# Fruit tree care in SW Washington

Growing healthy fruit trees Managing diseases and pests







# What went wrong with your fruit trees last year?

What fruit trees are you growing?

What went wrong with your fruit trees last year?

https://photos.app.goo.gl/FgroXcHktBdVxbuk6

#### My goal:

Give common-sense, guidelines for an organic approach for reducing pests and plant diseases on homegrown tree fruit.

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- 5 steps approach to plant problems
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  - Spray schedules
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- Diagnosing apple blemishes
- Guide to nutrient deficiencies in apples
- Resources

# Primary Apple and Pear Pests in SW Washington

- Anthracnose
- Bitterpit\*
- Apple Scab
- Codling moth
- Apple Maggot
- Powdery Mildew

- Birds
- BMSB
- <u>Tent Caterpillars and other</u>
   <u>caterpillars</u>
- Rust
- Pearleaf blister mite
- <u>Earwigs</u>

## Stone fruits

- Cherries
  - Sweet
  - Tart (Pie)
- Plums-
  - European
  - Asian
- Peaches-Nectarines
- Apricots

#### **Common Problems**

- Peach leaf curl
- Bacterial canker
- Brown rot
- Coryneum blight
- Scale Insects
- Bark splitting
- Walnut husk fly
- Fruit cracking
- Pollination problems occur when bad weather at bloom time.
- Cold damage for early bloomers
- Spotted Wing Drosophila

Common sense approach to plant problems

1. Monitor your plants for pests and diseases and adjust methods over time.

2. ID the insect pest or plant disease



# Common sense approach to plant problems

- 3. Use a variety of common-sense methods to control problems in the garden, not just using pesticides!
- 4. Tolerate harmless pests.
- 5. **Set** a threshold to decide when it's time to act. Not every problem needs to be "treated." **LEAST TOXIC CHOICES!!**



# Common sense approach to plant problems

6. **REPEAT** steps 1-5 all growing season long!



# 70% of plant problems are due to non-disease, non-insect problems!

What are some of these causes?

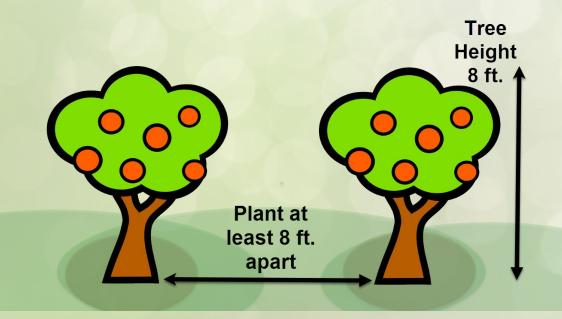
- Compacted soil, pavement, or weed barrier fabric that inhibit normal plant growth.
- Mowing or using string trimmers too close to the trunk of fruit trees
- Herbicide drift, soil contamination, soil salinity
- Extreme temperatures—high heat in summer, very low temps in winter

# Environmental, chemical, or physical causes that are not insect or disease problems

- Spring frost injury
- Too much water in the winter—poor soil drainage
- Too little water in the summer.
- Too much shade, not enough sun
- Too much fertilizer or not enough
- Poor pruning or fruit thinning

## Site Selection

- Sun-≥ 8 hours
- Soil pH (between 6-7)
- Soil drainage-well drained!
- Must have at least 3 feet deep soil for tree roots.
- Tree spacing--match space between trees with expected tree height.
  - Standard trees: 20-25 feet
  - Semi-dwarf trees: 12-15 feet
  - Dwarf trees: 6-8 feet

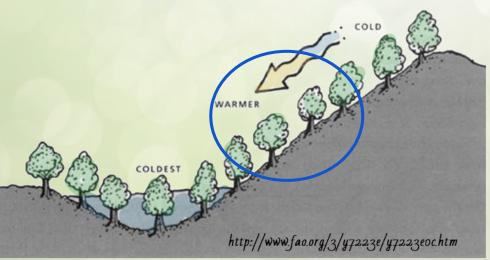


# Site Selection

#### Slope – exposure & air drainage

plant on a slope so cold air can drain off

- Avoid south-facing slopes
  - Warm up earlier in spring
  - Promoting early flowering
  - Potential frost damage to flowers
- Avoid exposed hilltops
  - Desiccation & structural damage from high winds



Cold air is denser than warm air, so it flows downhill and accumulates in low spots much like water

# Variety Selection

- Choose size that will be easy to care for—able to pick fruit, prune, manage diseases/pests without a ladder--MINI-DWARF ROOTSTOCK!
- Buy from local nursery—can give advice based on local experience
- Do your research—do your trees need a pollinator tree?



