



## Hort Headlines

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March 23, 2007

- **Fruit Bud Watch Begins With Cold Spell** - A cold weather pattern settled over sections of the Yakima Valley late this week signaling the beginning of the spring frost watch for Washington's tree fruit industry. Growers reported low temperatures in a number of growing areas, but believe if any damage occurred it was more of a thinning process, site to site. Growers and warehouse field specialists will be assessing the impacts as well as preparing for more spring frosts ahead.
- **Fruit Frost Forecasts Broadcast On KPQ** - Frost season broadcasts began March 18, to provide fruit growers up-to-the-minute details on frost conditions from meteorologist Tim Creek on KPQ 560 AM. Fruit frost forecasts will be broadcast daily during frost season at 4:35 p.m., 7:04 p.m., and 9:04 p.m. Visit the Clearwest web-site at [www.clearwest.com](http://www.clearwest.com) to view detailed fruit frost forecasts for Yakima, Wenatchee, and Okanogan. For growers located in Quincy, fruit frost broadcasts will be aired on KWNC 1370 AM.
- **Outlook Looks Good As Spring Bees Buzz** - Although certain parts of the country have received media attention on the colony collapse disorder affecting the honeybee population, Pacific Northwest growers who rely on honeybees to pollinate their crops have little to worry about this spring, according to officials. Northwest Beekeepers said, we're not being affected commercially by the disappearing bee syndrome. Beekeepers believe that hive availability should be fine in the Northwest.

- **Light Brown Apple Moth Discovered In Two Bay Area Counties** - California State officials have confirmed the presence of a light brown apple moth, scientifically known as *Epiphyas postvittana*, a new and potentially damaging pest. The light brown apple moth was discovered in a number of traps located in northern Alameda and southern Contra Costa counties last month. The moth has a broad range of 250 host plants, eating everything from fruit to leaves and will also attack trees growing in nature including ornamentals. The moth injures deciduous fruit-tree crops, citrus and grapes by destroying, stunting or deforming young seedlings. A major concern is the severe damage and impact this moth could have on the fruit tree crops. State and Federal officials are working together to prevent the spread of the moth and determine what steps are necessary to contain the pest.
- **Bayer CropScience Sells Guthion To Makhteshim Agan Industries** - Bayer CropScience has sold the insecticide Guthion to MANA Crop Protection, who will now be responsible for marketing it. The divestiture includes North America and South America. BCS will no longer promote Guthion in any communication or advertising form, and all responsibilities for any new product will be the responsibility of MANA. The EPA had planned on canceling the use of Guthion in 1999, but has postponed the cancellation until September of 2012.

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## Headline Links

**Agriculture Jobs Down Nearly 40 percent In January** - Seasonal agricultural employment dropped 38.9 percent in January from January 2006 in Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan and Kittitas counties, a state report says. Read more on this story at the [Wenatchee World](#).

**House Immigration Bill Contains Citizenship Path** - Two lawmakers will fire the opening salvo in this year's immigration debate Thursday when they introduce the first House bill in many years to seek citizenship for illegal immigrants. Visit the [Wenatchee World](#) for more on this story.

**Asparagus To Apples, Reform Has Failed** - Washington 's harvest season is just a month away, and federal immigration reform has yet to materialize. Read more at the [Seattle Times](#).

**Property Rights At Critical Point In Wash. Legislature** - It's coming down to the wire. Will state legislators protect farmers' property rights so they can keep farming and not be forced out of business, their land snatched up by developers? Learn more about this story at the [Capital Press](#).

**Crackdown Having A Big Effect Along U.S. - Mexico border** - The dusty Grand Central Station of illegal journeys into the United States lies on the fringes

of this village, in a junkyard littered with demolished cars. To learn more visit [\*Seattle Times\*](#).

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