

# SOUTH COAST GROWER NEWS

**Oregon State** | **Extension Service**  
**UNIVERSITY** | **Coos County**

Volume 3, Issue 3

October 2009

Linda White

Commercial Horticulture

631 Alder St.

Myrtle Point, OR 97458

(541) 572-5263 x285

(800) 730-4978

E:Mail

[linda.white@oregonstate.edu](mailto:linda.white@oregonstate.edu)

Website:

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/coos>

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## Pest Alert

There is a potentially harmful new pest in Oregon. This season, *Drosophila suzukii*, also known as the spotted wing drosophila or the vinegar fly, was confirmed in fruit in 13 Oregon counties. The pests were found in blueberries, Marionberries, wild blackberries, cherries, raspberries, strawberries, peaches, plums, grapes, figs, hardy kiwis, and Asian pears.

The vinegar fly attacks ripe fruit, not rotting fruit. The female fly uses her saw-like ovipositor to lay eggs in ripening fruit. This leaves a small scar or soft spot on the fruit. The inserted eggs hatch within 1-3 days, and the maggots (larvae) begin to feed on the interior of the fruit. Within just a few days, the fruit will begin to collapse and secondary pest, fungal and/or bacterial infections may attack the fruit. Crop loss may be severe.

It is unclear how many generations of the pest will be seen in Oregon. California predicts 3-10 generations a year, but Japan has reported up to 13 generations per year.

Monitoring for the pest should begin at the time fruit ripens using baits and attractants. There is currently no established control measure for the pest in Oregon.

More complete information on this pest can be found in the enclosed OSU Regional Pest Alert or online at:

<http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/jspui/bitstream/1957/13090/1/em8991.pdf>

It is not known if this pest will attack cranberries or other fruit on the southern Oregon coast. I may be contacting area farms this next season to install traps to monitor for the pest.

## Cranberry Watch

For those of you who have completed harvest—congratulations. For those of you still harvesting, I hope all continues to run smoothly. Once you have taken a well deserved rest, consider your off-season chores.

If black vine weevils were a problem in your beds, Admire (imidacloprid) at 0.25 lb ai/acre may be applied between November 1 and March 1. Irrigate after application with 0.1 to 0.3 inches of water.

Consider re-sanding your beds if cranberry girdler numbers were high and/or plant vigor is decreasing. The optimum depth of sand to apply is still under discussion, however, applying 0.5 to 1.0 inch of sand will help improve plant growth by stimulating root and upright growth, level low spots, and alter the pest habitat for girdler by reducing the duff layer. Sanding will also improve soil drainage. Remember to reduce your

nitrogen fertilization application by at least 5 pounds per acre the season after sanding.

Weed mapping. If your most troublesome weeds are still apparent in your beds, map them now so that you can focus your weed control measures better next growing season.

Nutrient management. Review your nutrient management strategy for this season and consider what changes should be made for next season. Utilize your soil and tissue analyses. Contact me for advice and suggestions or if you have nutrient management questions.

Prune your beds, if needed. Research in Oregon has shown that the timing of pruning had no effect on fruit yield or quality when pruning was done between early December and early March. Research has also shown

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## Cranberry Watch (cont.)

that a light pruning every other year results in higher yields and better fruit color. A heavy pruning every year may reduce your yield the season after pruning.

Burn, or otherwise dispose of, your prunings. Unless you are confident about the purity of the genetic material on your bed, do not use prunings to replant new or renovated beds. If you plan on using your own vines for planting purposes, consider pruning the bed and then mowing the bed for planting material. Off-type cranberries generally produce more vegetative growth

(runners) than productive Stevens or Pilgrim vines.

Prep new and renovated beds for planting. If possible, plant vines immediately after pruning or mowing. If vines cannot be planted immediately, store in a cool and moist environment. Do not let vines dry out, and if feasible, don't keep vines in tight bales.

Set aside time to come to the Oregon Cranberry School on February 2, 2010, and the Native Pollinator ID class on February 3, 2010.

## NACREW 2009



From August 9th-12th, 2009, I attended the North American Cranberry Research and Extension Workers' Conference (NACREW) in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada. Over the course of the three day conference there were 22 oral research presentations, 13 poster presentations, and half a day of farm tours.

Before discussing the research and presentations made at the conference, I would like to talk about what I learned about the cranberry industry in New Brunswick.

There are currently 500 acres of producing beds in the region—most of which were planted since the mid 1990's. The beds that I saw were between 3 and 6 acres in size, and could be planted in peat or in sand.

Insect and disease pressure appear to be fairly small, however, this year tipworm was an issue for some growers.

Most of the New Brunswick growers are independent and until recently all the harvested fruit would need to leave the province for handling. However, recently a group of eight growers opened a receiving station and freezer facility adjacent to a local farm.