# Variety Selection

- Choose variety best suited to our area--Examples
  - Apples--scab resistant varieties—Chehalis, Prima, Liberty
  - Peaches—resistant to peach leaf curl—Frost, Rosydawn
  - Plums—European plums bloom later than Japanese varieties—sets fruit better in cold springs <a href="https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2109/2019/12/fruit\_handbook\_western\_wa.pdf">https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2109/2019/12/fruit\_handbook\_western\_wa.pdf</a>
- Think "bare root!"-cheaper, better selection, faster growth, healthier

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Variety Pollinated	Akane	Braeburn	Cortland	Empire	Fuji	Gala	Golden Delicious	Honey Crisp	Jonagold	Jonamac	Jonathan	Lodi	McIntosh	Paulared	Red Delicions	Red Gravenstein	Spartan	Tydemans's Early	Tydeman's Red	Winter Banana	Yellow
Akane		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	Х	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Braeburn	X		X	X	X	X	X	Х		X	Х	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Cortland	X	X		X	Х	X	X	X		X	Х	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Empire	X	X	X		Х	X	X			X	X	Х	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Fuji	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	Х	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Gala	X	X	X	X	X			Х		X	Х	Х	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	Х
<b>Golden Delicious</b>	X		X	X			0	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Honey Crisp	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Jonagold	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Jonamac	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Jonathan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Lodi McIntosh Paulared	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
McIntosh	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Red Delicious Red Gravenstein	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
Red Gravenstein	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Spartan Tydemans's Early	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Tydeman's Red	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	0	X	X
Winter Banana Yellow Transparent	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	Х	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Yellow Transparent	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	0

Key to symbols:

X = compatible O = partially self-compatible, but pollinizer suggested Blank space = not compatible

Trees must be blooming at same time for pollination to occur.

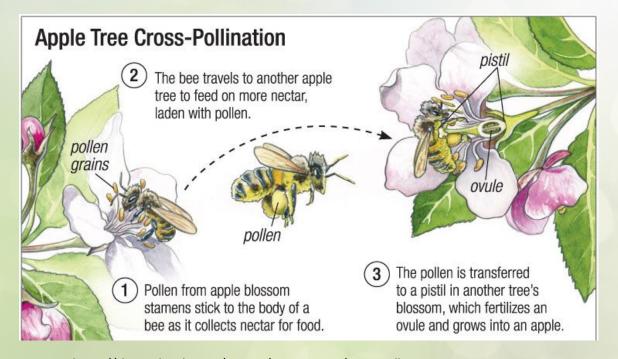
Crabapples are great pollinators.

Popular 'Chehalis' is self-pollinating, but bears more with another nearby pollinator.

Apple tree pollinator checker

# Pollination

- Need cross pollination
  - Most apples, pears, and many sweet cherries and plums
  - Bloom times must overlap!
- Self-fertile
  - Most peaches, nectarines, apricots, sour cherries and some newer varieties of sweet cherries
- Know your variety some fruit varieties are cross-incompatible
  - Certain sweet cherries won't cross pollinate with others
  - Some apples, plums and pears
  - Pollen-sterile apples (E.g., Jonagold, Liberty, and Gravenstein) need two other pollinators
  - One solution: grafted tree with 3-4 varieties.



 $\underline{https://shop.arborday.org/images/tree-nursery/cross-pollination.jpg}$ 

## Pollination

- Orchard Mason Bees!!
- IN PERSON "Raising Mason Bees" class Saturday, Feb. 10, 10 am - noon
- Visit our EVENTS CALENDAR for registration details

https://www.cowlitzcomg.co m/public-events



"Male orchard mason bee." <a href="https://www.fernandrosemary.com/bee-pics/">https://www.fernandrosemary.com/bee-pics/</a> Billie Bevers, Master Gardener. Used with permission.

