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CRANBERRY VINE

WSU Long Beach Research and Extension Unit
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"There is an inescapable kinship between farming and art, for farming depends as much on character, devotion, imagination, and the sense of structure, as on knowledge. It is a practical art." - W. Berry

Meetings

Washington Cranberry Field Day, Friday, July 29, 2011, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with a 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. registration. PCCRF/WSU Farm, 2907 Pioneer Rd. Long Beach, WA.

BC Cranberry Field Day, Wednesday, August 24, 2011 9:30 a.m. Mayland and Mayberry Farms 2611 No. 7 Road, Richmond BC.

The agenda for Washington Cranberry Field Day includes several presentations and demonstrations on wireless temperature and soil moisture sensors, new pest management tools, new varieties, and cranberry growth and physiology. Terry Humfeld, the new Cranberry Institute Director, will provide an update on the new directions in which the industry and the Cranberry Institute are going. Pesticide credits will be given to Washington and Oregon growers.

Useful websites for growers

http://beginingfarmerrancher.wordpress.com/ This site has a short and comprehensive guide to farm finance management. It has good basic information on everything you should know about farm finances, from taxes to booking to actually making a profit.

http://extension.usu.edu/carbon/files/uploads/Equipment/Sprayers/ This site has a cool spreadsheet to help you calibrate your backpack sprayer and mix different rates of chemicals.

http://irrigation.wsu.edu/index.php This site has everything you need to know about irrigation and chemigation use and design, including a host of information that can be used for design management, chemigation calibration, nozzle replacement, friction loss, irrigation rates, conversion tables for everything, and much more. Exceedingly useful and a must-look.

https://lists.uwex.edu/mailman/listinfo/virtualmarsh Use this site to subscribe to the Wisconsin Cranberry Newsletter. A great source of information.

Disease control

Lots of calls about twig blight this year. There is still some misunderstanding about controlling twig blight. Spraying for it in the spring is like putting on your seat belt after the car crash. It doesn't work. The infection has already occurred; the damage is done. You have to protect next year's growth by having a protective coating of fungicide on the new susceptible leaf tissue when the fungus is sporulating. In the old days, when we had a plant pathologist, we

would assess when sporulation occurred. Now we try to target most of July, by spreading out our applications beginning at fruit set and ending a month later.

MRL's: There are several new and old chemistries that are generating mass confusion about MRL's and what is legal to use. This could get you in trouble with export market vs. what is legal to use and has no MRL concerns.

I strongly suggest that you talk to your handler before using Altacor, Quinstar, Intrepid, Belay, Maneb, Dithane or Ferbam. These all have restrictions. In many instances it may be worthwhile not going with an export incentive and using one of these pesticides if you have a severe infestation of the target pest. Depending on your yield, a $1/bbl export incentive may or may not be worthwhile.

Insecticides: Altacor is likely to receive a label by the time you receive this mailing. This is a great new fireworm insecticide that is extremely safe on bees. Belay should be used post-set for girdler or weevil larvae control. Data on its efficacy on girdler is weak, but it is all we have. It tends to be better than Admire for weevil larvae control. Efficacy will be compromised in organic peaty soils.

Our early data on farm Delegate chemigation has been variable, with the high rate of 6 oz/a being necessary to achieve good control. However, efficacy has been compromised largely by the length of run to the treated bed. Beds far away from the injection point have shown less efficacy than those closer. We believe this has to do with wetting of the vines before and during application as well as a dilution effect of just how much water is in the line to dilute the chemical. Sprinkler bore size appears to be less detrimental than the total time to clear the sprinklers including injection time.

This study is still in the early stages so we will have more complete data later in the summer. However, we have seen comparable efficacy to Diazinon when Delegate is hand-sprayed. This is a dry granular product and it may be a good idea for growers to have some on hand for spot spraying hot spots prior to the rest of your farm being ready for a total top to bottom application. It is fairly safe for the applicator compared to Diazinon. Intrepid is also a good choice, but since it is a liquid you may not want to keep it for multiple years, where settling out may be a problem over time compared to a wettable granule.

