



WASHINGTON RED RASPBERRY COMMISSION NEWS

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New Raspberry Varieties Preview - July 8th



The Raspberry machine harvesting field day will be at Randy Honcoop's farm, 9696 Northwood Rd., Lynden on **July 8th from 2:00-4:00 pm**. We will be harvesting the 2012 and 2013 plantings that day prior to the field day. Fruit from the most promising selections from both plantings will be displayed. Cascade Harvest will be harvested from the 2013 planting and WSU 1980 currently in grower trials will be harvested from the 2012 planting. There are 90 WSU selections in the 2012 machine harvesting planting that will be machine harvested and 67 WSU selections in the 2013 planting with 57 being machine harvested for the first time.

I encourage growers and processors to attend the field day. Your input is essential in deciding which selections best meet your needs and have commercial potential.

Patrick P. Moore, WSU Berry breeder (253) 445-4525

Raspberry Research Projects Busy During Harvest

Critical questions about the viability of the raspberry industry are being explored through the WRRRC funded research programs conducted in University research stations, labs throughout the nation, and in local fields. Plant breeding programs in WA, OR, and BC are seeking to develop the best new varieties that are resistant to troubling viruses. Entomology programs seek improved SWD and mite controls. Weeds are a consistent challenge and new tools and techniques are explored annually. Our new plant physiologist is testing the utility of cover crops and A/Y production. Dr. Manoj Karkee (*pictured below*) is cooperating with Prosser based scientists to adapt robotics developed in other fruits to the pruning and tying of raspberry canes. We have several projects seeking improved botrytis resistance through a better understanding of the pathogen and new tools to combat it.

Soil health was a new area for WRRRC research four years ago and we now have 5 projects addressing the root zone of our crop.

We are always alert to questions and concerns from growers that help us target our research towards your needs. Contact WRRRC board members or the WRRRC office to be sure your issue gets prioritized for future research.



National Processed Raspberry Council Approves 2016 Budget, Programs

The National Processed Raspberry Council met on May 19 to review proposed research and marketing plans. A \$1.9 million budget to fund the plans was approved. Council Chair John Clark expressed pleasure in how quickly the Council had built its organizational structure and launched its marketing program. He recognized the importance of keeping the industry informed of how the Council was investing its money, and urged growers to take advantage of opportunities to attend meetings where programs and activity results were presented.

The Council is funding 5 new and 11 ongoing research projects. All new projects will be either human clinical or animal studies, and will provide valuable input to the marketing program. New projects will look at the role of raspberries in Obesity Prevention and Metabolic Syndrome, Osteoarthritis, Vascular Function, Cognitive Behavior and Motor Function.

The Council established a Food Safety Committee to address industry requirements under the Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA). The Committee's first action will be to receive and consider a proposal to conduct an industry vulnerability and risk assessment. The assessment will identify both real and perceived risks, and provide a recommended course of action.

The marketing program is targeting consumers, foodservice operators, and food manufacturers with outreach and education. An integrated communications program using digital, print, and social media tools supported by one-on-one meetings will carry a message about the nutritional benefits and usage advantages of processed raspberries.



For more information on the Council and its resources, visit www.redrazz.org.

Washington Red Raspberry

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Promotion, Fair Trade, and Research assistance for Raspberry Growers

News Notes

December Berry Meetings

Plans are underway for the fifth annual Lynden Ag Show and NW Berry Conference to be held December 2-4, 2015 in Lynden. We are planning to begin the conference on Wednesday this year to allow more time to incorporate the WRRRC and WBC Annual Meetings and to present more opportunity for growers to access multiple workshops. Learn more about the Conference and Trade Show at <http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/edu/sfc/>

Exhibitors are encouraged to contact WRRRC, the WA Blueberry Commission, or the organizational team via the website. Vendors may want to be sure your email filter allows contact from <https://www.regonline.com/sfclas2015>.

Food Safety Update

The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) will up the ante on food safety issues. This act gives FDA new and enhanced mandates and authorities to protect consumers and promote public health. The WRRRC has educational materials and forms from the seminars we sponsored with the WA Blueberry Commission the past three springs. The first step for farmers' food safety efforts to become Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certified through a food safety audit. WSDA has a program to help you get third party certified. Contact them at 360-902-1833.

Berry Health Benefits Symposium

Madison, Wisconsin is the location for the [2015 Berry Health Benefits Symposium](#). The WRRRC has been a leading sponsor of this biennial event since the beginning in 2005. The symposium gathers health oriented scientists from around the world to discuss research on berries and introduces these studies to food scientists and dieticians who are looking to produce new food products. The National Processed Raspberry Council has kept up raspberry's investment in this event to be held October 13-15 this fall.

New WSDA Representative Appointed

WRRRC thanks Ted Maxwell for serving as the WSDA representative to our board for the past 3 years. Upon Ted's retirement WSDA appointed Joel Kangiser to take that position. Joel obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Crop Science from Oregon State University in 1979. Before coming to work for the Washington State Department of Agriculture in 1990, Joel worked for two agricultural chemical dealerships in Western Washington. He also operated his own business in the urban horticultural and structural pest control industries in Western Washington. Joel has worked in both the Compliance and Registration programs for the Pesticide Management Division. Joel's current position is Policy Assistant for the Pesticide Management Division. Welcome Joel!

Nominations for WRRRC Board Recruited

Nominations for upcoming board positions will be received by the WA Dept. of Agriculture via phone in early September. They will be contacting growers throughout western WA asking you to be thinking about who you want to represent you. Erin Thoeny (at-large) has served you six years and is no longer eligible to be re-nominated. Glenn Sakuma (District #1) is completing his first three-year term and is eligible to be re-nominated. There is also an open position representing District #1. We encourage you to be part of the nominating process so that you can keep your Raspberry Board responsive to your top priorities. The WRRRC will also be considering appointments for our 2 Advisory positions. These are one year appointments currently filled by Steve Midboe and Joan Yoder.

Production Reports Due

The Grower and Processor Report Forms are being mailed along with this newsletter. Please return your completed form prior to the due date to insure you are properly credited for your assessment dollars. E-forms are available at www.red-raspberry.org/commission.asp.

Calendar

Contact the WRRRC office for information on each of these upcoming educational opportunities

July 8 - Machine Harvest Field Day - 2-4 pm - *Honcoop Farm*

July 9 - WSU Mt Vernon Field Day - 3:30-6 pm - *Mt Vernon*

July 17-18 - NW Red Raspberry Festival - *Lynden*

September 9 - WRRRC Board Meeting, 1 pm - *WRRRC Office, Lynden*

October 13-15 - 6th biennial Berry Health Benefits Symposium - *Madison, WI*

October 28 - WRRRC Board Meeting, 1 pm - *WRRRC office, Lynden*

November 2-3 - National Raspberry Council meeting - *Seattle*

December 2-4 - WSU Small Fruit Workshop, Lynden Ag Show, WRRRC Bd. Mtg. *Lynden*