# **Cranberry IPM Bulletin**

#### Volume 7 Issue No. 5 June 30, 2023

**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**

There is a wide range in plant development this week. Lots of fields are in full bloom with some fruitset and very few hooks left. Some fields have little to no bloom present and are all fruitset. Some fields that are a bit behind, dry pick bogs for instance, are still in early bloom.

### Fireworm

- Second generation fireworm larvae are starting to hatch in all regions.
- Most farms are still below threshold at this point, with only the odd spray being recommended.
- Monitor for fireworm by taking samples around field edges as well as inner samples. Fireworm moths are strong flyers and lay eggs more sporadically around the field, unlike during first generation when larvae start to hatch on field edges first.









## **Cranberry Fruitworm**

- Cranberry fruitworm moths have been caught in pheromone traps for three to four weeks now. These moths have distinct white triangles with two dots present on their wings.
- Most fields aren't in the right stage to spray for this pest i.e., lots of bloom left, and some pinhead fruits.
- Insecticides for this pest are recommended when fruit is susceptible to damage so when pea size fruit is present in the field.
- Some sprays are starting to be recommended for this pest where moths are caught, there is already a farm history for having this pest, and high levels of pea sized fruit set is present.



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

#### Girdler

- Girdler moths are flying in all regions.
- Monitor for peak girdler flight with pheromone traps or conduct girdler walks on a warm sunny day when girdler is most likely to be flying.
- Girdler moths are silvery in colour and have a distinct snout.
- They are not strong flyers so they will almost hop from upright to upright rather than fly. If you are walking in the field and they fly up they will generally land again quickly.
- Two three weeks after peak flight occurs apply nematodes to control girdler larvae if high numbers of moths are being observed.



#### Weather Data

Even with the recent precipitation there was very little rainfall this June when compared to June 2022. Overall precipitation is significantly behind last year by almost 300 mm in some regions! Growing degree days are significantly ahead of last year and slightly ahead of 2021 and the 31 year average.

Region (all weather data collected from farmwest.com)	Rainfall in mm June 1 <sup>st</sup> – June 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Rainfall in mm June 1 <sup>st</sup> – June 30 <sup>th</sup> 2022	Rainfall in mm Jan 1 <sup>st</sup> – June 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Rainfall in mm Jan 1 <sup>st</sup> – June 30 <sup>th</sup> 2022
Pitt Meadows	28 mm	91 mm	624 mm	919 mm
Richmond	20 mm	71 mm	369 mm	591 mm
Delta	11 mm	63 mm	367 mm	596 mm
Abbotsford	35 mm	88 mm	481 mm	766 mm
Comox	16 mm	79 mm	427 mm	600 mm

Growing Degree Days Dased on Twit (vancouver Airport)						
	2023	2022	2021	31-year average		
nuary 31 <sup>st</sup>	165.7	130 5	164 5	129 1		

Growing Degree Days Based on VVR (Vancouver Airport)

January 31 <sup>st</sup>	165.7	130.5	164.5	129.1
February 28 <sup>th</sup>	289.3	255.4	221.9	262.6
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	366.0	352.2	362.6	361.8
April 30 <sup>th</sup>	725.4	717.8	746.4	762.9
May 31 <sup>st</sup>	1180	1069.7	1134.4	1167.8
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	1680.5	1536.7	1671.5	1644.1

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#### Recommendations

- Monitor for second generation 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 girdler moth flight. If moth numbers are high, consider applying nematodes two three weeks after peak moth flight to control girdler larvae.
- Monitor for tipworm damage and late instar larvae during field monitoring. You can check for eggs and early instar larvae using a microscope or hand lens. If tipworm is found at concerning levels plan to spray for this pest after bloom is over and honeybee hives are removed.
- Monitor for rusty tussock caterpillars during bloom. If larvae are found apply a registered insecticide for caterpillars.
- Monitor for cottonball leaf infections. If disease is detected plan to treat with fungicide next year at bud break.
- Monitor for twig blight spores on the undersides of leaves. When spores open, apply a registered fungicide to prevent further spread of this disease.
- If fruit rot is a concern on your farm plan to treat with anywhere from one to three fungicide applications during bloom.
- 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.
- Keep pollinators and beneficial insects in mind when choosing which pesticides to spray. Time applications for at night when pollinators aren't active. This includes fruit rot fungicide preventative sprays.

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.





