

It's our people that make the difference

STRAWBERRIES

- Hotspots of Melon Cotton Aphid are being found in some crops (pictured below, right). Choose control measures carefully as you may not want to upset your biocontrols by using an insecticide that will be harmful to them.
- Peak season for thrips activity seems over, and where robust biocontrols have been used from early in the season, the pest has been managed successfully. Also, where *Neoseiulus cucumeris* has been used it has usefully suppressed Tarsonemid Mite activity.
- There is still capsid and European Tarnished Plant Bug (pictured, right) activity in some crops.
- There is still plenty of opportunity for Powdery Mildew to get hold, so keep up robust control measures into next month to make sure your final flowers are protected.
- Recent rain may bring slugs to the soil surface in crops which have been mown off and they may graze the re-growth. Monitor and apply Iroxx
- Nematodes for Vine Weevil control should be applied during the next few weeks
- Continue to keep a close eye out for Spotted Wing Drosophila, not just in cropping areas, but also in crops which you have finished picking and where there may be unpicked fruit.
- Check water supplies for increases in EC especially boreholes which as they get drawn down late in the season, their quality can change. It is worth checking for any changes in EC and nutrient content and adjust your feeds accordingly.



RASPBERRIES

- As with strawberries, nematodes should be applied for Vine Weevil Control
- Root rot controls should be applied over the next few weeks. Include Phorce in the irrigation water to help combat root disease.
- The [EAMU](#) for Exirel 10SE on protected raspberry and blackberry for SWD control has been re-issued with an amendment to permit vertical boom sprayers as an application method.

BLACKCURRANTS

- Leaf Spot is proving easy to find (pictured, right) and will cause leaves to drop prematurely.
- The majority of plantations would benefit from being side pruned, which provides an opportunity to apply a Roundup Powermax as a directed spray.
- Following recent rain, the soil surface is moist and suitable for the application of around 30 kg/ha of nitrogen, which bushes can utilise in laying down reserves for next season.
- Wait for the soil to dry out before subsoiling plantations to alleviate compaction. It is too wet in many places at the moment.



BLUEBERRIES

- Check crops for Light Brown Apple Moth activity. You should be using pheromone traps to monitor the pest, and it is worth having traps for Carnation Tortrix Moth which can also infest the crop, although this species seems to have been caught in very low numbers in the last couple of seasons. If you haven't been monitoring this year and have had problems with caterpillars, then use traps next season to help timing of insecticide application.

Further information please contact Jonathan Blackman: 07774 738213. jonathan.blackman@hlhld.co.uk
H.L.Hutchinson Ltd., Weasenham Lane, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE13 2RN.

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