Cranberry Yield Estimation

Two ways to estimate cranberry yield:

Always choose an area of the cranberry bed that represents the cranberry bed as a whole – don't pick in especially good or bad areas of the bed.

1. In general, in Oregon, a 1 gram fruit is approximately equal to 1 barrel per acre.
    a. Weigh an average fruit, if it weights approximately 1 gram, then;
    b. Pick the fruit in a square foot area.
    c. Count the number of berries to estimate your barrels per acre.

Example: You pick all of the fruit from a 3" x 3" area of your cranberry bed. Weighing 1 or two berries, you see that they each weigh approximately 1 gram. You then count the berries. You have 35 berries in the 3" x3" area. If you multiple that number of berries by 4, you get 140 berries - or 140 barrels per acre.

2. Pick all of the fruit from a 1 square foot area of cranberry bed, or an equally divisible smaller amount.
    a. Weigh the berries.
    b. If weight is in grams, multiple the number by 0.0022 to get pounds per square foot.
    c. Multiply the number by 43,560 (total number of square feet per acre).
    d. Divide the number by 100. This gives you barrels per acre.

Example: You pick 1 square foot of cranberries in late August, and the fruit from that area weighs 250 grams. You multiple 250 grams by 0.0022, which equals 0.55 pounds. Multiple 0.55 pounds by the total number of square feet per acre (43,560), which equals 23,958. Divide 23,958 by 100 pounds. This number, 240 is the barrel per acre yield estimate for the bed.

Note: If you take yield estimations in mid to late August, your yield should increase by approximately 20%, as average fruit weights in Oregon are between 1.2 and 1.4 grams per berry during the harvest season (October –mid-November).

Useful conversions and information for yield estimations

Gram weight x 454 = pounds

1 pound = 454 grams

1 gram = 0.0022 pounds

Number of square feet in an acre = 43,560

1 barrel of cranberries = 100 pounds