



**November 17, 2009**

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

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

[Industry Calendar of events](#)

### **Regional reports**

*These reports are from individuals within the region and are their particular observations. They are included to give an impression of the present 'state of the industry' and regional activities.*

- **Whatcom County, Northern Washington:** (11/20) Pairing animals 2x2, holy cow it's been wet and windy. Only pruning raspberries and blueberries up here. Would like to get some lime on at some point. With SWD ([Spotted Wing Drosophila](#)) on our minds, it might be good to remove soft fruited plants like blackberry, thimbleberry, and salmonberry from around fields to take away potential SWD habitat .
- **Skagit County, Northern Washington:** (11/20) We're winterizing the last of our row covers; we had a few steel cables snap and 4 or 5 of the 14 x 6" posts lifted out of the ground by the strong winds. Pruning raspberries now and will start blues in January. Finishing up the last of a weed mat installation on some organic Bluejay. We may wait until ground freezes to finish. We will be cleaning all field perimeters of wild berries as a precaution to minimize potential SWD problems next season.

### **Pest Management**

- **Spotted Wing Drosophila:** Recent research results for baiting/monitoring techniques for SWD from Mark Bolda, UC extension. [Click here](#).

### **Statistics**

- **Oregon Strawberry Crop Totals for 2009 Season** (from commission assessments):
  - Total received: 18,759,217 lbs. (2008-22,080,566 lbs.)
  - 97% reporting was processed, 3% was u-pick/farmstand  
(Data from the commissions doesn't fully account for fruit grown for local fresh markets because many fresh marketers don't report their sales)

### **Industry news/resources**

- (Oregon/U.S.) **Singing the blues:** [Click here](#) (11/09, American Fruit Grower) A good interview with Roy Malensky, owner of Oregon Berry Packing.
- (U.S.) **Giving special thanks:** [Click here](#) (11/09, American Fruit Grower) The Farm Bill's 'remarkable benefits' for specialty crop growers.
- (Chile) **Exchange rates not expected to greatly affect Chilean exports:** [Click here](#) (11/4, The Packer)
- (MI) **Michigan State Extension spared in budget cuts—for now:** [Click here](#) (11/3, Growing Produce)
- **Advent of primocane blackberry tipped to shake up market sector:** [Click here](#) (10/30, Horticulture Week)
- **Technology will change the face of produce:** [Click here](#) (11/9, The Packer)
- (U.K.) **Bumper crop of British blueberries sees sales soar:** [Click here](#) (11/23, The Guardian)

### **South American Blueberries**

- (Chile) **Cold and rain are disrupting the 2009-10 Chilean fruit deal:** [Click here](#) (11/17, The Produce News)
- (Chile/Argentina) **Blueberry import volumes should be down sharply:** [Click here](#) (11/20, The Packer)
- (Chile) **Bad weather crimps Chile cherry deal:** [Click here](#) (11/22, Santiago Times)

### **Meeting Information**

[Click here](#) for the full calendar of Northwest berry crop events.

- **November 25— B.C Blueberry Council Fall Field Day "Pruning for Profit" and council board meeting~** 9 am- 11 am (board meeting). 1- 3 pm (field day). Krause Berry Farms. 6179 248 St. Langley, BC. See [flyer](#) for more details.
- **December 1— Washington Strawberry Commission~** 9 am-2 pm. Chicon Room, WSU Research & Extension Center, 7612 Pioneer Way E., Puyallup, WA 98371. For information call Walter Swenson at 360-352-1236 or [email him](#).
- **December 2-4— Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research Annual Conference~** Kennewick, WA. [Click here](#) for registration and agenda information.
- **December 7— Washington Red Raspberry Commission Annual Meeting~** 10-2. Lynden, WA. For more information call Henry Bierlink at 360-354-8767 or [email](#) him.
- **December 8— WSU Small Fruit Workshop~** [Click here](#) for the agenda and registration information or contact Colleen Burrows, WSU Whatcom County Extension, 360-676-6736 or [email](#) her
- **December 8— Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission Annual Meeting~** 8-1:30. Wellspring Medical Center, Woodburn, Oregon. For more information contact [Philip Gütt](#): 541-758-4043.
- **December 9— Washington Blueberry Commission Annual Meeting~** 9-5, [Click here](#) for the agenda and registration information or contact Alan Schreiber, 509-266-4305 or [email](#) him.
- **January 7, 2010— Oregon Blueberry Commission meeting~** Northwest Research and Extension Center, Aurora, OR.: 9am-12pm: Commission meeting; 12:30-5 pm. Blueberry Researcher/ Contractor Roundup (all growers invited). Call 503 364-2944 for more information.
- **January 12-15, 2010— Ag Connect Expo~** Orlando, FL. A new farm show, organized by farm equipment manufacturers to showcase the latest industry innovations, products and technology. For more information visit the [Ag Connect website](#).
- **January 17-20, 2010—96th Annual NW Food Manufacturing and Packaging Expo and Conference~** Portland, OR. Convention Center. visit [www.nwfpa.org](http://www.nwfpa.org) in the coming months to view the 2010 EXPO event pages.
- **January 26, 2010—Oregon Horticulture Society Annual Meeting and 41st Annual NW Ag Show~** 7:45 am- 4:00 pm. Blueberry section 1- 4 pm. Portland, OR Expo Center. Visit [www.OregonHorticulturalSociety.org](http://www.OregonHorticulturalSociety.org) for more information.
- **January 28-30, 2010— Horticulture Growers' Short Course (part of Tradex 12th Annual Pacific Ag Show)~** Abbotsford, British Columbia, CA. More info TBA. *Please note that the dates for this 2010 show are different from previous years due to the Olympics.*

### **Cropwork**

*The winter rains are here in full force and most field work has come to a halt. However, if conditions allow, the following activities can happen.*

*With our newly emerging potential pest, the [spotted wing drosophila](#), it is likely that field sanitation will be an increasingly important economic element in eliminating possible breeding and overwintering sites for this pest.*

### **All crops**

- Can take soil tests for fertility and/or nematodes.
- Maintain weed control.
- Scout for voles and treat as needed.

### **Caneberries**

- Can cut out old floricanes now and tie up primocanes.
- Scout and mark problem weed areas that could be treated in the winter.
- Apply lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer.
- Subsoil and/or hill.
- Can apply copper or Bordeaux after tying up canes.

### **Blueberries**

- Scout for weevil notching on lower leaves.
- Apply sulfur, lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer.

### **Strawberries**

- Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, Strawberry Crown Moth, root disease or soil problems.
- Scout for weevil notching on leaves.
- Apply lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer.