



WASHINGTON RED RASPBERRY COMMISSION NEWS

NOVEMBER, 2009

Volume 9, Issue 4

Spotted Wing Drosophila Arrives

Growers have reason to be concerned about a new pest found late this summer in area berry fields. The Spotted wing drosophila originated in Japan and has traveled up the Pacific coast from California infesting ripening raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, and strawberry crops; it has also been observed attacking other soft-flesh fruit such as boysenberry, varieties of Japanese plums, and nectarines. Adults and maggots closely resemble the common vinegar fly, that commonly attacks



rotting or fermenting fruit. The spotted wing drosophila, however, readily attacks undamaged fruit. The female ovipositor is very *(continued on page 2)*

ADA Denver An Opportunity to Tell Raspberry Story

The 2009 American Dietetic Association Denver Trade Show was the first direct outreach effort by the Washington Red Raspberry Commission to the dietetic/nutritionist community. Expo attendees included food industry and government decision makers and influencers, people determining what is consumed in schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and MRE's served to the military, as well as recommended by clinical and practicing dietitians to clients as part of healthy menu and meal planning. In addition to the Expo hall, attendees attended professional development and educational seminars. Rotating poster sessions provided yet one more outlet to enhance nutrition knowledge.



During the Expo, preconceived notions regarding what nutritionists were looking for or would be interested in were either dispelled or

validated, beneficial contacts were made, future marketing ideas were formulated, and a roadmap for 2010 was visualized.

As a result of informal conversation with dietitians at the WRRC booth, the following general conclusions have been drawn:

- Our science is on par with other berry and commodity groups. While it is important for the Commission to continue conducting nutrition research, few booth visitors asked directly about raspberry nutrition specifics. There was a general consensus that raspberries are nutritious and should be part of a balanced diet, recognizing whole fruit was "better" than extracts as the skin, seeds, and flesh together provide the nutritional benefits.

(continued on page 4)

2009 Red Raspberry Production

	Grower #	2008 Pounds	2009 Pounds	Increase	% of State Production
Whatcom County	83	48,235,509	58,704,393	21.7%	91.6%
Central Puget Sound	8	700,326	558,716	-20.2%	0.9%
Southwest WA	14	2,397,653	3,032,208	26.5%	4.7%
Skagit, Snohomish Counties	17	2,268,836	1,799,955	-20.7%	2.8%
WA State Total	122	53,602,324	64,095,273	19.6%	
Oregon		3,408,667	4,225,631	24.0%	
British Columbia		19,833,220	21,550,420	8.7%	
Northwest Total		76,844,191	89,871,324	17%	

Spotted Wing Drosophila

(continued from page 1)

large and serrated, so it is able to penetrate the skin of soft-skinned fruit and lay

eggs just under the skin, creating a small depression ("sting") on the fruit surface. Each clutch of eggs is from one to three, and the female will oviposit on many fruit. Multiples of larvae within a single fruit are quite possible because many females may visit the same fruit to oviposit. As fruit integrity is compromised by spotted wing drosophila's activities, common vinegar flies (i.e., *Drosophila melanogaster*) may also oviposit in the damaged fruit.

There will be opportunity to learn about what is being done to learn about this pest at the December meetings. There are numerous resources available to you including this information gathered from the UC Davis website. The WRRC is already funding research on this pest.



Recipes @ www.raspberryyinfo.com

Kristie's Corner - by Kristie Clark with contributions from Darryl Ehlers

Darryl Ehlers reported to us that he had received a Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) Certificate for his farm this summer. His farm was an easy test of how achievable this effort might be because all his land is in one block and he does not process his own fruit. Darryl made use of a book of safety rules designed by Berry Hill Foods Inc. and the BC Dept. of Ag, which helped him to pass with flying colors (Darryl notes "as expected!").

Farms with multiple locations are somewhat more complicated as all locations have to be inspected for food safety (toilets, posters, clean flats, etc.). You have to have your Safety Rule book in order stating your goals and planned actions. You may know all this in your head, but written rules have to be in place to demonstrate to others that you know what you are doing. Resources to help you develop what you need to pass a GAP inspection can be obtained at the Raspberry Commission or the Blueberry Commission. There will be more information presented at the December 8 WSU Workshop as well.

Darryl believes that it will become mandatory that all growers in time will have to be certified as we move deeper into world markets. He offers to assist anyone who is interested to see what he went through for his farm. He reports that it is not as difficult as you might think.



Raspberry Meetings — December 7th - December 8th

Growers will have the opportunity to participate in hearing reports of current research and presentation of newly proposed research projects on December 7th and 8th in Lynden. Research reports and proposals will begin at 4pm Monday at the 19th Street Firehall and will continue at the WSU Small Fruit Workshop at the Rotary Building on the 8th which will feature presentations from several of the WRRRC funded researchers. The text of the research proposals being considered by the WRRRC (*list on page 5*) are available from our office.