# Small trees allow for better pest control

Protects from BMSB, birds, Codling Moth, Apple Maggot, SWD





Homeowners should not make foliar applications to trees over 10 ft tall

# Small trees allow for better pest control

Protects from BMSB, birds, Codling Moth, Apple Maggot, SWD



100pcs Fruit Protection
Bags 6x9
inch--\$18--re-usable
https://www.amazon.com/
Protection-Netting-Drawstri
ng-Protectors-Tomatoes/d
p/B0C2YDT1DH?th=1



Homeowners should not make foliar applications to trees over 10 ft tall

# Tree selection --size

#### Tree Size

- Mini-Dwarf (5'-8')
- Mini Dwarf (6'-8')
- Dwarf (8'-12')
- Semi-Dwarf (12'-16')
- Semi-Dwarf (14'-22')
- Standard (25'-30')
- Espalier
- Columnar (8'-10')
- Dwarf (12'-16')
- Standard (15'-20')

#### size about 8 ft.ft









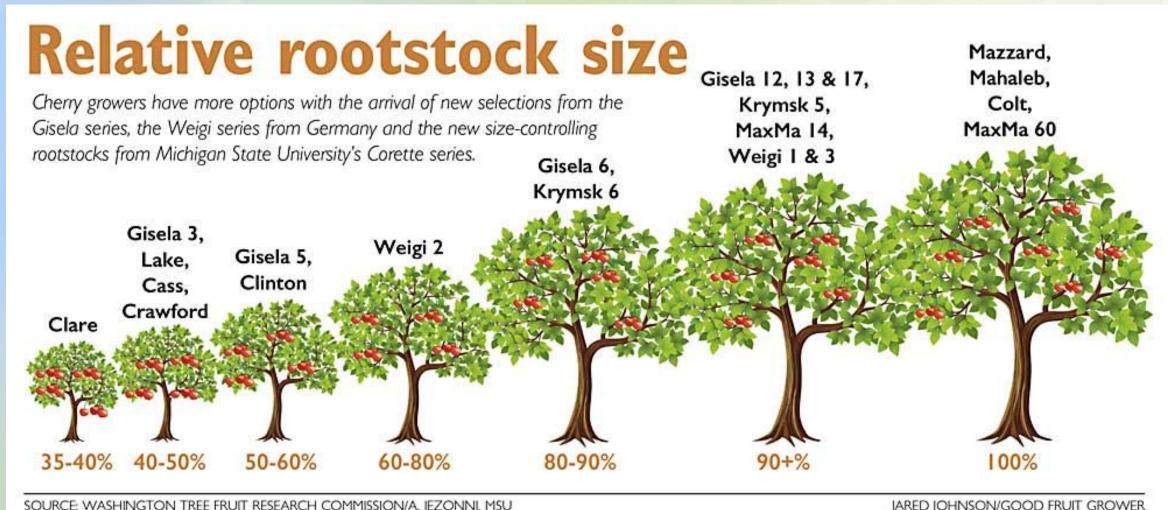


#### **APPLES**

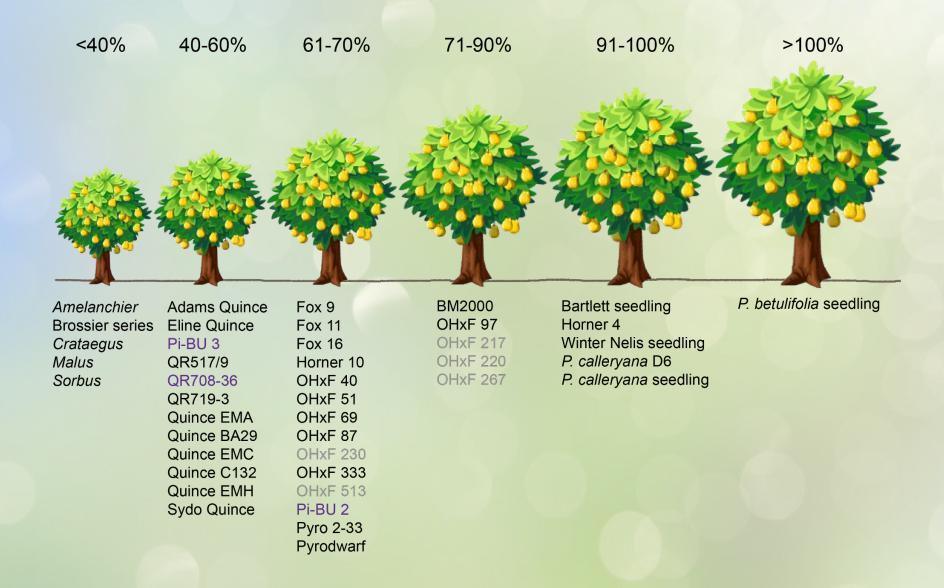
Rootstock	M27	М9	M26	MM106	M25		
Ultimate height	5-6 feet	8-10 feet	12-15 feet	14-18 feet	25-30 feet		
Uses	Vertical cordon*	Oblique cordon	Oblique cordon	Double cordon	Standards		
	Patio tree	Step over	Step over	Half standard			
	Step over	Bush	Bush	Espalier			
	Dwarf bush	Central leader	Central leader	Fan			
		Pyramid	Pyramid	Bush			
			Small espalier	Central leader			
Fruiting in	2-3 years	3-4 years	3-4 years	3-4 years	6-7 years		
Cropping	4-5 years	5-6 years	5-6 years	7-8 years	8-9 years		
potential	15 lbs	44 lbs	66 lbs	110 lbs	265 lbs		
Planting distance	5-6 feet	5-6 feet	10 feet	12 feet	25-30 feet		

