



April 30, 2008

[Photo of the Week](#): Shock virus symptoms in blueberries.

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

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

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

Crop Development

Blueberries:

- **Eastern Washington:** (4/25) Most growers with frost protection survived the well below previous record low temperatures last week. Ones without frost protection had some losses. We are about 2 weeks behind last year. Earliblue is in full bloom; Duke is starting to bloom. Pollination is underway.
- **Lynden, Washington:** (4/25) First bees arriving in blues today (Wednesday). Brigitta and Duke coming on fast, but very inconsistent. The timing of prebloom worm spray is difficult to determine.
- **Salem area, Oregon:** (4/27) Dukes are around 15%. Still looking about two weeks late, but otherwise the crop still looks to be in good shape. Great pollination weather coming!
- **Hillsboro area, Oregon:** (4/27) Dukes are around 15%. Legacy is around 30%. Bees are in most fields now. Time to get this season started...

Raspberries:

- **Lynden, Washington:** (4/25) Not much top growth except on the 1st year fields. Short laterals that are barely longer than the secondaries in some fields. Lots of Calcium nitrate being applied to give them a boost.
- **Oregon and SW Washington:** Color is actually looking pretty good in most fields given the lack of heat units. Uneven bud break and lateral growth is being seen in older fields but overall fields are looking pretty good.

Blackberries:

- **Oregon:** A lot of poor development is being seen across the board, especially in older, weaker fields. This next week's drier and sunnier weather should give us a much better handle on 'the state of the fields'. Right now it's looking like a shorter crop than was originally thought given the number of fields cut back already this year and the poor growth in many others but still too early to make a definite call.

Strawberries:

- **Lynden, Washington:** (4/25) Plants are up, renovated, and fertilized, no fruit spurs showing yet.
- **SW Washington:** (4/27) Some early open flowers with the typical black centers (freeze damage) from last week's cold weather. But overall development is too far behind for it to have done any real damage. Should be getting some fields to 10% bloom later this week in older fields. Others—maybe two weeks? Hard to believe it's this late.

Rufus La Lone's Weather Forecasts: The link above to Rufus La Lone's Weather forecast will now take you to his own page, [The Weather Café](#), located on the site of one of our NWIPM.info sponsors, [OVS](#). It not only provides his usual forecast but much more expanded weather information. Take a look. Rufus and OVS have done a great job with it. You even get to see what Rufus looks like! Use his comments area to let him know what you think.

Peerbolt Crop Management Changes: Speaking of photos, our company, [Peerbolt Crop Management](#), has also expanded. Over the last few months we've added two new permanent staff, Beth Robinson and Julie Pond, along with three very qualified field scouts for the season. [Click here](#) for our staff information/photos page.

Oregon Department of Ag Resources:

- [Click here](#) for their Oregon Weather Center
- [Click here](#) for the daily Oregon ag weather outlook.
- [Click here](#) for their Spring Quarterly Report.

Industry News (Go to www.nwipm.info for more industry information links.)

- **Union and States try to recruit Farm workers from Mexico:** [Click here](#) for the Associated Press story.

- **BC blueberry Council Acreage Survey:** Surveys will be going out in the mail soon to get a more accurate idea of B.C. blueberry acreage. All growers are urged to participate. Contact [Sonja Ring](#) for more information (604) 613 2133.

New Meeting Information

May 31--BC Blueberry Council Annual General Meeting and Grower Field Day: The research station at 510 Clearbrook Road. Further details to come. Contact [Sonja Ring](#) for more information. (604) 613 2133

Symposium Information

- **July 14-16, 2008: The 9th International Vaccinium Symposium** will be held at Oregon State University in Corvallis. In addition, a pre-conference tour is scheduled to tour blueberry, cranberry, and lingonberry production in the area. Although this is a scientific meeting with researchers from all over the world presenting, some industry members may wish to attend. For more information [click here](#) for the web site - Bernadine Strik and Chad Finn, co-conveners.

New Pest Information

BC Blueberry Council's IPM Newsletter for April 24: [Click Here](#)

Diseases

- **Disease Alert: Pseudomonas (Bacterial Blight), blueberries:** Some fields in Oregon are showing significant bacterial blight damage following last week's cold weather. Rabbiteyes have been especially hard hit in general this year.
- **Phragmidium rust, Evergreen blackberries.** We're seeing the first signs of this rust changing into from its overwintering spore stage (black spots on the undersides of old leaves) to the first active stage (reddish blisters on the top of new leaves that emerged first this spring).

On-going Pest Information

Insects

- **Insect Alert: Winter moth/ Bruce span worm, blueberries.**
- **Strawberry Crown Moth, southern strawberries.**
- **Root Weevils, southern strawberries:** Larvae of **Black Vine, Rough Strawberry, Strawberry** root weevils are now being recovered from some strawberry fields.
- **Clay colored weevil, northern raspberries.**
- **Aphids, blueberries.**

Diseases

- **Disease Alert: Mummyberry, blueberries:** Protective fungicides and/or other measures to control this disease will be needed over the next several weeks in fields where it is present.
- **Shock virus, southern blueberries.**
- **Purple Blotch, blackberries.**
- **Yellow rust, raspberries.**
- **Raspberry Bushy Dwarf virus, Marionberries:** The yellow leaf symptom of this virus in Marionberries is beginning to be seen.
- **Tomato Ringspot virus, southern raspberries:** The typical light green chevron pattern of this virus is also beginning to be picked up on new growth.
- **Downey Mildew, boysenberries & Kotata blackberries (occasionally other blackberries).**

Cropwork

All crops

- Weed control.

Blueberries

- Apply fertilizer.
- Can apply mummyberry control materials and/or take other mummyberry management actions.
- Can apply bacterial blight management materials (e.g. copper, **Serenade**).
- Scout for span worms/winter moth and treat as needed.
- Apply pre-bloom aphid control as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Make preparations to bring in bees around 10% bloom.
- Plan to apply fungicide for fruit mold control at 10% bloom.

Blackberries

- Apply fertilizer.
- Scout for purple blotch lesions.

- Burn back primocanes as needed.
- Can apply phosphite material for Downey mildew prevention.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.

Raspberries

- Apply fertilizer as needed.
- Can apply phosphite material for root rot control.
- Can burn back primocanes as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.

Strawberries

- As plants start growing, check weak areas for root weevil larvae, strawberry crown borers and/or root disease problems.
- Till row centers.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Can apply phosphite material for root rot control.