



EASTERN IDAHO

PEST ALERT

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

INSIDE THE ISSUE



GOOD

PG 3



BAD

PG 2



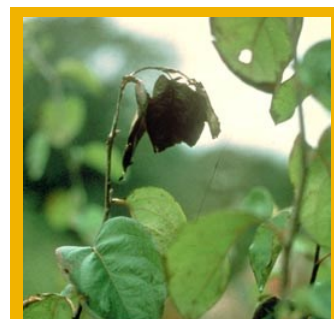
PHOTO OF THE WEEK

PG 8



CODLING MOTH

PG 5



FIREBLIGHT

PG 6

Birds on Fruit

By Ron Patterson

Native birds and their active nests are protected. There are three invasive species that can be taken at any time: starling, English sparrow, and collared Eurasian dove. These birds are crowding native birds out of their natural habitat. The challenge is that they cannot be taken in such a way as to harm protected species. So, baits and fatal traps are not allowed. In addition, much of the bird damage done to our fruits is done by protected species.

While damage can happen on apples and pears, it is much more common on softer fruits, such as cherries, peaches, nectarines, plums, strawberries, currants, raspberries, and blackberries. It really wouldn't be such an issue to give the birds a little food if they would just pick on one fruit and leave all the rest alone. But some idiot bird has got to try every fruit on the tree or shrub.

So, what can you do? The best option is to make some sort of exclusion structure with bird netting on it. I have used this for peaches and raspberries. I have just draped bird netting over the plants, but that method is a little difficult to manage. Build a sort of high tunnel over the trees and drape the bird netting over that. For trees the sides need to be about 10 feet tall for peaches, nectarine and semi-dwarf apples. Small cane or shrub fruit can be protected with a standard high tunnel such as can be found here: https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1640&context=extension_curall

While this shade cloth will deter many birds, the bird net should drop all the way to the ground. A high tunnel is nice because you can walk in and harvest without moving the net.



Harvest Indicators

By Ron Patterson

Harvesting different garden produce at the right time can be a challenge. Some produce will continue to ripen after harvest, and some won't.

Those that continue to ripen are referred to as climacteric and those that don't are called non-climacteric. Some of the climacteric produce includes tomatoes, apples, peaches, nectarines, cantaloupe, honeydew melons, plums, and bananas. When commercially produced, they are typically harvested unripe so they can tolerate transportation and allowed to ripen off the vine. They will never taste as sweet as when they are allowed to fully ripen on the vine.

Some of the non-climacteric produce includes blackberries, raspberries, cucumbers, peppers, winter squash, summer squash, pumpkins, strawberries, watermelon, citrus, and cherries. These must be allowed to fully ripen on the vine to reach full maturity and flavor.

Here are some of the more common fruits grown in eastern Idaho and how to tell when is best to harvest them.

Climacteric—not all fruit will ripen at the same time, so fruit will need to be picked several times.

- Tomatoes—if your fruit tends to crack it may be worthwhile to pick the fruit just as the first blush of color shows on the blossom-end.
- Apples—best when picked at full maturity. The background color should change from green to yellow and most modern fruits will also show a red blush color. The fruit should separate from the stem with very little effort.
- Peaches and nectarines—tolerate transportation better if they are not fully ripe. The red blush of ripe peaches will show up before the peach is fully ripe. The easiest way to tell when peaches and nectarines is to apply slight pressure right next to the stem. If it is soft, the peach/nectarine is ready. If it is still firm, hold off for a couple more days. The peach/nectarine should separate easily from the tree.
- Cantaloupe—one of the easiest melons to harvest. When the stem separates with very little pressure the fruit is ripe, maybe close to over-ripe.
- Honeydew melons—there may be a subtle color change. The best indicator is a slight softening of the blossom end of the fruit.
- Plums—don't go just by color. After developing their ripe color, plums will soften, particularly at the tip of the fruit.



Non-climacteric—must be allowed to ripen on the plant.

- Raspberries and blackberries—color is best indicator. Blackberries will go from green, to red, to shiny black, to a dull black, then the berry will separate easily from the stem. If harvested while still shiny, they will be very tart. The receptacle stays with the blackberry. Raspberries should separate easily from the receptacle.
- Cucumbers—depend on the end use. Pickling cucumbers should be picked at the size you want your pickles. Slicing cucumbers should be picked just at the fruit skin fills out. The length is determined by the cultivar.
- Peppers—nice to harvest as they have a very long harvest window. The sweetest flavor is when they are allowed to reach their fully ripe color while still on the plant, rather than harvest when green.
- Winter squash and pumpkins—not ready to harvest until the pedicel becomes woody and the skin becomes hard enough to press with your thumbnail without puncturing the skin.



