

It's our people that make the difference

STRAWBERRIES

- Caterpillars remain too easy to find in crops. Dipel DF is your only option under protection which will be safe to your introduced predators.
- Powdery Mildew risk remains high and active disease is being found in crops (leaf and fruit symptoms shown, right).
- *Botrytis* is being found. You should ensure you are carrying out good cultural controls (managing humidity through venting and removing rots) as well as using the excellent range of fungicides available. Ensure you rotate the fungicide groups to minimise the risk of resistance. In some other European countries, there have been significant reductions in sensitivity due to over reliance on one fungicide group.
- The following tables were used in AHDB project SF157 as a simplified approach to decision support for mildew and *Botrytis* control



Temperature	Humidity	Mildew risk
< 14°C	Not relevant	Low
≥ 14°C	< 82%	Moderate
≥ 14°C	≥ 82%	High

Temperature	Humidity	Botrytis risk
Not relevant	< 82%	Low
< 16°C	82%–87%	Low
< 16°C	≥ 87%	Moderate
≥ 16°C	≥ 82%	High

RASPBERRIES

- Aphids are now being found in decent numbers (pictured right). If you have Plenum (final sale date was 30th April) then this is a good option as it has good safety to beneficial insects. Calypso applied for Raspberry Beetle control will also control aphids and any adult Vine Weevils that may be feeding in the crop.
- Keep blackberry plantations checked for Bramble Shoot Webber (which can also affect hybrid berries). Downy Mildew risk will also be high in blackberry. Signum and Amistar will both give some protection.



BLACKCURRANTS

- The MRL for fosetyl/phosphonic acid in currants, gooseberries and blueberries has been increased from 2 mg/kg (effectively the limit of detection, meaning it could not be used) to 80 mg/kg, allowing normal commercial use of biostimulant products like Phorce, particularly applicable where plantation vigour has been compromised by root death caused by drought, waterlogging or suspected Phomopsis.
- If you still have some Masai MAPP 13082 in stock, it can be used for Gall Mite control. It must be used up by the end of June.
- Gooseberry crops are developing nicely but Powdery Mildew risk will be high on susceptible varieties. Corbel/Clayton Spigot is a powerful eradicant with a 14 day harvest interval. You can only buy it until the end of this month and then you must use remaining stock by the end of May next year.

BLUEBERRIES

- Light Brown Apple Moth caterpillars will be found soon in protected crops. Aphids will also start to be found in outdoor as well as protected crops.

MISCELLANEOUS

- In vine crops, basal shoot removal using Shark should be under way. [FytoSave](#) has a new [approval](#) for Powdery Mildew control. Use it preventatively in a programme of at least 3 sprays, 7-10 days apart. If you would like to receive our specialist monthly vine bulletin, please contact your agronomist.
- You can read about the official launch of the UK berry season [here](#).

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This Bulletin has been awarded 2 CPD points from BASIS Registration Ltd (Ref. CP/67682/1819/g) and 2 CPD points from the National Register of Spray Operators (Ref.NO466521f)

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