

Small Fruit Update



News and opinions from [Peerbolt Crop Management](#) and [BerriesNW](#) sent out weekly during the growing season, and sporadically when we have something to share in the off season.

September 28, 2010

Table of Contents

[Regional Reports](#)
[Spotted Wing Drosophila Update](#)
[Meetings Information](#)
[Industry News/ Resources](#)
[Ongoing Pest Management Info](#)
[Crop Work](#)

Other links

Website of the Week: [The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug](#). This US Apple video is a great introduction to a pest you'll be hearing a lot about very soon. It's in the Northwest already, with great potential for economic harm to our crops. [Click here](#) for the Oregon Dept. of Ag. Pest alert.
[Upcoming Meetings](#)
[The Weather Cafe](#) by Rufus La Lone
[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

Alert

[Spotted Wing Drosophila](#), all berries: Through the end of this season, the risk of fruit damage and economic losses to this new fruit pest continue will continue to increase. For any berry crop still harvesting in the Northwest, it is highly recommended to take all appropriate measures to mitigate this risk.

See the more extensive [SWD weekly update](#) below for in-depth SWD information.

Meeting Information

For more comprehensive meeting schedule, [click here](#).

- **September 30 — Oregon Strawberry Commission meeting** ~ 6 pm. Roth's in Salem, [Click here](#) for the agenda. Contact [Philip Gutt](#) for more information.
- **October 14 — Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission meeting** ~ 5 pm. Langdon Farms in Aurora. Contact [Philip Gutt](#) for more information.
- **October 27 — Washington Red Raspberry Commission meeting** ~ Lynden, WA., 19th Street Fire Hall at 1 pm. [Email](#) Henry Bierlink for more information, or call 360-354-8767.
- **October 28 — Washington Blueberry Commission meeting** ~ WSU Mt Vernon REC. [Email](#) Alan Schreiber for more information, or call 509-266-4300.
- **November 4-6 — Mexico: National Berry Conference** ~ Zamora, Michoacán, Mexico. [Click here](#) (Spanish) [Click here](#) for the English translation.

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](#)

Industry News/Resources

Video

- [Raspberries under high tunnels](#) (9/22, FGNtv)

Newsletters

- [British Columbia Blueberry IPM Newsletter for 9/20](#)
- [Michigan State IPM Fruit Newsletter for 9/28](#)
- ['The Source' for 9/22](#) Market updates from *The Produce News*

National

- [Eat your blueberries! They may cut risk of diabetes and high blood pressure](#) (9/20, Orlando Sentinel)
- [USDA announces Specialty Crop Block Grants](#) (9/17, Growing Produce)
- [Single audit standard project picking up speed \(GAP harmonization\)](#) (9/23, The Packer)

International

- [Strong demand likely for late Argentinean blueberries](#) (9/22, The Packer)
- [Naturipe Farms ramps up imported berry program](#) (9/22, The Produce News)
- [Blueberries lead the way for imported berries at retail](#) (9/21, The Produce News)

Crop Protection Materials News

- [Can drip applied pesticides be used to manage spotted wing drosophila \(SWD\) in raspberries?](#) (9/20, Mark Bolda, UC Extension blog) Field research looking at Admire and Platinum for SWD management. Results were not encouraging.

[Click here](#) to go back to the top of this newsletter.

Ongoing Pest Management Information

Insects/Mites

- **Weevils, strawberries, blueberries:** [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.
- **Redberry Mites, late ripening blackberries:** Evergreens are usually the hardest hit. The berries turn brick red and hard instead of ripening.

Diseases

- [How to recognize Phytophthora & Pythium root rot in blueberries](#) (8/24, Fruit Crop Advisory Team Alert)
- **Blueberry fungal diseases:** [Anthracnose Ripe Rot](#), [Alternaria Fruit Rot](#), [Botrytis Fruit Mold](#), [Mummyberry](#).
- **Raspberry and blackberry fungal diseases:** [Botrytis Fruit Mold](#), late ripening blackberries, [Blackberry Rust](#) (Phragmidium Rust) evergreen blackberries, [Yellow Rust](#), raspberries, [Phytophthora Root Rot](#) raspberries.
- **Raspberry and blackberry virus diseases:** Raspberry Bushy Dwarf virus, [Raspberries](#), [Marionberries](#).