Herbicides: Growers are reporting great results from Curio on a host of weed species, not just buttercup. Consider trying it on yellowweed (YW), clover and lotus. Use ½ oz rate during sensitive cranberry growth periods. We've tested Curio on YW, lotus, tall spike rush, cutgrass, horsetail, sourgrass (sourdock), and clover this spring and have seen at least some degree of efficacy on all of these. Both spike rush and cutgrass have died back in bogs treated with Curio. Horsetail is stunted, but, when Callisto is also being sprayed, control should be achieved. Sourgrass, lotus, and clover also are stunted, but it appears they may grow out of the damage.

YW sprayed last year at the end of July showed the best efficacy we've seen so far with YW largely absent in the treated areas. These areas were sprayed at 2/3 oz/a with a low volume spray nozzle. We will continue to monitor these sites to determine long-term efficacy. There appears to be no impact on this year's bloom in these areas and the YW had completely burned down becoming brown and dry prior to last years harvest. We are still fine-tuning application rates and timings for controlling these weeds.

Quinstar should receive a Section 18 for yellowweed by the time you receive this.

Additional information will be forthcoming concerning its label and use, once that registration is obtained. Do not be surprised to see very little effect on YW in the year of application. The plant may appear stunted and sickly, but burndown has rarely been observed. However the following season YW just doesn't come up in the treated areas. At least this has been the case in our plots. We will have to wait and see how well this works once registration is obtained and it can be applied at full scale. We look forward to hearing grower feedback on this once you have the chance to try it.

Late growing season bemusings

By my count, we are about three weeks behind, which never is good for assuring a decent crop year. Fruit size will likely be running small this year. Based on our previous years' data, the crop can continue to size into October. Consider harvesting later than normal.

Blackheaded Fireworm: Trap counts continue to climb in Long Beach and have yet to peak at most locations. We've been conducting sweeping at multiple locations with historically high larval populations and have only found them at one. If you have a field with excessively high moth counts and/or had a lot of damage last year, consider sweeping every 3 to 5 days. I do sets of 5 sweeps. To sweep correctly you must sweep across the vine tips hard (this will knock off blossoms and berries). The peak density differs from farm to farm so you have to determine what your peak larval count is to insure maximum bang for your buck when you apply a spray.

Fields with higher densities of 5 or more larvae/5 sweeps may require more applications than sites with <5 larvae/5 sweeps. Sweep 3-5 days following a pesticide application to determine whether or not you will need additional sprays. A less damaging way to evaluate the presence of larvae prior to sweeping is to tease apart webbed tips by hand, using tweezers or a pocket knife. However, this is more time-consuming and provides a less thorough idea of how extensive the infestation of blackheaded fireworm is

WEATHER HISTORY – WSU Long Beach Research and Extension Unit

	Precipitation (inches per month)						**Monthly Growing Degree Days (based 45°)**				
Month	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**	**20 year average**		**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**	**20 year average**
January	10.5	10.8	13.2	12.2	**12.2**		4	23	83	28	**48**
February	5.4	3.7	8.2	7.8	**7.4**		16	20	56	4	**41**
March	9.7	7.7	9.5	10.6	**8.6**		12	10	72	22	**68**
April	5.3	4.2	7.9	8.4	**6.4**		43	61	92	29	**114**
May	2.5	4.8	3.9	4.8	**3.7**		230	214	180	158	**244**
June	2.4	0.7	4.9	1.9	**2.9**		244	361	290	338	**340**
July	0.5	0.8	0.9		*1.1*		364	427	377		*443*
August	4.0	1.6	1.5		*1.9*		425	463	411		*453*
September	0.9	3.3	5.6		*2.3*		326	401	382		*375*
October	4.9	8.2	7.8		*7.1*		166	184	220		*217*
November	11.1	20.3	13.2		*12.1*		138	71	85		*86*
December	11.3	6.2	14.7		*12.4*		16	27	35		*34*
Totals	**68.5**	**71.0**	**91.4**				**1984**	**2263**	**2283**		

June 2011 data was collected through June 28, and prorated for the rest of the month. The 20 year averages from January-June are for 2011 data and from July to December are for 2010 data.

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