

Issue 2 – May 13, 2026

Fruit Crop Report

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Provincial Overview

With the warmer day and especially night temperatures, fruit trees (apple, saskatoons, sour cherry, haskap) have started bud-break and emergence. Removal of straw mulch from strawberry fields has started. The bulk of transplanting the approximately 500-600K bare-root strawberry plants will likely be by mid-May as daily temperatures continue to increase.

Commercial Fruit Crops- Topics

Strawberries

Control of Anthracnose in Strawberries

Anthracnose has not been as common in Manitoba compared to other strawberry producing regions like southern Ontario, Nova Scotia and many US regions. It is typically more of an issue in day-neutral strawberries and some susceptible June-bearing cultivars such as Kent, Annapolis, Mira, Cavendish.

Symptoms

The disease can affect flower buds, stems and berries. Symptoms on berries and stems include the appearance of sunken dark lesions, while on flower buds they cause them to dry-up and turn brown (Figure 1). A slimy pink spore mass may form on the berry lesion. If the berry forms a fuzzy white/grey spore mass, this is grey mold/botrytis and not anthracnose.



Figure 1: Anthracnose on strawberry fruit buds

Chemical Controls

Anthracnose, in Ontario and other strawberry producing regions, has been found to be resistant to all group 11 fungicides.

Avoid using group 11 fungicides (Cabrio, Evito, Pristine, Merivon, Quadris and Luna) to control anthracnose.

Effective fungicides are Switch 62.5WG (groups 9,12), Diplomat 5SC (group 19), Miravis Prime (groups 7,12), Button (groups 9,12), Captan 480 SC (group M4), Maestro 80WP (group M4), Supra Captan 80WSP (group M4), Folpan 80WDG (group M4). See resource section below for control options and strategies.

Confirm on the label whether the product is registered for use in Manitoba and that there are no restrictions on regions (i.e. BC only). The product label is a legal document and label instructions must be followed. The information provided above is general information only.

Report compiled by Anthony Mintenko
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Resources

[Crop Protection Hub OMAFRA Ontario fruit-pest-control](#)

[Perennia Nova Scotia Guide-Strawberry-Insect-Disease-Management 2026.pdf](#)

[Perennia Nova Scotia Guidelines for Controlling Anthracnose on Strawberry](#)

Manitoba Fruit Crop Statistics for 2025 Field Season

Summaries for 2025 Field Season

Strawberry

Overall good winter survival of plants over the 2024-25 winter, however, above normal day-time temperatures in May stressed emerging strawberries. Moderate July day and night temperatures favoured a longer harvest period. Fruit rot was an issue, especially if present in the field last year. Average to above average yields. Average prices for strawberries U-pick vs pre-pick, \$4.13-6.26/lb (\$18-19 U-pick, \$27-29 pre-pick 4 L basket) (see Table 1).

Saskatoon

Precipitation during bloom resulted in higher levels of *Entomosporium* Leaf and Berry Spot Disease in many orchards resulting in lower marketable yields. Wet field conditions and/or frequent rains prevented timely fungicide applications at bloom and post-bloom in some orchards. Average to below average yields. Average prices for saskatoons U-pick vs pre-pick \$5.60-\$6.95/lb (\$19-20 U-pick, \$30-32 pre-pick 4 L basket).

Raspberry

Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) was not an issue until late July, after which the bulk of harvesting was completed, resulting in higher yields. Fields not sprayed with insecticide had only 20-25% yield loss, while sprayed fields had less than 5% yield loss. Average yields overall. Average prices for raspberries U-pick vs pre-pick, \$6.64-\$8.00/lb (\$18-20 U-pick, \$30-32 pre-pick 4 L basket).

Tree Fruit

An extended fall resulted in complete harvest of late season apple cultivars. Good size and flavour in early, mid and late season harvested cultivars, with above average apple yields. Dwarf sour cherry had average to above average yields, depending on the cultivar's harvest period. Some early flowering cultivars were affected by late May frost events resulting in lower yields. Less SWD damage than normal in sour cherry orchards. Above average yields in Haskap orchards with the above normal May temperatures promoting full ripening of berries.

Table 1: 2025 Area, Marketings and Value of Fruit

	Total Area Harvested and Non-Harvested (acres)	Area Harvested (acres)	Marketings (000 lbs)	Average Price (\$/lb.)	Total Value (\$000)
Apples	94	84	504	1.50	756
Raspberries	121	114	171	7.32	1,252
Saskatoons	239	229	550	6.28	3,454
Strawberries	497	247	1,482	5.20	7,706
Other fruit*	140	128	384	6.48	2,488
TOTAL	1,091	802	3,091	5.36	15,656

SOURCES: Manitoba Agriculture’s Fruit Crops Program statistical data compiled from the annual fruit crop price survey, producer association data, Manitoba Bureau Statistics Horticulture Economic Impact Study and provincial fruit crop specialist industry intelligence.
 *Other fruit include commercially harvested chokecherries, currants, dwarf sour cherries gooseberry, haskap berry (blue honeysuckle), rhubarb, and miscellaneous bush tree fruit.

Resources

[Province of Manitoba | agriculture - Fruit Crops](#)

[Manitoba Agriculture Economic Impact Assessment of Current Horticultural Production \(2018\)](#)

[Province of Manitoba | agriculture - Cost of Production Strawberry and Saskatoons \(2025\)](#)