US Blueberry growers and their supporting industries are facing a critical pest management problem caused by the recent introduction into North America of the exotic vinegar fly *Drosophila suzukii*.

In response, the USHBC has developed the following list of research priorities to direct as many resources as possible toward projects that can best minimize the immediate economic impact this insect is having on our growers.
USHBC Good Practices Committee appointed SWD subcommittee.

- Committee members:
  - Mike Mainland
  - Tom Peerbolt
  - Dave Trinka
#1 - Accelerate the Development and Implementation of Regional Insecticide Management Programs

- Best short term response to this exotic insect pest
- Maximize efficacy and minimize resistance
- Application technology BMPs
- Deposition
#1 - Accelerate the Development and Implementation of Regional Insecticide Management Programs

Considerations:

- Many different types of application equipment
- Multiple row applications are standard
- Spray volume vs. a.i. concentration
- Use of adjuvants, feeding attractants, repellants
- Pesticide rates
#2 - Develop Practical Risk Forecasting and Assessment Tools

- Population dynamics/degree day models
- Field monitoring systems which can be used as indicator of risk
- Specific, accurate, and easy to maintain
- Field border habitat management recommendations
#3 - Pesticide Residue Management

- MRL issues
- Maintain worker and food safety standards
- Effects of weather and spray additives on residues and efficacy
#3 - Pesticide Residue Management

Considerations:

- Pesticide residue degradation curve development
- Effects of temperature, UV, rainfall, adjuvants
- Grower guidelines to meet MRL restrictions
- Harmonization of MRLs
#4 - Postharvest Handling and Kill Steps

- Managing fruit with infestations
- Postharvest guidelines
- Processing /sorting technologies
- Meeting export market phytosanitary requirements
#5 - Organic Production Options

- Field management
- Importance/practicality of field sanitation
- Organic control materials
#6 - Coordination and Communication

• Regional differences
• Some overlap and redundancy is necessary
• Coordinated research efforts applauded by growers
• Stakeholders are in crisis mode
• Prompt communication of results (even if unverified) are better than “waiting for the paper to be published”
• Direct as many resources as possible toward projects that can best minimize the immediate economic impact this insect is having on our growers