



WASHINGTON RED RASPBERRY COMMISSION NEWS

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Annual Meeting December 7th Rotary Building

Growers have a great opportunity to help direct the future of the raspberry industry by participating in the 2005 Annual Meeting at 5 pm on December 7th in the Rotary Building in Lynden.

The Board will present reports from 2005 activities and discuss the 2006 priorities and budget. A report on the activities of the National Berry Crop Initiative will provide you an opportunity to be part of WRRC's strong commitment to partnerships with other berry groups around the nation.

We welcome your ideas and guidance as we seek the best use of your assessment dollars.

Plan to join us at the Rotary Building on the NW WA Fairgrounds on December 7th. Refreshments will be available.



Darryl Ehlers explains raspberry production to state agency representatives interested in groundwater protection.

Darryl is beginning his 2nd term on the board.

National Berry Crop Initiative Takes Shape

The WRRC is painfully aware of our reliance on others to be successful. We have fundamental plant breeding and field research needs that have been addressed, in part, by federal, state and local governments through funding researchers and research projects. We have a very small promotion budget that will not have great effect unless we leverage our efforts with that of other berry crops.

Pesticide Recertification Credits

WSU's annual workshop is postponed this year due to numerous conflicts with the Rubes Ribes Symposium in Chile.

Fortunately, Whatcom Farmers Co-op has risen to the challenge of organizing a workshop to fill the gap. This workshop is scheduled for December 13th in Lynden. The Co-op is offering it as a free service to their customers and welcomes non-customers for a small charge. Contact the fertilizer division at 360-354-2418 for details. WRRC board member Darryl Ehlers will be helping to record certification credits.

The WRRC Board believes in building and maintaining profitable partnerships. We have been avid supporters of the Northwest Center for Small Fruit Research which advances the research interests of all northwest berry and grape growers. We have helped fund a new website dedicated to getting the message of berry health out to a wide audience. You can find it at:

<http://berryhealth.fst.oregonstate.edu/index.html>

Our latest collaboration is the launch of a new national berry organization known as the National Berry Crop Initiative. We are pleased to be partnering with California Strawberries, the North American Blueberry Council, Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry, Maine Wild Blueberries, OceanSpray Cranberries, NA Strawberry and Bramble growers, and many other in this organization.

The WRRC was selected to chair this national effort which has a primary initial focus of ensuring that berry crop growers have their needs addressed in the 2007 US Farm Bill. We also are dedicated to tripling national consumption of berries by 2020. You can learn more about this effort at the WRRC Annual meeting Dec. 7th.

Grower Survey Results

WRRC's first grower survey was a great success! We had nearly 25% of the growers return their surveys and the information collected provided your board with valuable insights into the needs of our industry. We expect you will find that our workplan, research projects, and budget accurately reflect what we heard from the survey.

A few of the more intriguing results of the survey:

- Weevils remain one of the primary insect challenges
- Irrigation and fertilizer management are areas where growers believe they need more information
- Soil ecology (bacteria & fungi in the soil) is an area of high interest
- Growers believe the WRRC should be doing a better job of communicating with them
- Labor concerns are increasing. There is support for exploring labor saving technology and being involved in labor related public policies
- New varieties of raspberries are needed. The top three qualities desired are: high yield, root rot resistance, and RBDV resistance

- Alternatives to current pesticides are a high priority
- There are mixed messages about efforts to stabilize the prices for raspberries. Some see value in grading standards and establishing a tiered price system. Other value cooperative marketing agreements. The WRRC intends to keep this conversation going.

Raspberry Book

The WRRC Board was pleased to hear about plans to develop a book based on the raspberry farms in the Lynden area. Kenneth Grannan of Grannan Photographic Design has developed an outline for a book he calls "Berry Elegant".

WRRC encourages berry growers with interesting family stories surrounding the berry industry to contact Ken, allow him to listen, take some photos, and help him to develop this book.

Contact information for Ken is:

206-250-5957

klggpd@yahoo.com

Year	Seat	WRRC Board of Directors	Year	Seat	WRRC Board of Directors
04	1	Vacant - District #2	07	8	Randy Honcoop Lynden 360-354-1155 ranhonfarm@peoplepc.com
07	2	Rob Dhaliwal, President Lynden 360-318-8501 rob@samsonestates.com	06	9	Jon Cotton Vancouver 360-256-8996 JCatBttlGrnd@aol.com
08	3	John Vander Veen Lynden 360-988-7477 tjveen@cs.com	07	10	John Ozuna Mt. Vernon 360-770-1182
08	4	Darryl Ehlers Lynden 360-988-5184 lingonberry1@aol.com	WSDA	11	Bill Dallas Olympia 360-902-1925 bdallas@agr.wa.gov
08	5	Erin Thoeny, Vice-President Woodland 360-225-7133 thoenyf@pacifier.com	WRRC Office Henry Bierlink, Executive Director Tom Peerbolt, Research Coordinator Cathy Kellett, Office Manager 1796 Front St., Lynden, WA 98264 360-354-8767 fax 360-354-0948 info@red-raspberry.org www.red-raspberry.org		
06	6	Glenn Sakuma, Treasurer Burlington 360-661-4168 glenns@sakumabros.com			
03	7	Vacant - District #2			

