

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](#)

British Columbia

[Fraser Valley Strawberry Growers Association](#)
[Raspberry Industry Development Council](#)

North American Small Fruit Organizations of Interest:

[North American Blueberry Council](#)
[U.S. Highbush Blueberry Association](#)
[North American Bramble Growers Association](#)
[North American Strawberry Growers Association](#)

September 27, 2005

[Event Calendar](#) [Small Fruit Cold Storage Reports](#) [Weather Forecast](#) by Rufus La Lone

Alerts

1) Voles!!: I'm seeing and getting reports of major vole damage being done in blueberries, caneberries and other crops. [Click here](#) for management information and [Click here](#) for more information on population-monitoring methods. They are having a huge impact on next year's crop right now.

2) Rust in Evergreen Blackberries, (*Phragmidium violaceum*): If you've got Evergreen or Everthornless blackberries fungicide treatments are recommended at this time for *Phragmidium* rust. It's become very active with the cooler weather and is impacting the new, primocane growth. It's also recommended that you remove all old fruiting canes as soon as possible to minimize the amount of infected material in the field.

Bordeaux mix advice from one of our contributors: Growers can mix 8-10 lbs each of copper sulfate and hydrated lime to make a Bordeaux mix to help control **bacterial blight/pseudomonas** in blueberries. It is cheap and effective. There is at least one premixed powder, however at recommended rates it is much more expensive and provides only a fraction of the copper compared to Bordeaux.

Raspberry cane pruning and training: And more contributor advice: (I usually don't use brand names but some growers have had major problems with inexpensive twine not holding up through the season). "There are several kinds of plastic and sisal twine available. **The best sisal** is Continental Western Harvest King made in Portugal. It is more expensive than other sisals, but it holds up better over the winter."

Meetings coming up

- 1) October 6--Protecting Against Berry Yield and Revenue Risks~.** A USDA Risk Management Agency workshop sponsored by the Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission. Starts at 3 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Wilsonville, 25425 SW 95th Avenue. Call the ORBC office for more information 541-758-4043.
- 2) October 12— Oregon Strawberry Commission meeting** ~ 11:30 am at the Mt Angel Brewery in Mt Angel. For more information call the OSC office at 541-758-4043 or [email](#).
- 3) Change: The Washington Blueberry Commission meeting scheduled for October 10 has been moved to October 20** ~ 10 am in Room A in the Allmendinger Center at WSU Puyallup. For more information call Dorothy Anderson (360) 766-6150 or [email](#).

Chemeketa Community College Farm Business Management Courses: Designed specifically for Oregon agricultural producers. Topics include business structure, computerized and non-computerized record keeping, preparing financial statements, preparing a business plan, working with bankers and understanding tax and payroll issues. A unique aspect of the program is that all family members or business partners involved in the management and records keeping are encouraged to become involved in both classroom and record keeping education and consultation. Sign up now. Classes start in late November. [Click here for more information](#) or contact [Phil La Vine](#) at 503-399-5089.

Website of the Week: [Click here](#) to order **The Berry Bible** by Janie Hibler from Amazon.com. [Click here](#) for the CBS morning show recap of her appearance, including how to make a blackberry martini (Hmm).

New Pest Information:

- 1) **Blueberry maggot survey:** The Oregon Department of Ag survey conducted this year detected no Blueberry maggots. This is a major blueberry pest back east and it is very good news that we're, apparently, still a maggot free area.
- 2) **Phytophthora root rot:** In raspberries, growers can apply **Aliette** (or its equivalent) before the leaves start turning. **Ridomil** can be applied later, just before the heavy rains start. Gypsum applications as well as anything that improves drainage (hilling and/or subsoiling) are also beneficial for root rot control.

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

Insects/ Mites:

- 1) **Aphids**, strawberries. With the cooler weather, aphids are once again building up in strawberries.
- 2) **Strawberry Crown Moth:** Infested plants either completely collapse or are weakened and show premature reddening.
- 3) **Weevils**, strawberries. **Black Vine**, **Strawberry** and **Rough Strawberry** root weevils. As the weather cools, adults re-emerge from the soil. **Rough Strawberry root weevils** lay eggs in the fall as well as the spring and control measures need to be considered in problem areas.
- 4) **Blueberry Gall Midge**, blueberries. [Click here](#) for a PDF file of an OSU bulletin on this insect.

Diseases:

- 1) **Powdery Mildew**, strawberries.
- 2) **Bacterial Blight**, blueberries. Many growers apply copper or Bordeaux mix just before the fall rains start to help prevent bacterial blight.

Cropwork

All Crops: 1) Scout for voles and treat as needed. 2) Weed control.

Raspberries: 1) Can cane out. 2) Can take tissue and/or soil tests. 3) Can plant cover crop. 4) Scout and mark problem weed areas that could be treated in the winter. 5) Can apply Aliette (or its equivalent) for root rot. 6) Apply lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer. 7) Subsoil and/or hill.

Blackberries: 1) Can cane out. 2) Can take tissue and/or soil test. 3) Scout and mark problem weed areas that could be treated in the winter. 4) Can plant cover crop between rows. 5) **Evergreens:** Scout for rust and treat as needed. 6) Apply lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer. 7) Subsoil and/or hill

Blueberries: 1) Can apply copper or Bordeaux for bacterial canker. 2) Can take tissue and/or soil tests. 3) Scout for Blueberry Tip Midge. 4) Scout for weevil feeding on lower suckers. . 6) Apply sulfur, lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer.

Strawberries: 1) Scout for root weevils. 2) Scout for powdery mildew symptoms. 3) Scout for aphids. 4) Scout for Strawberry Crown Moth damage. 5) Apply lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- 1) **The Washington Strawberry Commission** is seeking **research proposals** from both public and private researchers. [Click here for priorities](#). The deadline for proposals is October 14. Contact [Norval Johanson](#) (360) 491-6567 for more information.
- 2) **The Washington Red Raspberry Commission** is seeking **research proposals** from both public and private researchers. [Click here for priorities](#). The deadline for proposals is October 21. Contact [Tom Peerbolt](#) or [Henry Bierlink](#) for more information.
- 3) **The Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration** is seeking **research proposals**. They must be received at least 30 days before the meeting at which they will be presented. Meeting dates are October 25-26 and January 10-11. [Click here](#) for details.