Cranberry IPM Bulletin

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Please note: The following recommendations are based on field monitoring data from cranberry fields in all regions in British Columbia. Not all recommendations listed in this newsletter are applicable to all fields. Each cranberry field has unique insects and diseases. Field monitoring is strongly recommended before making any pest management decisions.

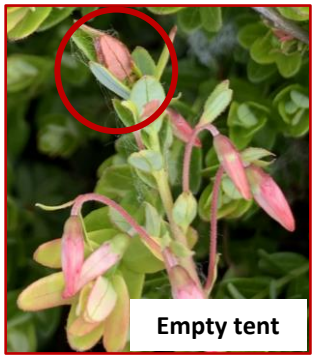
Plant Development

Most fields are in full hook with low levels of scattered bloom starting. Depending on the progress of your fields it may be time to start thinking about bringing in pollinators. With the upcoming forecast looking warm and dry the fields will move ahead quickly.

Fireworm

- First generation fireworm is mostly over except for a few straggler larvae.
- Monitor fields 5-7 days after sprays to ensure good spray efficacy.
- Checking fields 2-3 weeks after chemical applications can be helpful as there have been some staggered fireworm hatches after sprays this year. Most fields have not reached threshold to have a second spray applied but there has been the odd field where a second application was recommended.
- If lots of empty tents are being observed in samples during monitoring move further into the field, the larvae will move to where there is more food.

Dead fireworm larva



Empty tent

Rose Bloom

- Rose bloom is now sporulating, a fungicide can be applied for this disease while spores are present.
- Fungicides should be applied in the next several days for maximum efficacy.
- When leaves start to shrivel and blacken around edges it is too late to spray.

Sporulating

Too late to spray

Always consult your marketing agency for information on MRLs and pesticide products for various markets before applying pesticides.

Region (all weather data collected from farmwest.com)	Rainfall in mm May 1st – May 31st 2023	Rainfall in mm May 1st – May 31st 2022	Rainfall in mm Jan 1st – May 31st 2023	Rainfall in mm Jan 1st – May 31st 2022
Pitt Meadows	**19 mm**	110 mm	**596 mm**	828 mm
Richmond	**17 mm**	85 mm	**349 mm**	520 mm
Delta	**11 mm**	76 mm	**356 mm**	533 mm
Abbotsford	**28 mm**	131 mm	**446 mm**	678 mm
Comox	**26 mm**	92 mm	**411 mm**	521 mm

Precipitation

This May has been quite dry. The difference in precipitation during May between the last two years is quite significant. Most regions had around five times more rainfall last May than this year. Comparing the past two years from January – May shows differences with over 100– 200 mm less precipitation this year.

Growing Degree Days Based on YVR (Vancouver Airport)				
	2023	**2022**	**2021**	**31-year average**
January 31st	**165.7**	130.5	164.5	129.1
February 28th	**289.3**	255.4	221.9	262.6
March 31st	**366.0**	352.2	362.6	361.8
April 30th	**725.4**	717.8	746.4	762.9
May 31st	**1180**	1069.7	1134.4	1167.8

Growing Degree Days

2023 has now surpassed last year and 2021 in GDD. We are slightly ahead of the 31 year average.

Pollinators

With more bloom progressing we are seeing increased bumble bee activity in the fields. Just because honeybee hives haven't been brought in, we should still be conscientious of any products being applied when any bloom is present. Time sprays (insecticide and fungicide) during the evenings when pollinators aren't active.

Always consult your marketing agency for information on MRLs and pesticide products for various markets before applying pesticides.

Recommendations

- Monitor for straggler fireworm hatch. If live fireworm are found in more than 50% of samples taken throughout the field, apply a registered insecticide.
- Conduct post spray checks 5- 7 days post spray as well as two weeks after insecticide applications to make sure control was effective and no straggler larvae have hatched.
- Monitor for sparganothis fruitworm in cranberry uprights like you would for fireworm. Note sparganothis tend to use multiple uprights in their tents and have a translucent or brown head capsule. Apply a registered insecticide if levels are of concern. Note not all insecticides for fireworm are effective against sparganothis.
- Monitor for cottonball leaf infections. If disease is detected plan to treat with fungicide next year at bud break.
- Monitor for rose bloom. If levels are of concern spray a fungicide when sporulation occurs. If it is localized, you can spot treat using a backpack sprayer.
- Monitor for new rodent damage. Set up trap stations in areas around the fields where rodents would frequent such as burn piles, other plants, and around buildings and shops.
- Keep frost protection detectors in fields and adjust to the changing weather accordingly. One frost event can be economically devastating to your crop. Frost can and will still occur in May and even June.
- Keep pollinators and beneficial insects in mind when choosing which pesticides to spray. Time applications for at night when pollinators aren't active.

The above recommendations are based on the BC Berries Production Guide and/or local IPM monitoring experience. Always consult your marketing agency for information on MRLs for various markets before applying pesticides.

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