Raspberry Research Day in Mt. Vernon—January 9

Growers will have the opportunity to participate in hearing reports of current research and presentation of newly proposed research projects on January 9th at the WSU Research Station in Mt. Vernon. The schedule for the morning is tentatively set below. Contact the WRRRC for directions and confirmation of the schedule in early January. If you desire to read the actual proposals (*list on page 5*) contact the WRRRC office and we'll get you the copies you desire.

Time Presentation

- 10:00 Weed Control in Raspberries**
Dr. Tim Miller, WSU Mt. Vernon Research Station
- 10:20 Insect Control in Raspberries**
Dr. Lynell Tanigoshi, WSU Vancouver Research & Extension Unit
- 10:40 Western Raspberry Fruitworm**
Craig MacConnell, WSU/Whatcom County
- 10:50 Grower Survey for Root Rot**
Craig MacConnell, WSU/Whatcom County
- 11:00 Raspberry Breeding**
Dr. Chaim Kempler, Plant Scientist, Ag & Agri-Food Canada
- 11:20 Raspberry Breeding**
Dr. Pat Moore, Plant Scientist, WSU Puyallup Research Station
- 11:40 Grower Trials Report and Discussion**
- 12:00 LUNCH - Box lunches will be ordered**
Discussion of Raspberry Diseases
- 12:40 New Project Presentations and Discussions**
- 12:40 New Strategies to Replace Nematicur for Plant Parasitic Nematode Control**
Dr. Ekaterina Riga, WSU Prosser Research Station
- 1:10 Effects of Drip tape Placement on Spread of Raspberry Root Rot**
- 1:30 Irrigation deficits at critical Raspberry Development Stages and Cover Crops to reduce Nitrogen Leaching Potential**
- 1:50 Field Evaluation of Raspberry Irrigation Systems**
Dr. Tom Walters, WSU Mt. Vernon Research Station
- 2:10 Postemergence Canada Thistle Control**
- 2:30 Using Alternate Year Raspberry Systems to Aid Perennial Weed Control**
Dr. Tim Miller, WSU Mt. Vernon Research Station

Research Committee Review and Prioritization of Proposals -

WRRRC strongly encourages all participants in this meeting to read the research presentations and attend all the raspberry research presentations.

The WRRRC is arranging a time for presentation and discussion of "Development of Value-Added Dried Raspberry Products" submitted by Dr. Carter Clary, WSU Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Pullman. Contact WRRRC for presentation times if you are able to participate.

WRRC Financial Report & Draft Budget

2006 Income

<u>Category</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Assessments	\$300,000
Interest	\$1,000
Other Income	\$100
2005 Carryover	<u>\$122,000</u>
Total	\$ 423,100



The following financial report & budget will be considered at the annual meeting Dec. 7th.

<u>Category</u>	<u>2005 Total Budget</u>	<u>Projected 2005 Expenses</u>	<u>Over/under Budget</u>	<u>Draft 2006 Budget</u>
Promotion	\$ 37,000	\$ 25,000	\$12,000	\$ 75,000
Research	\$ 93,000	\$ 93,000	\$ 0	\$140,000
Administration	\$ 44,000	\$ 44,000	\$ 0	\$ 44,000
Operations	\$ 40,000	\$ 55,000	(\$15,000)	\$ 60,000
Fair Trade	\$100,000	\$ 81,237	\$18,763	\$ 0
Communications	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 500	\$ 5,000
<u>Chemical</u>	<u>\$ 2,500</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 2,500</u>	<u>\$ 2,500</u>
Total Expenses	\$319,500	\$ 300,737	\$16,263	\$ 326,500
<u>Reserve</u>	<u>\$ 31,600</u>	<u>\$ 122,841</u>	<u>\$91,241</u>	<u>\$ 96,600</u>
TOTAL	\$ 351,100	\$ 423,578		\$ 423,100

2005 Red Raspberry Production Report

	<u>Grower #</u>	<u>2004 Pounds</u>	<u>2005 Pounds</u>	<u>Change</u>
Whatcom County	92	45,865,315	57,264,415	+ 24.8%
Central Puget Sound	8	652,391	550,266	- 15.7%
Southwest WA	16	4,234,115	4,231,522	- .1%
Skagit, Snohomish Counties	14	3,230,599	4,670,037	+ 40.4%
WA State Total	130	54,011,321	66,716,240	+ 23.3%
Oregon Total		5,639,715	5,831,205	+ 3.3%
British Columbia Total		22,500,000	23,500,000	+ 4.4%
Northwest Total		82,151,036	96,047,445	+ 16.8%