Monday - December 7 - WRRRC annual grower meeting 10-2 - 19th Street Firehall

We are incorporating the Annual Meeting into the regular December Board meeting this year. We encourage you to attend and participate in current decisions on research funding, promotion activities, the formation of the USRRC, and finalizing the 2010 Workplan and Budget. After the meeting all participants are invited to lunch at Jake's Western Grill sponsored by several raspberry industry suppliers - **Elenbaas Company, Korvan, and Littau.**

Research Presentations

4:00 – 4:20 Chaim Kempler - Raspberry Breeding
 4:20 -- 4:50 Pat Moore - Raspberry Breeding, Machine Harvest trials, Molecular Markers
 4:50 – 5:10 Chad Finn - Raspberry Breeding
 5:10 – 5:30 Tom Walters - Phosphite and root rot
 5:30 – 5:50 Tom Walters - Canopy Management discussion

Tuesday - December 8 - 2009 Western WA Small Fruit Workshop

7:30 am - 3:30 pm

<http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/sfw/>

Wednesday - December 9

The WA Blueberry Commission has a grower meeting planned in Mt Vernon. You can get more information on this meeting at:

<http://www.wablueberrycomm.org/>

<u>Year</u>	<u>Seat</u>		<u>Year</u>	<u>Seat</u>	
10	1	Vacant - District #2	12	9	Erin Thoeny
10	2	Adam Enfield, President Lynden 360-354-3019 adam@enfieldfarms.com			Woodland 360-225-7133 thoenyf@cni.net
11	3	Kristie Clark, Treasurer Lynden (360) 354-1294 clarksberryfarm@hotmail.com	10	10	John Ozuna Mt. Vernon 360-770-1182
11	4	Ralph Minaker Everson 360-966-5645 minakerfarm@aol.com	WSDA	11	Bill Dallas Olympia 360-902-1925 bdallas@agr.wa.gov
12	5	Kevin Philbrook Vancouver (360) 931-3543 k.philbrook@yahoo.com	WRRRC Office		
12	6	Richard Sakuma Burlington 360-757-1855 richards@sakumabros.com	Henry Bierlink, Executive Director <i>henry@red-raspberry.org</i>		
09	7	Vacant - District #2	Tom Peerbolt, Research Coordinator <i>tom@red-raspberry.org</i>		
10	8	Randy Honcoop Lynden 360-354-1155 ranhonfarm@peoplepc.com	Tom Krugman, Marketing Director <i>tomk@red-raspberry.org</i>		
			Cathy Kellett, Office Manager 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264 360-354-8767 fax 360-354-0948 info@red-raspberry.org www.red-raspberry.org		

WRRC Financial Report & Draft Budget

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

<u>Category</u>	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>2009 Estimated</u>	<u>2010 Draft</u>
Assessments	\$265,000	\$320,000	\$320,000
Interest	\$20,000	\$12,000	\$10,000
Grant Income	\$88,000	\$51,700	\$0
Other income	\$1,000	\$750	\$0
Reserve	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$300,000
Total	\$449,000	\$459,450	\$630,000

EXPENSES

<u>Category</u>	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>2009 Estimated</u>	<u>2010 Draft</u>
Promotion	\$265,000	\$145,000	\$285,000
<i>Research</i>	\$165,000	\$75,000	\$160,000
<i>Publicity</i>	\$100,000	\$70,000	\$125,000
Research	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$160,000
Administration	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$50,000
Operations	\$40,000	\$22,000	\$30,000
National Program	\$130,000	\$0	\$130,000
Bond for R & P Election	\$125,000	\$0	\$125,000
Misc. Expenses	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Communications	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$11,000
Crop Protection	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Reserve	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$300,000
TOTAL	\$735,000	\$472,000	\$971,000
Total Retained Earnings	(\$286,000)	(\$12,550)	(\$341,000)
Est. Bank Balance at end of year		\$850,000	\$509,000

ADA Report

(continued from page 1)

- While not previously conspicuous in our absence, we were conspicuous in our presence. Many comments were received along the line of "this is your first time exhibiting, isn't it? I love raspberries. Thank you for being here." Our booth and our materials were professional in appearance.
- More than half of booth visitors had an anecdotal story about raspberries from their youth: either picking them for back-to-school money, helping their grandmother pack them in jars for the winter, etc. Raspberries triggered warm and pleasant memories.
- Marketing materials need to focus on how to use frozen raspberries as much as or more so than on the hard science of raspberries. The message should continue to be about wellness, not food as medicine.
- People wanted to know where they could purchase raspberries and how to use them. Some people were not aware that raspberries were available in frozen form.
- The drawbacks of fresh raspberries (short season, cost, short shelf life) were a starting point for discussing the positive attributes of frozen raspberries: year-round availability, convenience, minimal product waste.
- There was real interest for freeze-dried raspberries from menu planners and the military, the product sampled this year. The application in baking, snacks, salads, sauces, and MRE's was recognized.
- Over 250 attendees completed a simple survey used to ascertain general knowledge about raspberries. Survey results will be presented at the December Annual meeting.