<sup>\*</sup>Cordon: refers to a single (up to 3) stem with short (2-3 inch) lateral sideshoots (the fruiting spurs), E.g., columnar

# Tree selection-Cherries

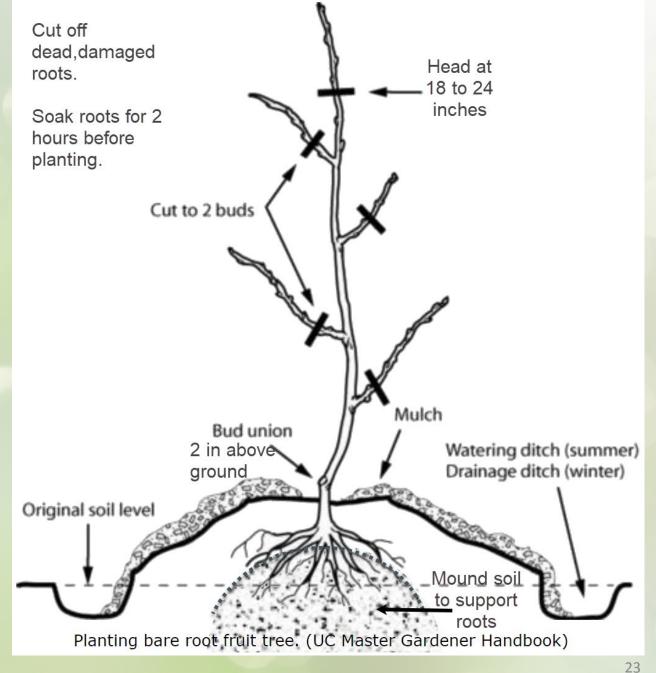


## Tree selection-Pears



# Bare root trees

- Don't let roots dry out.
- Unheated garage
- Dig hole least twice as wide and the same depth as the roots.
- Mound to support roots.
- Fill in with SAME SOIL that came out of the hole!
- Cover roots completely.
- Water thoroughly.
- https://raintreenursery.com/collections/f ruit-trees
- https://www.burntridgenursery.com/Fres h-Eating-Apples/products/12/



# Soil Fertility

Soil test results will tell you what you need.
 Sample report

- General rule of thumb—
  - If your tree is producing about one foot of new growth or more a year and has healthy looking foliage, it may not need much or any fertilizer. Unnecessary fertilizing can increase disease and insect problems or kill your tree!



# Soil Fertility

Timing is critical.

Nitrogen: apply when the tree is finished blooming.

-- Do NOT fertilize after mid-June

Trac 250 (1025)	Pounds of fertilizer to apply (per tree)**							
Tree age (years)	Apples, pears, prunes	Cherries, peaches						
1	0-1.25	0-5						
2	2.5	5						
3-5	2.5-3.25	5-7.5						
6-7	3.5-5 n.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/ec1	7.5-10						

