

# Raspberry Insect & Mite Biology & Management



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The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Utah Raspberry  
Meeting

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# Raspberry Horntail

- Most common insect pest of raspberry canes in northern Utah
- Hymenoptera: Cephidae  
Stem sawfly, Wood wasp
- Beginning in April - May, female horntails insert their eggs under the epidermis of raspberry & blackberry canes, about 2 inches below the tips
- Hatched larva tunnels down the cane



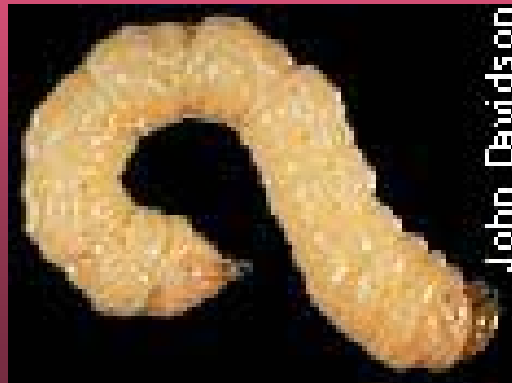
Raspberry horntail female (1/2 - 3/4" long)



Raspberry horntail larva tunnels in pith

# Raspberry Horntail

- Wilted tips of canes
- Infest vegetative canes/tender growth
- Larva has short spine on tail end
- Larva grows up to 1 inch long



John Davidson

Mature horntail larva



UC Statewide IPM Project  
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Wilted cane tip

# Raspberry Horntail

- Larva burrows down the pith in canes to spend the winter in a silk-lined cocoon
- Pupate in spring
- Adults emerge in spring
- 1-2 generations per year



Horntail injury in cane showing tunneling, darkening of pith, and brown insect frass



# Raspberry Horntail Management

- Prune off infested tips/canes when first observed
- Destroy infested canes (burn, chip, bury > 2 in. deep, landfill)
- Two years of intense pruning has shown good reductions in infested canes
- Biological control: natural parasitic wasps (Ichneumonid wasp) - smaller white larvae crawling on horntail larva - summer

# Raspberry Horntail Management

- Insecticides applied as full cover spray to canes in April and May (Do not spray during bloom to avoid killing pollinators; Apply late evening/early morning when bees are not foraging)
  - × Carbaryl (Sevin)
  - × Diazinon
  - × Malathion
  - × Guthion (2006 label doesn't include caneberries)
  - × Esfenvalerate (Asana)
  - × Organic insecticides: rotenone, neem oil
- Repeat application 7-14 days later if populations are high
- Difficult to prevent adults from laying eggs; need to have active residue on canes



# Rose Stem Girdler

- Flatheaded beetle (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)
- Adult - Greenish-Bronze, shiny beetle
- Larva - flattened area behind head, 2 short brown projections on tail end
- Spiral grooves in cambium; swollen area
- Girdle canes



Adult rose stem girdler



Flatheaded larva



Spiral grooves in cane

# Rose Stem Girdler

- Girdling causes canes to wilt and they may die
- Girdling in 1<sup>st</sup> year canes produces gall-like swelling
- In everbearing & varieties with extremely succulent 1<sup>st</sup> year growth, injury is worse in 1<sup>st</sup> year canes
- Varieties with more restricted vegetative growth are attacked primarily in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- Attacks to 2<sup>nd</sup> year canes has greater impact on fruit production



Swollen  
cane



# Rose Stem Girdler

- 1 generation per year
- Winter is spent as mature larva within the pith of cane
- Pupate in the spring
- Adults emerge, mate, and lay eggs on canes in May
- Larva chews directly into cambium thru the bottom of egg



Flatheaded  
larva tunneling  
in cane pith

# Stem Girdler Management

- Same as for Raspberry Horntail
- Prune canes below injury as soon as it is noticed; destroy canes; multiple years of pruning may be necessary to clean up infestation
- Insecticides - same timing & chemicals as for horntail
- Insecticides are more effective for stem girdler than horntail because eggs are laid on exterior of canes

Female lay eggs  
on surface of canes



# Raspberry Crown Borer

- Clearwinged moth  
Lepidoptera: Sesiidae
- 2-yr life cycle
- Foliage on canes wilts & dies
- Shepherds crook; canes break at ground
- Canes predisposed to winter injury



Adult is a thick-bodied moth that resemble a wasp



Early injury resembles that of the horntail

Entire canes die back



# Raspberry Crown Borer

- 2 year life cycle
- Eggs laid on underside of leaves in summer & early fall
- Larva crawls down to crown of cane & burrows under bark to over winter
- Following spring, larva feeds in crown & upper roots
- Next spring, larva tunnels up cane pith, pupate, & adults emerge in mid to late summer
- Pupal skins can be seen on canes



Egg laid on leaf



Crown borer larvae tunnel in crowns & upper roots

# Crown Borer Management

- Prune & remove wilted canes in June & July; remove crowns
- Full cane and base drench with insecticide
  - × September to mid-October targets young larvae crawling down canes to enter crowns
  - × April - May targets larvae as they begin to feed in the spring
  - × Irrigate (or rainfall) to move insecticide into root zone
- > 2 consecutive years of treatment
- Same insecticides as for other cane borers



Target young larvae before they start substantial boring

# Spider Mites

- Two spotted spider mite
- Hot, dry weather conditions promote rapid population increase
- Injury to leaves appears as speckling, russeting, brown spots
- Webbing
- Dirty



TSSM



Speckling injury



Russeting, brown spots

# Spider Mite Management

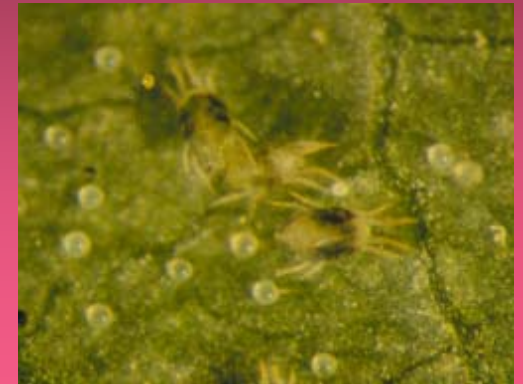
- Scout frequently as daily temperatures exceed 80°F
- Check undersides of leaves, tap leaves onto light surface
- If catch the infestation early, can use softer controls

Leaf with mite webbing



# Spider Mite Management

- Overhead irrigation, rain, wash down with a hose
- Ground cover, weed management
- Miticides
  - × Horticultural oil (1%) - 2 to 3 apps.
  - × Insecticidal soap - 2-3 apps.
  - × Savey - apply early in mite pop. build-up, kills eggs, mite growth inhibitor, translaminar activity (local systemic)
  - × Vendex



TSSM adults  
& eggs



# Vectors of Viruses

- Raspberry Mosaic
  - × Aphid (*Amphorophora agathoica*)
- Leaf Curl
  - × Aphid (*Aphis rubicola*)
- Bushy Dwarf
  - × Pollen / Bees
- Tomato Ringspot
  - × Nematode (*Xiphinema*)