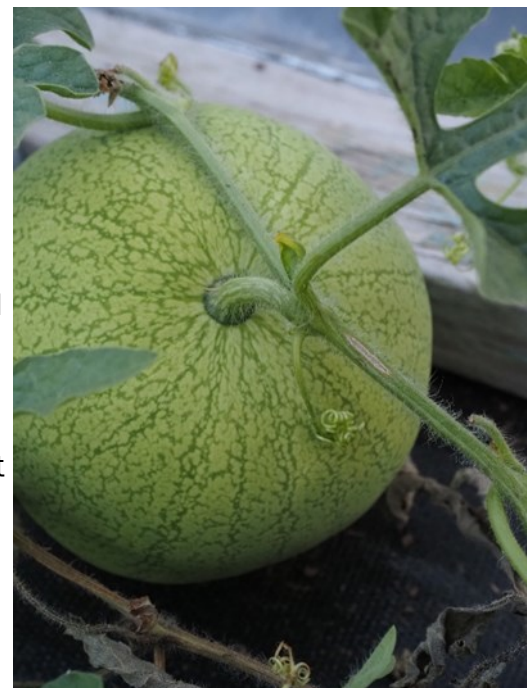
- Summer squash (zucchini, yellow straight and crookneck, scallop)—Best when eaten small and tender. When the blossom at the end of the fruit dries up is a good time to harvest for most uses. If zucchini is going to be used for zucchini bread, then it is fine to allow the fruit to get larger, but harvest before the seeds get very large and tough.

- Strawberries and cherries—color and feel of the fruit are the best indicators. Once they have the right color, taste test to see if they are as ripe as you desire.

- Watermelon—not too tough if you know what to look for. Where the watermelon attaches to the vine there will also be a leaf, a spoon, and a tendril. When the

spoon and tendril have both dried up check the ground spot on the bottom of the fruit. The ground spot should turn from light green to yellow when ripe. Sometimes the spoon and tendril will get broken and dry up before the fruit is ripe, so always use the ground spot color as the last check.

- Root crops—sometimes a fine line between flavor, size, and woody texture. Carrots, beets, and radishes can be harvested at any size for fresh eating. Carrots should be over 0.75" in diameter for storage, beet should be over 1.5" in diameter. Radishes are best when grown and harvested in cool weather—fall is a great time.



Happy harvesting.

Codling moth spray schedule

Starting on the second and through the third generation, apples and pears should be protected continuously as there is very little gap between the generations. Sprays can be applied from now until September 15 according to the product label. Be sure to follow the timing for the pre-harvest interval.

This table will provide spray dates for codling moth at the given region. Select the region that has similar climatic conditions to determine when to begin spraying. **Remember that actual dates will change as we get closer because of actual temperatures rather than forecasted temperatures.** Use a different insecticide for the second generation to reduce the risk of insecticide resistance.



Spray Timing Table				
Second Generation				
Location	Start of 2 nd Generation hatch	Start of Peak Egg Hatch 2 nd Generation	End of Peak Hatch 2 nd Generation	Cover for 2 nd or 3rd Generation until
Burley	--	--	August 22	September 15
Pocatello Airport	--	--	August 25	September 15
Pocatello East Side	--	--	--	September 15
Fort Hall	--	--	August 29	September 15
Blackfoot	--	August 21	September 12	September 15
South/East Idaho Falls	--	August 13	September 6	September 15
Idaho Falls Airport	--	August 14	September 4	September 15
Ucon	--	August 22	September 15	September 15
Rigby	August 12	August 29	unknown	September 15
Ririe	August 15	August 31	unknown	September 15
Rexburg	--	August 12	September 3	September 15
Sugar City	--	August 26	unknown	September 15
St Anthony	August 13	August 30	unknown	September 15
Driggs	unknown	unknown	unknown	September 15

Ingredient	Efficacy	Residual length (days)	Comments
Conventional			
Carbaryl (old Sevin products)	Good	14	
Gamma-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Triazicide)	Good to Excellent	14 – 17	Last application at least 21 days prior to harvest
Malathion (Bonide Malathion, Hi Yield Malathion)	Good	5 – 7	Max 2 applications; some products are pears only
Zeta cypermethrin (Garden Tech Sevin)	Good to Excellent	14 – 17	Last application at least 14 days prior to harvest
Organic			
Azadirachtin (Safer BioNeem)	Fair to Good	7 – 10	
Codling moth virus (Cyd-X)	Good (if populations low)	7	Works best when used at beginning of generation
Kaolin clay (Surround)	Fair	7	Produces protective barrier
Oil (All Seasons Oil, EcoSmart, Neem)	Fair	3	Recommended for the first application of the generation only
Pyrethrin (Ortho Fruit Spray, Fertilome Fruit Tree Spray, Safer End All)	Good	3 – 5	
Spinosad Monterey/ Fertilome Spinosad	Good	7 – 10	Max 6 applications



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.

EASTERN IDAHO

PEST ALERT

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 9 NO GARDEN TIPS CLASS!!

AUGUST 8-12 BONNEVILLE COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 23 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

CONSERVING WATER IN THE LANDSCAPE

TOM JACOBSEN, EXTENSION EDUCATOR

7:30 PM PLANT TALK

SEPTEMBER 13 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

TENDER SUMMER BULBS

SEPTEMBER 27 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

FALL LAWN CARE

RON PATTERSON, EXTENSION EDUCATOR

7:30 PM PLANT TALK

OCTOBER 11 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

DIVIDING PERENNIALS

OCTOBER 25 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

WINTER PROTECTIONS OF ROSES,
GRAPES, CANE BERRIES ETC.

7:30 PM PLANT TALK



PHOTO OF THE WEEK: Photo credit: Alexas Fotos

PHOTO OF THE WEEK:

If you're not already harvesting your vegetables, you will be soon!! Make sure you read Ron's article with tips and tricks to know when to harvest if you're not sure or growing new things!!

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