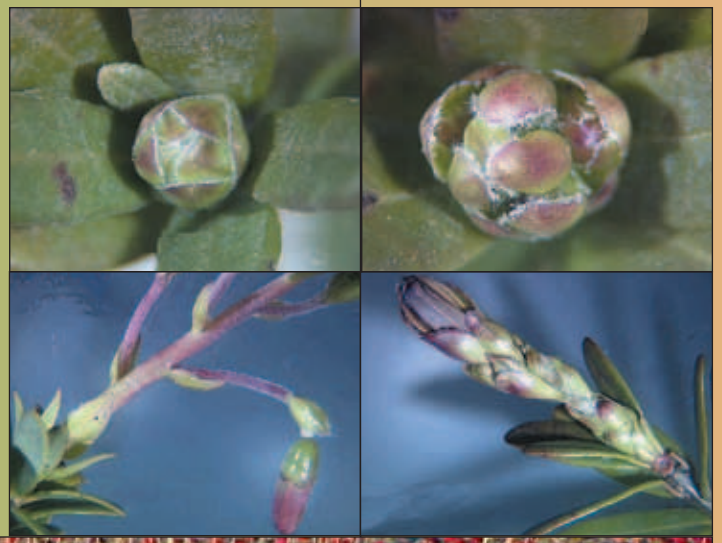
Oregon Cranberry Practices Calendar



Oregon State University
Extension Service

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Post-harvest

Late October–early November

Flood if necessary for control of root weevil and girdler larvae. Flood duration depends on soil temperature and oxygen content of water; at least 2 weeks is suggested. Control is greater if water can remain on the bed for 6 weeks.

Apply clopyralid* to manage sheep sorrel (sour dock) and other susceptible perennial or biennial weeds.
*Contact your local OSU Extension agent for specific product information.

November

Drain irrigation lines and pumps to protect against winter freezes.

Photograph by Lynn Ketchum © Oregon State University

Dormant

November–January

Order bees for bloom-time pollination. Two hives per acre are suggested. Consult PNW 245 (see "For more information," page 7) for information on developing contracts with bee keepers.

November–February

Re-sanding. Apply ½ to ¾ inch of sand uniformly to bed at one time. Do not exceed 1 inch.

Prune wet-picked beds if needed; i.e., remove excess vegetative growth. Research has shown that light pruning is better than heavy pruning.

November–March

Control algae, liverworts, and moss. A number of fungicides kill algae, liverworts, and moss as well as controlling fungus diseases. The density and vigor of the weed and the cranberry vines, as well as the local environment, will determine whether treatments are required each year.

Repair and maintain equipment.

Improve drainage in and around beds. Remove trees that shade beds.

January | February | March | April | May | June

Late dormant

Mid-January to mid-April

Planting. Use pest-free vines with a known production history.

If possible, install the irrigation system before planting. This helps reduce weed growth and protects against soil heaving during frost events.

Late February to mid-March

Apply pre-emergent herbicides, if needed, according to label instructions and expert recommendations. Do not apply after bud break.

Delayed dormant

Early March

Ready frost protection system.

Mid–March

Make sure frost protection system is fully operable. Keep thermostat on 32°F to protect at 30°F and below.

March

Apply Bordeaux or other copper fungicide for algae, liverwort, moss, and general disease control.

Early growth

April

Irrigate as needed, about 1 inch per week. Monitor evapotranspiration and precipitation on the AgriMet web site.

Early growing season

April–June

Apply post-emergent herbicide, if needed, to control broadleaf weeds, according to label instructions and expert recommendations.

Cabbagehead–Bud break

Late March–April

Use a combination of leaf tissue and soil test results from the previous season plus your experience to plan crop fertilization. In a perennial crop like cranberries, most fertilizer applications will affect bud set and plant vigor for crops to be harvested one to several years in the future. See EM 8741 (“For more information,” page 7).

Scout for black vine weevil larvae in soil. Larvae are most often found within the duff layer, but may be found as deep as 8" below the soil.

Monitor irrigation system for uniformity, as vine weevil infestations most commonly occur in dry areas.

Cabbagehead

Photograph by Beth Ann A. Workmaster and Jiwan P. Palta. Reproduced with permission by American Society for Horticultural Science.

March | April | May | June | July

Growing season

April–July

Apply post-emergent herbicides, as needed; spot treat if possible. Follow label directions for rate, timing, and special instructions for use. Hand pull or make wick applications on difficult-to-control weeds.

Bud break

March–April

Scout for uprights infected with Lophodermium twig blight. Consult the Diseases section of PNW 247 (see "For more information," page 7) for a description of symptoms.

Treat bed with approved fungicide if Cotton Ball has previously been detected.

Bud break

Roughneck–Hook

March–May

Scout for Rose Bloom. Treat, if necessary, with approved fungicide when "blooms" develop waxy coating.

Roughneck

Cabbagehead–Hook

March–April

Set thermostat on 34°F for protection at 32°F.

Hook

New shoot growth

Late April–early May

Monitor beds by net sweeping or crawling across the bed looking for the first brood of blackheaded fireworm larvae.

Treat if necessary, with an approved insecticide.

April | May | June | July | August

Growing season

April–October

Keep dikes mowed to reduce weed seed production and spread of weeds.