2010 Research Proposals to WRRRC

WRRRC is making some changes to its process for considering research project proposals in 2010. The Board has already made an initial evaluation of these projects and has established an estimated total budget for Production Research. There will be conversations through the next months between our board and the Researchers and all growers can participate in this discussion at the December meetings (pg. 3). Final decisions on project funding will be made at the WRRRC's January, 2010 meeting.

Project Title	Researcher (s)	Requested Budget
Spotted Wing Drosophila	Lynell Tanigoshi	\$30,802
Red Raspberry Breeding, Genetics, Clone Evaluation, Machine Harvest Trials	Pat Moore	\$60,000
Machine Harvest Evaluation of Raspberry Seedlings	Pat Moore	\$4,056
Postemergence Perennial Weed Control in Red Raspberries	Tim Miller, Carl Libbey	\$3,938
Red Raspberry Cultivar Development	Chaim Kempler, Brian Harding	\$8,000
Efficacy of a phosphite product for controlling raspberry root rot caused by <i>Phytophthora fragariae var. rubi</i>	Thomas Walters, Debra Inglis	\$4,745
Evaluation of Novel Nematicides for Root Lesion Nematode Control	Inga Zasada, Thomas Walters	\$9,840
Molecular Markers	Courtney Weber	\$6,028
Identifying Root Traits Associated with Root Rot Resistance	David Bryla, Tom Forge	\$12,584
Cooperative Raspberry Cultivar Development	Chad Finn	\$4,500
Spotted Wing Drosophila Scouting	Tom Peerbolt	\$10,000
Total Production Research		\$154,493

2010 Production Research Priorities

#1 priorities

- Evaluation of the life cycle, economic impact, and management tactics of the Spotted Wing Drosophila
- Develop cultivars that are summer bearing, high yielding, winter hardy, machine-harvestable, disease resistant, virus resistant and have superior processed fruit quality.
- Understanding soil ecology and soil borne pathogens and their effects on plant health and crop yields.
- Soil fumigation techniques and alternatives.
- Fruit rot including pre harvest, post harvest, and/or shelf life.
- Harvest contaminants and other problems stemming from the loss of longstanding insecticides and nematocides.

#2 priorities

- Product and Production Certification Systems - food safety & security, standards, traceability.
- Weed control.
- Nutrient/Irrigation management.
- Viruses/crumblly fruit.
- Mite management

#3 priorities

- Foliar & Cane Diseases – i.e. spur blight, yellow rust, cane blight, etc.
- Nutraceutical/Nutritional benefits for product development.
- Season extension: improve viability of fresh marketing.
- Labor saving cultural practices including mechanical pruning and tying techniques.
- Vertebrate pest management

Washington Red Raspberry Commission

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

1796 Front Street
Lynden, WA 98264
Phone: 360-354-8767
Fax: 360-354-0948
Email: info@red-raspberry.org
www.red-raspberry.org
www.raspberryinfo.com

Calendar

December 3 - NWCSFR meeting, Kennewick
December 7-8 - WRRRC Board & Annual Meeting
January 27 - WRRRC Board Meeting, Lynden
January 28-30 - BC Hort. Show, Abbotsford
February 25-27 - NARBA Meeting, Monterey, CA

Short Notes

- Richard Sakuma was appointed to a second three year term on the WRRRC Board representing Skagit and Snohomish counties. Erin Thoeny was returned to the Board by the SW WA growers and Kevin Philbrook was appointed to fill a vacant board position from the SW growing region as well. Be sure to thank each of them for the positive contribution they make to the industry through their contributions on the board.
- Growers are encouraged to take advantages of opportunities to learn more about issues surrounding the raspberry industry by attending some of the fall/winter meetings on the calendar above. More details for any of these meetings are available by contacting the Commission's office. Another fine resource for keeping in touch with industry information is the Calendar page of the NW IPM site located at (www.nwipm.info/calendar.asp)
- The North American Raspberry Blackberry Association (NARBA) provides an opportunity for raspberry and blackberry growers to learn from each other in production and marketing issues. The WRRRC is a member and through our membership you can join at a reduced rate of \$30/yr. for a new membership. Membership entitles you to a subscription to their newsletter "*The Bramble*", and discussion forums re: bramble growing. It also helps support research projects important to bramble growers. NARBA Annual Meeting will be February 25-27 in Monterey, CA. Consider attending.
- The WRRRC Board has heard some encouraging news from WA DC regarding the upcoming referendum on forming a National Processed Raspberry Council. It has been over 30 months since we submitted the request. There have been some explainable circumstances slowing this down (i.e. Farm Bill implementation, new administration) but all agree this has drug on too long. We are told that news on a grower referendum is imminent.. The WRRRC will be providing updated information as soon as the decision is released.