
NORTHWEST CENTER FOR SMALL FRUITS RESEARCH

Blackberry Research Priorities

for 2010-2011 funding

Revised December 2008

- 1) Spotted Wing Drosophila (Emergency Addition September 2009)

Breeding cultivars that are summer bearing, thornless, high-yielding, winter hardy, machine harvestable, disease resistant, and that have superior fruit quality

Biology and control of diseases (e.g. botrytis, purple blotch, dry cell syndrome)

New chemistries to address harvest contaminant and other problems stemming from the loss of long-standing insecticides and nematocides (e.g. raspberry cane borer, strawberry crown moth, leafroller, redberry mites).

Weed control of hard to control perennials (e.g. thistle, bindweed, quackgrass and equisetum)

Water and nutrient management
- 2) Develop and improve cultural, chemical and biological practices to improve cold hardiness

Improving the viability of fresh market production through the use of tunnels, season extension techniques and/or methods for improving fruit shelf life.

Understanding soil ecology and soil borne pathogens and their effects on plant health and crop yields

Improved methods of primocane management in every year cropping systems for increasing yields and/or lowering labor costs.

Development of genetic marker technology for varietal identification
- 3) Thorn management and reduction systems

Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus in blackberries

Fruit composition and nutraceutical properties