:00 am-12:00 pm: Committee Meetings; 12:00 pm Commission Meeting. For more information contact Bryan Ostlund [by email](#) or call 503-364-2944.
- **January 6 & 7 — 73rd Annual Pacific Northwest Insect Management Conference.** 10am to 4:30pm January 6th, and 8:30am to 4:30pm January 7th. At the Hilton Hotel, 921 SW 6th Ave, Portland, OR 97204. [Contact Joe DeFrancesco](#) for more information or [click here](#). Proceedings from the following years can be viewed [here](#).



- **January 8— Oregon Strawberry Commission** ~ 5 pm, at [Langdon Farms Golf Club](#). Promotions Committee meeting will begin at 4 pm (prior to regular commission meeting). Call 541-758-4043 or [email Phillip Gutt](#) for more information.
- **January 14 — Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission** ~ Regular meeting begins at 11 am at [Langdon Farms Golf Club](#). Committee meetings start beforehand: 9:00 Promotions, 9:30 Legislative/Labor/Education, 9:50 Communications and Product Safety, 10:10 Research, 10:30 Budget. Call 541-758-4043 or [email Phillip Gutt](#) for more information.
- **January 16—North Willamette Horticulture Society Berry Day** ~ Clackamas County Event Center, 694 NE 4th Ave, Canby, OR 97013. For the event webpage, registration, and more information, [click here](#).
- **January 22 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission** ~ Board meeting in Lynden, WA. Contact [Henry Bierlink](#) for more information.
- **January 27 — 2014 Blueberry Conference** ~ organized by the Oregon Blueberry Commission and Oregon State University. At the Embassy Suites (near airport), 7900 NE 82nd Ave, Portland, OR, 9am-8pm. For more information contact Bryan Ostlund [by email](#) or call 503-364-2944.
- **January 28 - 30 — Northwest Ag Show** ~ at the Portland Expo Center. 2060 N. Marine Drive, Portland, OR 97217. [Click here](#), for more information.
- **January 29—Oregon Hort Society's Caneberry Seminar** ~ at the Portland Expo Center. 2060 N. Marine Drive, Portland, OR 97217. Details will be coming soon. For information, contact Tom Peerbolt ([tom@peerbolt.com](mailto:tom@peerbolt.com), 503-289-7287).
- **January 29—Oregon Strawberry Commission Workshop "The potential market for fresh strawberries,"** 1-5pm, at the Portland Expo Center, 2060 N. Marine Drive, Portland, OR 97217. Admission is free. All experienced, new, and transition strawberry growers encouraged to attend. [Email Lora Liegel](#) at Peerbolt Crop Management with questions or call the office at 503-289-7287.
- **January 30 - February 1, 2014 —Pacific Agriculture Show and Horticulture Growers Short Course** ~ at the Tradex Exhibition Centre (Abbotsford Airport) in Abbotsford, BC. [Click here](#) for more information.
- **February 26 —9th Annual ORBC Production Workshop for Commercial Raspberry and Blackberry Growers** ~ at the Wellspring Conference Center, 1475 Mt. Hood Ave., Woodburn, OR. Details coming soon. For more information, call the Peerbolt Crop Management office (503)289-7287 or [email Tom Peerbolt](#).

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## Archived Small Fruit Updates

(For older Updates [click here](#).)

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This document is a guide and not intended as a recommendation or endorsement. Consult with your supplier, field representative, or pest consultant.