New Brunswick's grower base may soon expand as plans get underway on the development of up to 2,000 acres of cranberry beds. The entire expansion may or may not take place, as the majority of the land to be utilized is on public land, or as it is known in Canada "crown land". Canada's permit and regulatory system for crown lands is

very extensive. Assessed components include water resources, terrestrial, wetland, and freshwater environments, land use, archeological and heritage resources, and aboriginal land and resource use—to name a few.

Now, as to the conference presentations. This year, water and water use were popular topics. 3 presentations were given on the topic. Peter Jeranyama (UMass) gave a presentation on developing a Crop Water Stress Index (CWSI) to be used as a tool in scheduling irrigation. The study monitored water use in both peat and sand beds in Massachusetts. The CWSI was determined by plant temperature and the vapor pressure deficit (a measurement of the dryness of the air). As the vapor pressure deficit increases, the CWSI increases, with a greater stress index being seen in sand beds over peat beds. The CWSI was also found to be highest during the hours of 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm.

Brian Mauza (Ocean Spray, Canada) presented on using an evaporatanspiration model to estimate water requirements in cranberries. Monitoring in 2009 using an Argus system showed that at certain times rainfall and irrigation exceeded evapotranspiration (overwatering) and at other times evapotranspiration exceeded accumulated rainfall and irrigation (underwatering). On the observed farm, underwatering occurred primarily in early to mid June, and overwatering occurred through July. The study found that even light winds can double evapotranspiration, and that

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## NACREW (cont.)

this model for irrigation use does not compensate for a poorly designed irrigation system.

The third presentation relating to water use/monitoring (which I will not be discussing today) was by Simon Bonin. The objective of

this study was to develop an irrigation management strategy based on tensionmetric data.

All the presentations and abstracts for the conference are available on-line at: <http://nacrew.bioatlantech.nb.ca/public/jpage/1/p/Home/content.do>



### CORE Pesticide Training, December 15th 2009.

ShoreBank Enterprise Cascadia, in partnership with Austin Family Business Program, is presenting **Farmland Transition and Business Succession Planning Workshop**, on Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at the Bandon Conference and Community Center (The Barn). The event, which will be held from 8:30 am until 4:00 pm, will cover such topics as estate planning, tax issues when transferring assets, retirement and transfer planning, assessing current business

strategies, and available resources to assist in the transition/succession process.

The cost for the event is \$25 for 1 or 2 family members, and \$15 for each additional family member. Registration must be completed by Monday, November 2, 2009, if paying by credit card on-line at: [www.familybusinessonline.org](http://www.familybusinessonline.org).

If you are unable to register on-line, you may contact Maggie Kirby at ShoreBank Enterprise Cascadia at 1-800-859-7609.

## CORE Pesticide Training

There will be a CORE pesticide training session this year. It will be held on December 15th, 2009, in the Bandon Library Meeting Room, from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. If you have a private pesticide applicator's license, you are required to attend 4 hours of CORE trainings within the 5 year license period to become re-certified.

The class will include sessions on: back to basis, pesticide label and formulations,

personal protective equipment, and cranberry integrated pest management. You must attend the entire training session in order to receive your recertification credits.

Space is limited for this event due to the location, so, priority will be given to those who sign up in advance. There will be a \$5.00 fee for this event. Please contact the Coos County Extension Office (541) 572-5263 to sign up for the class or with any questions.

## New Publications

There are a selection of new and updated Extension publications on a variety of topics that may be of interest:

**EM 8982-E**, Ammonia Control Best Management Practices. 5 pages, no charge, (online only)

**EM 8985**, Field Monitoring for Grapevine Leafroll Virus and Mealybug in Pacific Northwest Vineyards. 6 pages, \$5.50

**EM 8990**, Grapevine Leafroll Virus and Mealybug Prevention and Management in Oregon Vineyards. 4 pages, \$6.00

**PNW 612**, Storing Food for Safety and Quality. 22 pages, no charge

**EC 1631-E**, Toxic Blooms in Oregon Waters. 4 pages, no charge, (online only)

**EC 1632**, Storing Pumpkin and Winter Squash at Home. 2 pages, no charge

On-line publications can be obtained at:

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/>

These publications can all be obtained at the Coos County Extension Office or online.





Linda White, Commercial Horticulture  
 Coos County OSU Extension  
 Ohlsen Baxter Building  
 631 Alder St.  
 Myrtle Point, OR 97458

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## Upcoming Events and Workshops

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| <b>November 10, 2009</b><br>8:30 am—4:00 pm  | <b>Farmland Transition and Business Succession Planning Workshop</b><br>Bandon Conference Center, The Barn, Bandon |
| <b>December 15, 2009</b><br>8:00 am—12:00 pm | <b>CORE Pesticide Training</b><br>Library Meeting Room, Bandon   |
| <b>February 2, 2010</b>                      | <b>2010 Cranberry School</b><br>Sprague Theater, Bandon  |
| <b>February 3, 2010</b>                      | <b>Native Pollinator Workshop</b><br>Time and Location TBA   |
| <b>February</b>                              | <b>Blueberry Pruning Workshop</b><br>Date, Time and Location TBA   |

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