Recognize Fruit Damage from Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD)

Drosophila suzukii

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Spotted wing Drosophila (Drosophila suzukii; SWD) attacks several fruits in Oregon. It is crucial that growers identify an infestation early. Trapping can determine the presence of adult SWD in fields. The fruit-dunk method can be used to identify larval fruit infestation, but larvae must be large enough to be easily identified in the liquid mixture. In addition to these methods, early field identification of damage symptoms may be a tool to help growers identify SWD in fruit.

This publication shows damage caused by SWD on blueberries (Duke), raspberries (Malahat), strawberries (Seascape), cherries (Bing, Montmorency, and Rainier), and grapes (Pinot Noir, Chardonnay). Pictures show each fruit type a day or two after egg laying, 3 to 4 days later, and approximately 1 week after egg laying. Some pictures show uninfested berries and symptoms observed among fresh commercial fruit in Oregon fields.

Summary of Symptoms

Observed symptoms due to SWD infestation
- Early mold, wrinkling and softening seen at 2 to 3 days
- Soft spots and collapse of berry structure
- Small holes created by larvae for breathing. Sometimes breathing tubes visible
- Expulsion of berry sap from oviposition holes
- Scarring of tissue
- Dark spots in white grapes, light spots in dark grapes. (Do not confuse with lenticells)
- Splitting of grape berries
- Larvae emerging from berries
- Pupae in or outside berries

Observed damage likely due to aging
- Most mold in approximately 4 to 5 days
- General wrinkling and softening without specific soft spots
- Darkening of skin
# Recognize fruit damage from spotted wing Drosophila (SWD)

## Strawberries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Egg laying</th>
<th>3–days after egg laying</th>
<th>More than 5 days after egg laying</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="#">Infested fruit</a></td>
<td>Infested fruit</td>
<td><a href="#">Infested fruit</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oblong egg under the surface</td>
<td>Quick deterioration. The skin wrinkles and fruit softens; mold may appear ~3 days after infestation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Uninfested fruit

Uninfested strawberries may stay firm with minimal damage.

## Raspberries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Egg laying</th>
<th>3–4 days after egg laying</th>
<th>More than 5 days after egg laying</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="#">Infested fruit</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Infested fruit</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Infested fruit</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breathing tube</td>
<td>Raspberries show damage quickly. The skin wrinkles and fruit becomes juicy. Scarring and collapse of berry may occur as soon as 1–2 days following infestation.</td>
<td>Dark scarring apparent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Uninfested fruit

Uninfested raspberries may show mild overall softening.

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### Cherries

**Egg laying**

Breathing tubes visible under 30X magnification

**More than 5 days after egg laying**

Collapsed berries with pupae on surface (arrow)

Oviposition holes often associated with black necrotic scar tissue

Emerging prepupal stages and damage directly under the cherry surface

Cherries start to show visible damage ~3 days following infestation. Larval holes allow fruit juice to escape the berry, and soft areas become pronounced.

Egg laying 3–4 days after egg laying

Larvae may be visible when suspect fruit are split open.

More than 5 days after egg laying

Pupae may be found in fruit.

Uninfested fruit

Uninfested blueberries can remain firm up to 6 or 7 days. By day 3, mild wrinkling may occur.

### Blueberries

**Egg laying**

Infested fruit

Blueberries start to show visible damage ~3 days following infestation. Larval holes allow fruit juice to escape the berry, and soft areas become pronounced.

3–4 days after egg laying

Larvae may be visible when suspect fruit are split open.

More than 5 days after egg laying

Collapsed fruit

Pupae may be found in fruit.
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Grapes

Infested fruit

Field-infested fruit

Egg laying

3–4 days after egg laying

More than 5 days after egg laying

Dark area in light fruit

Light area in darker fruit

Berry splitting due to Botrytis. SWD lays eggs in the split areas.

Larvae may be visible when suspect fruit are split open.

Infested berries where turgor pressure caused expulsion of liquid through oviposition hole

Emerging larvae and collapsing berries

Infested fruit

Oviposition in damaged areas, where the pedicel has detached

Figures provided in this document are intended as a tool for growers and do not indicate that marketed fruit may contain live SWD.

Photos by: Emily Parent and Thomas Whitney, USDA ARS Horticultural Crops Research Unit, Corvallis, OR; Peter Shearer, Oregon State University Mid-Columbia Research and Extension Center; Mike Reitmajer, Daniel Dalton, and Vaughn Walton, Department of Horticulture, Oregon State University. Reprinted with permission.

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