

Black Raspberry (*Rubus occidentalis*) Cultivar Study 2003 (Shawn R. Wright, Richard C. Funt and Brad Bergefurd)

Introduction

This study was planted to determine the relative yield, harvest season, and fruit characteristics of Mac Black relative to Bristol and Jewel.

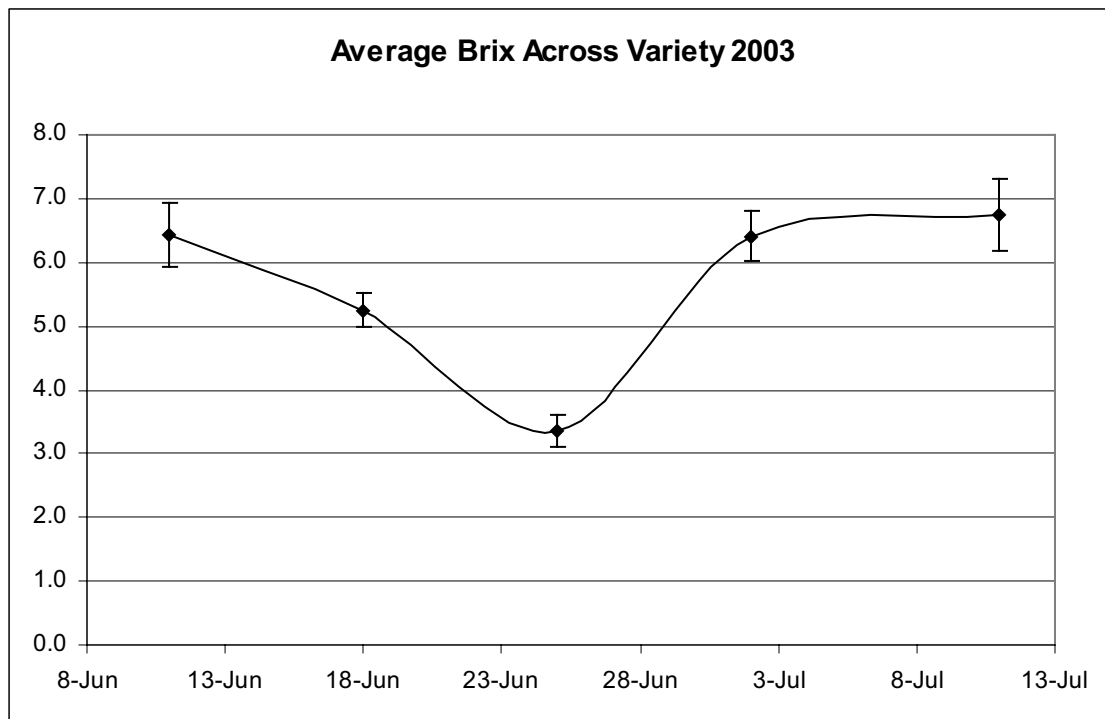
Methods

See our 2002 update (<http://southcenters.osu.edu/hort/data/2002/bberry202.htm>) for information on experimental design and methods. Recommended pest management practices were followed. The summer was cooler and wetter than normal therefore the drip irrigation was only run the weekend of July 4th.

Results

Bristol harvest (June 11-June 30) peaked on June 16, while Jewel (June 13-June 30) peaked near June 21. This was approximately one week earlier than last year. Mac Black harvest (June 25-July 11) peaked on June 30. Last year there was not harvest of Mac Black.

In 2002 there was no significant effect of harvest or variety on brix. Average brix across harvest and variety was 10.0. In 2003 there was no significant effect of variety, however harvest date was significant and brix was consistently lower in 2003 than in 2002.



The cooler and wetter than normal weather had an effect as can be seen in the figure. As the weather began to warm and dry in late June, Brix increased to early season levels.

Percent marketable fruit was consistently over 85%, however loss due to birds increased later in the season.

Average total yield per plant for Bristol was 484 grams, for Jewel was 348 grams, and for Bristol was 110 grams.

