

Report from University of Vermont
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In general, SWD built up early this past season so damage was high this year, especially noted in home gardens and in non-commercial production where some losses were total due to rapid softening and rotting of berries.

Dr. Vern Grubinger pulled out the (grower) mentions of SWD in his Veg and Berry Listserv which is illuminating about the 2017 season!

July) We are seeing SWD in our red raspberries, but have seen no damage in the blueberries or saw any damage with the strawberries.

(Aug.) What a depressing mess! The SWD found us even earlier this year and came on fast and furious. Bushes were laden -- and are laden still -- but we lost all but the earliest variety to mush. We had about 2 weeks of good picking and then closed the field to U-pickers. I am resolved to spray next year and will be curious to hear of other's successes with organic sprays.

(Sept.) SWD in fall raspberries. Usually by this time of year we are only concerned with soft fruit rots, but the heat has ramped up reproductive cycles of SWD such that we have had to interrupt harvest to spray for them. Using Spinetoram and looking forward to the colder temps to slow the onslaught down. Has never been a problem before in the fall raspberries.

(Sept.) The heat has caused the fall raspberries to ripen as we pick and it has been hard to stay on top of the harvest. Our crew is burnt out from picking raspberries for 6 hours every day. SWD has also been relentless with the heat in the one raspberry house that we did not use insect netting on. The netting on our other houses has proved to effective for keeping SWD under control.

(Oct.) We have seen SWD in the raspberries and around the blackberries, but we have been able to pick the berries when they are ripe and the cooler temperatures have greatly lessened the numbers.

(Nov.) My biggest production worry is SWD. I have planted more early raspberries. I'm glad that most of my blueberries are early to mid-season. I hang traps....I take a soldering iron and melt holes in the sides of red plastic Solo cups, then put some cider vinegar with a drop of dish soap in them. I hang them with strings through the top and put lids on them so they don't fill with rainwater. The SWD fly through the holes in the side of the cup. If I am lucky the bottom of the cup begins to look like a poppy seed muffin - filled with dead SWD. The end of August cold weather seemed to have killed off some SWD, and I have not seen any in my fall raspberries picked this past week.