

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.

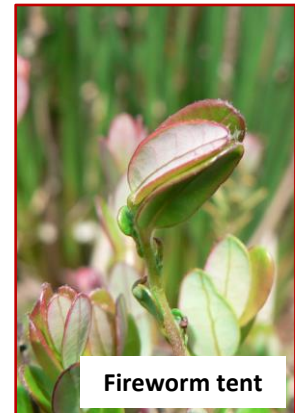
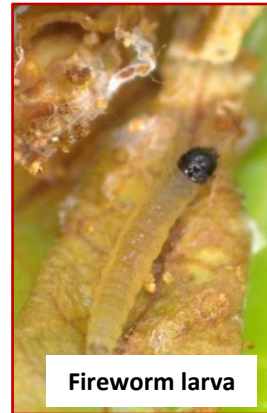
Plant Development

With the recent heatwave cranberry plants are quickly progressing. Most fields are well into bud elongation and roughneck with hooks forming around field edges.



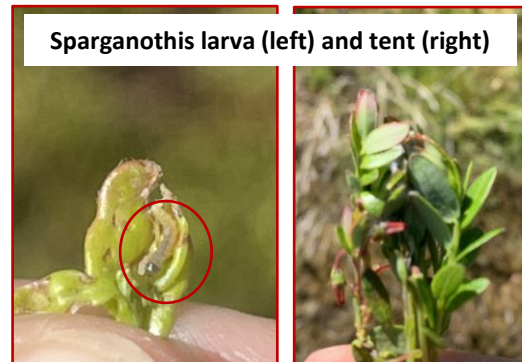
Fireworm

- Fireworm have now hatched. The warm weather enabled a uniform fireworm hatch making spray timing easier than last year when the rainy spring caused a staggered hatch.
- Most farms have reached threshold for applying control measures this week if control is necessary. Not all farms need to spray for first generation fireworm. Farms with a higher cranberry fruitworm population will spray twice for that pest during second generation fireworm, which in turn reduces their fireworm population for the next year.
- Conduct post spray checks 5- 7 days after insecticides have been applied to make sure sprays were effective and no chemigation issues were present.



Sparganothis Fruitworm

- Sparganothis larvae are starting to hatch at low levels.
- Larvae will make tents in the cranberry uprights like fireworm, however sparganothis tents contain multiple uprights webbed together.
- Sparganothis look similar to fireworm so make sure to correctly identify this pest by looking at the colour of the head capsule. Sparganothis have a translucent or light brown head capsule.



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

Rose Bloom

- More rose bloom is being observed on some farms.
- No spores have been detected yet, keep an eye out for white powdery spores especially around rain events.
- Once spores are observed a fungicide can be applied to prevent further infection next year.
- A backpack sprayer can be used to spot treat areas with high disease pressure.



Cottonball

- Watch for cottonball leaf infections, which appear as interveinal browning, drooping uprights, and white conidia on the stem.
- At fruit set berries will fill with a cotton like fungus making fruit unmarketable.
- Plan to treat for this disease next year at budbreak as that is when infection occurs. If symptoms are present it is too late to treat for this disease this season.



Beneficial Insects - Lady bugs

- Lady bug larvae are now present in cranberry fields.
- Lady bugs feed on mostly aphids, but also other insect pests and insect eggs. They are good bugs to see in the field.
- When making chemical choices keep beneficial insects in mind and choose softer chemistries vs broad spectrum insecticides.

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Recommendations

- Monitor for fireworm. If fireworm are found in more than 50% of samples taken throughout the field, apply a registered insecticide. Keep spring conditions; precipitation and potential frost events in mind when choosing an insecticide as some products are less rain fast than others.
- Conduct post spray checks 5- 7 days after insecticide treatments to make sure control was effective.
- Monitor for sparganthis fruitworm. Apply a registered insecticide if levels are of concern. Note not all insecticides for fireworm are effective against sparganthis.
- Monitor for cottonball leaf infections. If disease is detected plan to treat with fungicide next year at bud break.
- Monitor for rose bloom sporulation. 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.

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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