Spotted Wing Drosophila Update for 9-28-10

This Update is a collaborative effort with contributions from OSU, USDA-ARS, WSU, and Peerbolt Crop Management.

- [Click here](#) for information links from PCM.
- [Click here](#) for the OSU SWD website.
- [Click here](#) for the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands SWD website.
- [Click here](#) for the WSU, Mt. Vernon SWD website.
- [Click here](#) for SWD Resources for Eastern Washington Fruit Growers

Grape Information

- **New:** [Current SWD Information for Grapes \(OSU\)](#)
- [SWD Grape Trial Update](#) (8/28) (WSU)
- [SWD in Wine Grapes Fact Sheet](#) (WSU)
- [SWD in Concord Grapes Fact Sheet](#) (WSU)

Research on Management Materials

- [Can drip applied pesticides be used to manage spotted wing drosophila \(SWD\) in raspberries?](#) (9/20, Mark Bolda, UC Extension blog) Field research looking at Admire and Platinum for SWD management. Results were not encouraging.

SWD News Stories

- [SWD in grapes on San Miguel Island?](#) (9/22, Reign of Terroir blog)
- (Utah) [Researchers spot new pest in Utah](#) (9/23, Daily Herald)
- (Colorado) [Newest intruder might bug state wine industry](#) (9/20, Wine Openers)
- (Michigan) [MSU gets Specialty Crop Block grant titled: 'Early Detection-Rapid Response Program for Spotted Wing Drosophila'](#) (9/22, Michigan Dept. of Agriculture)

[Click here](#) to go back to the top of this newsletter.

General Comments

- Much of the emphasis on SWD population dynamics and potential damage is now moving into grape crops as the fruit begins ripening and sugars increase.
- Some late season infestations in commercial blueberry, blackberry, and raspberry have been verified. Most of these have been minor.
- Himalayan blackberry infestations have appeared to be spotty. Some berries have very high infestation rates while others don't seem to have been impacted.
- SWD populations continue to increase and will through the end of the season.
- The ongoing insecticide management program has been very effective where implemented consistently.
- The Oregon 5-scout survey that was funded by the Oregon Department of Agriculture from April through August has ended. The primary objective of this survey was to minimize the economic impact of this new pest on Oregon fruit growers. The great majority of the harvest is finished.
- Some vineyard and late season caneberry and blueberry SWD trapping will continue through the end of September in Oregon/SW Washington with 2 scouts funded through a Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research (USDA) grant.
- Some growers report finding larvae infested fruit even though they had little or no trap catches. *The monitoring program for SWD is still very much a work in progress.* There are many variables we're still working out, so take this into consideration when making management decision.
- This is the window in time to evaluate the economic impact of Himalayan blackberries on SWD and whether it's necessary to invest more into research/methods of coping with blackberries around the fields.
- As blueberry and caneberry fields finish harvest, a post harvest insecticide treatment is recommended to prevent the field from harboring a breeding population of SWD.

Northwest Monitoring Update

The following information comes primarily from public monitoring programs. Number of crop types, fields, and traps varies greatly so the numbers should be viewed as indicators only. This pest can be very site specific. Any treatment decisions should be based on monitoring data/observations gathered directly from the field to be treated and the individual grower's best judgment.

British Columbia

- [SWD Monitoring Update for Coastal British Columbia for 9/20](#)

Whatcom, Skagit, and Pierce Counties, Washington

WSU Extension in the following counties have organized SWD public monitoring programs placing traps in sites where growers have volunteered to share information. Click on the blue county name to go to the interactive mapping sites with trap numbers and location

- [Whatcom County](#)
- [Skagit County](#)
- [Pierce County](#)

SW Washington and Western Oregon

The Washington berry commissions and the Oregon Department of Ag. along with the USDA, OSU extension, and Peerbolt Crop Management have supported and organized the survey from which the following information is taken. Grower identification as well as specific field sites are anonymous.

