

The Council Letter

A Confidential Report to Directors, Members and Chairpersons of Council Committees
Not for Publication - Not for Quotation

WEEKLY Highbush Blueberry CROP REPORT September 3, 2014

NOTE: This is the final NABC weekly crop report for the 2014 season. We wish to thank each of the weekly conference call participants for the time and effort they took again this season to provide weekly reports from their areas.

BRITISH COLUMBIA – No report available.

WASHINGTON – *Alan Schreiber:* The blueberry season in eastern and southwestern Washington is essentially over. Harvest is winding down in northwest Washington. Some second and some third pick Elliott yet to go. Labor issues have forced many to be late in picking fruit, and have caused soft Liberty and Elliott fruit from the start. Weather had an impact as well, but lateness due to labor was a large factor. Labor continues to be a forefront topic with growers. Liberty has been mixed size even on first pick and second pick is like Rubel, maybe smaller. Aphid pressure finally easing to make way for SWD. SWD pressure is on the upsurge and growers need to have aggressive control programs in place. USDA reports note a total of 730,000 pounds of fresh blueberries shipped during the week of August 24 to August 30, 2014.

OREGON- No report available. USDA reports note a total of 1,140,000 pounds of fresh blueberries shipped during the week of August 24 to August 30, 2014

MICHIGAN/INDIANA- *Dave Trinka.* The weather has been seasonable the past week. A few rain showers passed through the area over the weekend. Processing volumes are declining as final picks of Jersey are completed. Growers continue to harvest Elliott and Aurora for the fresh market, but volumes are on the decline here as well. Some Elliott fields will have little fruit left after the current week's harvest. Fresh harvest will continue in Michigan for about another three weeks, with a greater percentage of the total volume coming from more northerly field locations. USDA reports note a total of 2,370,000 pounds of fresh blueberries shipped during the week of August 24 to August 30, 2014.

NEW JERSEY- Finished for the season.

NORTH CAROLINA- Finished for the season.

CALIFORNIA- Finished for the season.

GEORGIA- Finished for the season.

MISSISSIPPI/LOUISIANA- Finished for the season.

FLORIDA- Finished for the season.

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The logo for the North American Blueberry Council, featuring the word "Blueberries" in a stylized, cursive blue font.

NORTH AMERICAN BLUEBERRY COUNCIL

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