Hook–Bloom

April–June

Keep thermostat on 34°F for protection at 32°F.

Early May–July

Install pheromone traps for cranberry girdler and the 2nd and 3rd generations of blackheaded fireworm. Monitor traps twice a week on the same days, such as Tuesday and Friday. Record moth counts in the afternoon. Treat 7 days after peak flight if using an insect growth regulator; 10–14 days after peak flight if using other types of pesticides. Treat considering honey bee safety if hives are still present.

Late May–June

Sweep at night for black vine weevil in suspect beds. Treat adults at emergence (typically early to mid-June). Larvae can also be controlled with parasitic nematodes. Consult OSU Extension personnel for more detailed pesticide information. A post-harvest flood for at least 2 weeks may also help to control larvae.

Scout for uprights infected with Cotton Ball fungus. Follow the latest disease control charts for approved fungicides.

10–20% bloom

May

Place beehives in a wind-sheltered, dry, sunny spot. Move hives adjacent to the beds no earlier than 10% bloom and no later than 25–30% bloom.

End of bloom

Late June–early July

Treat entire bed if Lophodermium is present. Follow latest disease control charts. Heed re-entry (REI) and pre-harvest (PHI) intervals.

If cranberry girdler moths were detected, apply parasitic nematodes 2 to 4 weeks after peak flight.

Also, re-sand during winter to discourage establishment of girdler larvae. If sanding cannot be done, winter flood for at least 6 weeks.

Early to mid-July

Treat for second brood of blackheaded fireworm if detected in beds.

Fruit set and sizing

Late June–August

Treat beds for fruit rot control. Multiple applications per season may be needed. Consult OSU Extension personnel and the latest disease control charts for approved fungicides and treatment options.

July | August | September | October | November

Growing season

April–October; mostly September–October

Use sprinkler system to protect from heat when temperature is 80°F or above. Scald injury to fruit may occur when temp is 80°F or above and relative humidity is less than 50%.

Early season heat events may temporarily wilt new growth. Late season events may scald berries and increase fruit rot.

Bud set

July–October

Maintain adequate irrigation for healthy plants. Watch for drought stress. Monitor crop and weather reports.

Mid-August to mid-September

Take leaf samples on established beds according to recommendations in EM 8610 (see "For more information," page 7).
If desired, take soil samples at same sampling locations. Soil samples help in monitoring soil acidity (pH) and some nutrients.

August

Identify and map weeds before harvest.

Complete handler reports for use of pesticides.

September

Plant cover crops on dike banks to reduce erosion and weed competition.

Fruit maturity

Late September–October

When necessary, work with fellow growers to schedule water use for harvest. Work with your handler to schedule deliveries for maximum efficiency and profit.

Photograph by Lynn Ketchum © Oregon State University

Harvest

Late September to early November

Follow good safety practices to protect yourself, family members, and hired workers. Drain flood water slowly to protect fish-bearing streams.

For more information

2009 Northwest United States Cranberry Pesticide Chart. Cranberry Institute, 266 Main St., Wareham, MA 02571.

AgriMet – The Northwest Cooperative Agriculture Weather Network.

EB0845E, Cranberry Pest Management Guide. Antonelli, A., K. Patten, and C. Daniels. Washington State University Extension Service.

EM 8610, Cranberry tissue testing for producing beds in North America. Davenport, J., C. DeMoranville, J. Hart, K. Patten, L. Peterson, T. Planer, A. Poole, T. Roper, and J. Smith. 1995. Oregon State University Extension Service.

EM 8672, South coastal Oregon cranberries nutrient management guide. Poole, A., J. Hart, T. Righetti, and B. Strik. 1997. Oregon State University Extension Service.

EM 8677, Laboratories Serving Oregon: Soil, Water, Plant Tissue, and Feed Analysis. Hart, J. 2008. Oregon State University Extension Service.

EM 8741, Nitrogen for Bearing Cranberries in North America. Hart, J (ed.) 2000. Oregon State University Extension Service.

Pacific Northwest Insect Management Handbook. Oregon State University Extension Service.

Pacific Northwest Plant Disease Management Handbook. Oregon State University Extension Service.

Pacific Northwest Weed Management Handbook. Oregon State University Extension Service.

PNW 245, Evaluating Honey Bee Colonies for Pollination: A Guide for Growers and Beekeepers. Burgett, D.M., G.C. Fisher, D.F. Mayer, and C.A. Johansen. 1993. University of Idaho Extension Service.

PNW 247, Cranberry Production in the Pacific Northwest. Strik, B.C. et al. 2002. Oregon State University Extension Service.

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Shifts in bud and leaf hardiness during spring growth and development of the cranberry upright: Regrowth potential as an indicator of hardiness. Workmaster, B.A.A. and J.P. Palta. 2006. J. Amer. Soc. Hort. Sci. 131:327-337.

Photograph of cranberries on page 1 by Lynn Ketchum, © Oregon State University.

Use pesticides safely!

- Wear protective clothing and safety devices as recommended on the label. Bathe or shower after each use.
- Read the pesticide label—even if you've used the pesticide before. Follow closely the instructions on the label (and any other directions you have).
- Be cautious when you apply pesticides. Know your legal responsibility as a pesticide applicator. You may be liable for injury or damage resulting from pesticide use.

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