- [Click here](#) to go to the PCM SWD site for charts of county quadrants being scouted and regularly updated monitoring data from these counties.

- [Click here](#) to go to the OSU Extension SWD population county mapping site.

SWD Management Recommendations

Entomologists from the USDA-ARS, WSU, OSU have collaborated to produce updated SWD management plans for blueberries and caneberries. They've been posted on the OSU SWD website.

- For the blueberry management plan, [Click here](#).
- For the caneberry management plan, [Click here](#).

Other related links on the site:

- [Recognizing Fruit Damage by Spotted Wing Drosophila](#) Good, clear photos of SWD damage in berries.
- SWD Chemical control considerations: [Click here](#). (Includes many links and information including pollinator conservation information and alert postings)
- Insecticides registered in Oregon and Washington along with relevant SWD management information for each: [Click here](#). (includes relevant MRL issues, PHI's, REI's, efficacy, etc.)

[Click here](#) to go back to the top of this newsletter.

Leaf/tissue analysis & Soil testing

Post harvest is the best time to do most soil and leaf testing for nutrient management planning.

- **Blueberries:** Leaf/tissue testing and pH monitoring are most critical. Complete soil tests don't correlate well with plant needs as leaf/tissue tests. [Click here](#) to view OSU's Blueberry Nutrient (and testing) Guidelines.
- **Blackberries and Raspberries:** While annual soil testing has been the industry norm, Oregon State's recently updated nutritional guide recommends annual leaf/tissue testing, with soil tests done just every few years. [Click here](#) to view OSU's Caneberry Nutrient (and testing) Guidelines.

Crop work

All crops—

- Pay attention to new plantings of all berries for weeds, water, insects, diseases, and nutrient deficiencies.
- Weed management.
- Post-harvest—soil and leaf test for evaluation of nutrients.
- Apply lime, dolomite, gypsum and/or fall fertilizer.
- Scout for vole damage.

Blueberries—Harvest ongoing in late ripening cultivars

- Scout for Spotted Wing Drosophila.
- Scout for fruit disease problems (e.g. Mummyberry, Botrytis, Alternaria, Anthracnose).
- Scout for fall webworm and remove from field.
- Prune out canker-killed branches and remove them from the field.
- Scout for weevils and weevil notching.

Caneberries that are finished with harvest:

- Can cut out old floricanes now and tie up primocanes.
- Scout and mark problem weed areas that could be treated in the winter.
- If cane disease isn't a problem, you can wait to do cane work on raspberries until October or later for better plant health, improved cold hardiness, and less overwintering habitat for leafrollers.
- Can subsoil and till in raspberries after harvest. The soil fractures much better when it is dry so it's best to do this now before the fall rains start.
- For fields coming out this year, can basally spray with Roundup if perennial weeds are present.

Blackberries—Harvest ongoing in late ripening cultivars

- Scout for Spotted Wing Drosophila.
- Scout for rust.
- Scout for mites.
- Scout for Redberry Mite infested fruit.
- Scout for potential crop contaminants. Treat as needed.
- Scout for fruit mold and treat as needed.
- Scout for fruit disorders (e.g. crumbly fruit, dry cell) and determine cause.

Raspberries—Processed harvest finished in all regions

- Can apply post harvest insecticide just after harvest SWD management.
- Scout for Yellow Rust and assess treatment options.

- Scout for spider mites and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms and send in samples for testing as needed.
- Scout for aphids and treat as needed.

Strawberries—Processed harvest is finished in all regions

- Can apply fertilizer.
- Scout weak areas for root weevil larvae, Strawberry Crown Moth, root disease or soil problems.
- Scout for weevil notching on leaves.

[Click here](#) to go back to the top of this newsletter.

Archived Small Fruit Updates

(for older Updates [click here](#))

[09-16-10](#)

[09-07-10](#)

[08-31-10](#)