

It's our people that make the difference

STRAWBERRIES

- Powdery Mildew remains problematic, especially in East Anglia which hasn't seen much sun in the past week, yet temperatures have been good and the air humid. Removing rots and ventilating tunnels is just as important as having a good fungicide programme.
- Don't forget that the authorisation for Rovral WG and Grisu expired on 5th June so you should have used them all up.
- If you haven't sufficiently controlled Strawberry Blossom Weevil, you may find larvae in the severed flower heads (pictured right).
- Tarsonemid mite damage is being found in affected crops. Typical distorted leaf growth is pictured (right). Treat hot spots with *Neoseiulus cucumeris* (100-400 per sq. m). Badly affected plants are best rogued out and destroyed before the mites spread to other plants nearby. Chemical control will always be last resort and best control is obtained at high water volumes. Dynamec + Wetcit will be the most effective option (protected crops only). Batavia will also control but can only be used up to 14 days before flowering or post-harvest. Read the results of AHDB-funded work on chemical control measures [here](#) and use of predators [here](#).



RASPBERRIES

- As with strawberries, Powdery Mildew and *Botrytis* risk have both been high. Venting tunnels is very important, especially with the thick canopy that can be developed in some of the primocane varieties.
- If you are finding crumbly fruit, this will undoubtedly be due to poor pollination.
- Apply *Botrytis* controls to outdoor blackberries as they come into flower.
- Don't forget that Raspberry Beetle can attack blackberry as well.

BLACKCURRANTS

- Woolly Currant Scales are now lifted and conspicuous, but most of the daughters are still protected by the hydrophobic waxy 'wool' so are an impossible target. Note their locations for treatment later.
- We have seen considerable runoff in Ben Kilbreck (pictured right) on several sites. It is probably due to poor pollination (in common with some other fruit crops) and we will be investigating further
- Check the centre of dense bushes (where cover may have been more difficult) for leaf spot, especially Ben Hope, Lomond and Vane.
- The International Blackcurrant Conference was well attended in Angers, including by ourselves (Rob Saunders pictured right, with some fellow attendees. Acknowledgement: Anthony Snell).



BLUEBERRIES

- Light Brown Apple Moth numbers are rising in traps, so you should be considering control measures. Hallmark Zeon has a 14 day harvest interval (outdoor crops only), Explicit has a 7 day, Tracer 3 day, Dipel DF 1 day and Pyrethrum 5 EC has no harvest interval.

MISCELLANEOUS

- A project has been started to see if the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (*Halyomorpha halys*) may have already arrived in the UK. Read a report [here](#) and it includes contact details if you suspect you may have found this alien pest. You can read its entry in the UK Plant Health Risk Register [here](#).