

Problem: Tan or White Drupelets**Plants Affected:** Blackberry and raspberry

Description: Blackberry and raspberry fruit will often develop white or tan drupelets on the berry. Though we are not completely sure of the cause, two commonly given reasons are stinkbug damage and sunscald. Damage has been attributed to stinkbugs if the pattern of off color (not white) drupelets is random. Stinkbug damage is caused by the insect feeding on the blackberry receptacle and injuring drupelets on either side. Sunscald damage will be on the side of the fruit exposed to the sun and has several drupelets in a small area being affected. There also seems to be a genetic component to this damage with some varieties being more susceptible. See the second reference for more information.

Recommendations: Neither condition affects the eating quality of the fruit unless the stink bug releases the “stink” with which it is associated rendering the fruit inedible. By the time damage is seen, it is too late for control.

References:

1. [Other Notable Blackberry Insects – Harvest Pests](#), NC Small Fruit, Specialty Crop, and Tobacco IPM, June 29, 2010
2. [The Problem of White Drupelets in Blackberries](#), Mississippi Fruit and Nut Blog, June 18, 2015

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