
NORTHWEST CENTER FOR SMALL FRUITS RESEARCH

Blackberry Research Priorities

for 2011-2012 funding

Revised December 2009

- 1A) New chemistries and management techniques including organic to address newly emerging pests (e.g. Spotted Wing Drosophila), harvest contaminants and problems stemming from the loss of long-standing insecticides and nematocides (e.g. raspberry crown borer, strawberry crown moth, leafrollers, redberry mites)
- B) Breeding thornless, high-yielding, winter hardy, machine harvestable, disease resistant cultivars that have superior fruit quality
- C) Biology and control of diseases (e.g. botrytis, purple blotch, dry cell syndrome)
- D) Weed control of hard to control perennials (e.g. thistle, bindweed, quackgrass and equisetum)
- E) Water and nutrient management
- 2A) Develop and improve cultural, chemical and biological practices to improve cold hardiness
- B) Improving the viability of fresh market production through the use of tunnels, season extension techniques and/or methods for improving fruit shelf life.
- C) Understanding soil ecology and soil borne pathogens and their effects on plant health and crop yields
- D) Improved methods of primocane management in every year cropping systems for increasing yields and/or lowering labor costs.
- E) Organic production systems including horticulture and pest management issues
- 3A) Thorn management and reduction systems
- B) Raspberry Bushy Dwarf Virus in blackberries
- C) Fruit composition and nutraceutical properties
- D) Development of genetic marker technology for varietal identification