

### **EASTERN IDAHO**

# PEST ALERT

BANNOCK, BINGHAM, BONNEVILLE, CASSIA, FREMONT, JEFFERSON, AND MADISON COUNTIES

#### **INSIDE THE ISSUE**



PG 4



PG 2



PG 6



**Next Year** 



PG 5



## Caneberries and bushberries in the fall

By Ron Patterson, Extension Educator

Normally we have had a good freeze by this time in the fall. This will put a stop to most growth and fruit production. This year has been a bit strange. While they have slowed down, my raspberries are still producing nice fruit.



So, when fall dormancy sets in, is there anything specific you need to do for caneberries and bushberries? Not much. Caneberries include raspberries and blackberries. Bushberries include currants, elderberries, gooseberries, honeyberries, and jostaberries.



If you have summer-bearing raspberries you could prune out the dead canes in the fall (spent floricanes) and thin the new canes (primocanes) to 4 – 6 per linear foot of row. Or they can be left until late winter pruning.



Fall-bearing raspberries can be pruned after fall dormancy, before winter, but should be left standing until late winter. The energy stored in the lower portion of the cane will help them pull through the winter better.



If you have weed problems in your patch, especially perennial grasses, you can treat with Casoron herbicide according to the label between November 15 and February 15, or hand weed.

To summarize. Fall pruning can be tolerated but is better in the late winter/early spring when the snow melts. Weed control may be necessary. Otherwise, take a break from your garden and enjoy some winter sports.

# **Garden Cleanup**

By Ron Patterson, Extension Educator

Are you ready for the growing season to be over? Once the plants finally die there is still work that needs to be done.

Weed control is always close to the top of my list. Now that harvest is almost at a standstill, I will focus on making sure any residual weeds do not drop seeds in my garden. Whether or not you till depends on your growing system. I have not tilled for several years and my garden has been producing as well as ever.



What about crop residue? It depends. Wind erosion can be serious with eastern Idaho spring weather. Leaving crop residue or some other mulch will help to stabilize the soil. Most of my crop residue I put in my compost pile. But I do chop my corn and put it back onto the garden for a winter mulch. I also bag my last lawn mowing and put the clippings on the area where I will grow corn the next year. That way, if there is any residual herbicide it won't affect any broadleaf vegetables.

It may be too late for a fall cover crop, but a growing plant is better than bare soil for soil health. That being said, it is best to plants something that can be terminated before it goes to seed.

Should the dead stems and leaves of herbaceous flowers be removed or left in place? It depends. There are advantages to each, but I lean toward leaving them in place. They will be broken down and incorporated into the soil universe if left in place. Also, upright stems will speed the melting of snow in the spring. The other side of that situation is that the beds look much nicer when they are cleaned up.

The final cleanup should be done after all the other work has been done. Clean your tools and store them out of the weather. They will last a lot longer with good care.

Enjoy this pleasant fall weather while we still have it, winter will be here soon.





# Fire Blight

At this point, prune out any new fire blight strikes as they happen. Don't wait until fall or wintertime. Remember to disinfect your tools between each cut.

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#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**OCTOBER 11 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS** 

**DIVIDING PERENNIALS** 

\*\*IF YOU MISSED OUT ON CLASS, DON'T MISS OUT ON THE RECORDING TOO! JUST EMAIL AND ASK FOR THE RECORDING OF ANY GARDEN TIPS CLASS.

**OCTOBER 25 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS** 

WINTER PROTECTIONS OF ROSES, GRAPES, CANE BERRIES ETC.

BRACKEN HENDERSON, EXTENSION EDUCATOR

7:30 PM PLANT TALK

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM REGISTRATION

BEGINNING AFTER THANKSGIVING FOR 2023

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN DOING THE
MASTER GARDENER CLASSES AND/OR
PROGRAM EMAIL LENA,
LALLEN@UIDAHO.EDU, FOR MORE
INFORMATION!!



## **PHOTO OF THE WEEK:**

This beautiful bird is enjoying golden currants, a native to Idaho. Birds can be fun to have in your yard but can also be a pest if they are eating all your fruit. It's a constant challenge for us gardeners to find the balance between birds as enjoyment and birds as pests. Good luck with your journey!!

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