



Disseminating information for the [Washington Red Raspberry Commission](#).

**September 17, 2002**

Late season blackberry harvest continues in the South with about two weeks left for Evergreen Blackberries. Blueberries are just finishing up in the North.

A **Washington Red Raspberry Commission research meeting** was held last Monday (9/9). Due to the legal expenses accrued from the Chilean anti-dumping case, the commission projects less funds available for research and promotions this coming year. Research priorities are: Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus, Control of insect harvest contaminants, Phytophthora root rot, fruit rot control, weed control and caneburning options, and alternatives for chemicals being targeted by the EPA for removal.

**Insects:**

- 1) **Mites** continue to be the primary potential pest in raspberries. [Click here](#) to see twospotted and yellow mites.
- 2) **Raspberry Crown Borer**: Scout for Raspberry Crown Borer by looking for weak stands with wilting canes. To see them [click here](#). There is a pheromone available for RCB but it tends to pick up other closely related species and hasn't yet proven to be very reliable.
- 3) **Cyclamen mites** are now being found in some strawberry fields. Look for plants that appear to have stopped growing and have very distorted new growth.
- 4) Scout for **Redberry mites** in late ripening blackberries. Berries that remain red and never ripen are the main symptom.
- 5) **Aphids** populations in virus susceptible strawberry varieties (like Hoods) should also be monitored closely. Small numbers can cause a lot of virus problems.
- 6) Prematurely reddening strawberry plants should be checked for Strawberry Crown Borer. The crown will often break off when pulled revealing rust colored frass and tunneling. Remove infected plants from the field.
- 7) **Weevil adults (Black Vine, Strawberry Rough and Strawberry)** are being found in some Southern strawberry fields. Most found are fertile (laying eggs). Check in the detritus around the crowns and look for leaf notching.

**Cropwork:**

**Blueberries:** Harvest ongoing

**Strawberries:** Harvest finished. 1) Scout for weevils, aphids and mites. 2) Can take soil fertility test after harvest.

**Caneberries:** Late ripening blackberries still being harvested. 1) Can take soil fertility test after harvest. 2) Scout for mites. 3) Scout for crown borer damage. 4) Do cane pruning and tie up.

**Weather for the week:**

**(South).** Dry from Wednesday on. Highs climbing to near 80 by the weekend. Lows around 50.

**(North)** Chance of showers Thursday. Highs around 70. Lows in the high 40's.

**Calendar:**

**September 19 Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission Meeting** at the Food Innovation Center in Portland, 6 pm. For more information call 541-758-4043 or [email](#) them.

**September 25 Oregon Strawberry Commission Meeting** at The North Willamette Research and Extension Center ([NWREC](#)), Aurora, Oregon at 4:30 pm. For more information call 541-758-4043 or [email](#).

**September 28 WSU Extension Christmas Tree Workshop** at the La Center High School with a tour of Highland Tree Farm. 8:30--3:30. Register by 9/25. Call Charles Brun at 360-397-6060 x 7713 for information.

**November 9 The WSDA Pesticide Management Division is having a Train the Trainer Workshop** for fieldworkers and pesticide handlers. Spend a day with hands on education for your lead individuals responsible for your farm's pesticide program. To be held at Skagit Valley College. Maximum number that can attend is 30. 4 pesticide credits. Contact Flor Tovar at (509) 662-0590 for more information. Free.

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