2006 Research Project Proposals	Researcher	Proposed \$
Integrating Insect and Mite Control in Red Raspberry	Tanigoshi	\$ 16,319
Red Raspberry Breeding, Genetics and Clone Evaluation	Moore	\$ 17,876
Postemergence Canada Thistle Control	Miller	\$ 2,330
Using Alternate Year Raspberry Systems to Aid Perennial Weed Control	Miller	\$ 7,645
Threshold Development & Monitoring of the Western Raspberry Fruitworm	MacConnell	\$ 5,000
Red Raspberry Cultivar Development	Kempler	\$ 4,500
Effects of Drip tape Placement on Spread of Raspberry Root Rot	Walters	\$ 7,041
Irrigation deficits at critical Raspberry Development Stages and Cover Crops to reduce Nitrogen Leaching Potential	Walters	\$ 10,258
Field Evaluation of Raspberry Irrigation Systems	Walters	\$ 16,314
New Strategies to Replace NemaCur for Plant Parasitic Nematode Control	Riga/Pinkerton	\$ 10,325
Development of Value-Added Dried Raspberry Products	Clary	\$ 19,392
Mechanical Harvestability Trials	WRRRC/Moore	\$ 10,000
Research Coordinator & Research Related Expenses	WRRRC	\$ 13,000
Proposed 2006 Research Budget		\$140,000

Washington Red Raspberry Commission Research Priorities (2006)

#1 priorities

Develop cultivars that are summer bearing, high yielding, winter hardy, machine-harvestable, disease resistant, virus resistant and have superior processed fruit quality.

Soil ecology effect on plant health and yield

Viruses/crumblly fruit

Root rot control strategies.

Registration of new chemistries to address harvest contaminant and other problems stemming from the loss of long-standing insecticides and neumaticide.

#2 priorities

Weed control

Labor saving cultural practices including mechanical pruning and tying techniques

Fruit rot including pre harvest, post harvest, and/or shelf life.

Nutrient/Irrigation management

Nutraceutical/Nutritional benefits for product development

#3 priorities

Yellow Rust

Soil fumigation techniques

Mite control

Food safety and sanitation from field through processing

Season extension: improve viability of fresh marketing

Bold/Italics reflect priorities that were added to the list in 2006



**Washington Red Raspberry
Commission**

*Promotion, Fair Trade, and Research
assistance for Growers*

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www.red-raspberry.org

Calendar

December 1,2 - NWCSFR meeting, Portland
December 7 - WRRRC Board & Annual Meeting
December 4-7 - Rubus/Ribes Symposium, Chile
December 13 - Whatcom Co-op Workshop
January 6-7 - NBCI Meeting, Savannah, GA
January 9 - Raspberry Research Day, Mt. Vernon
February 15 - WRRRC Board Meeting, Lynden
February 16-18 - BC Hort. Show, Abbotsford

Short Notes

- Ralph Minaker will complete six years of service on the Board at the Annual Meeting in December. Be sure to thank him for the positive contributions he made to the industry. Ralph guided the WRRRC through some turbulent times with a steady and wise hand. We will miss his presence on the board but we expect to enjoy his continued involvement in the research projects supported by the WRRC.
- John Vander Veen has been elected to fill Ralph's board position in District #1. John is an owner of Clearcrest Berries and T.J. Veenacre Dairy on the Van Buren Road west of Sumas. He has a strong dairy nutrition and ag business background and is already involved in advancing new technology in the berry industry. Thank him for his willingness to serve on your behalf.
- Speaking of deserving thanks . . . Erin Thoeny of Woodland has been elected to serve a second term on the board. Erin has served as vice-president for the past two years and has headed our involvement in fair trade issues. We appreciate her willingness to give us another three years.
- The WRRRC Board is still contracting with Williams and Nulle CPA's out of Mt. Vernon to conduct semiannual financial reviews. A State audit of the financial records is underway and the board fully expects a much clearer report than the one we received two years ago.
- The contract for Executive Director services for Henry Bierlink was extended through 2006. Tom Peerbolt was contracted for the Research Coordinator position throughout 2006 as well.
- "Grower Production Reports need to be returned" demands the State Auditor. Many of you have the habit of simply letting Processors report your production. "Not acceptable", says the State. Please return your report promptly! Contact the office for a form or access it from our website at http://www.red-raspberry.org/Industry/grower_report.doc
- The USDA Risk Management Agency is perfecting a new revenue insurance program known as Adjusted Gross Revenue Lite (AGR-Lite). This program provides a whole farm insurance policy that allows you to insurance for crop loss, quality loss, and even loss based on low prices. The program should be available to most if not all berry farmers. The Federal government is moving towards advancing this type of support for growers rather than creating a reliance on crop disaster or crop support programs. You can learn more about this program by contacting your local Farm Service Agency office.