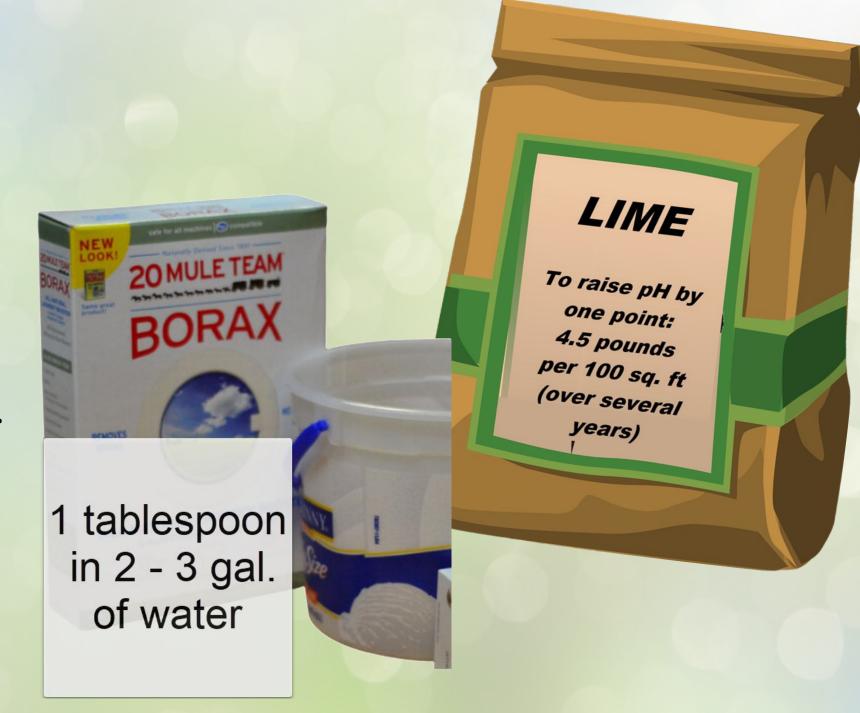
Nitrogen spread evenly to dripline

1 pound fertilizer = 2 cups

Chart is based on 10%nitrogen. Halve for 10%, double for 5%

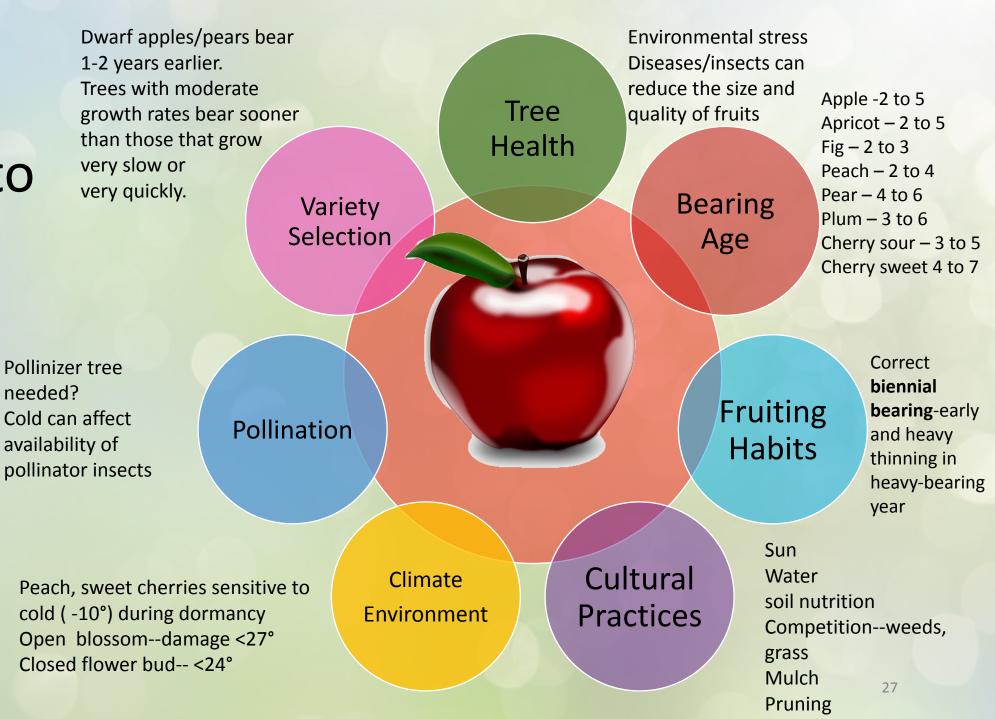
# Soil Fertility

- Timing is critical.
  - Autumn- winter
     rains required to
     move them through
     the soil to the roots.
    - Potassium, phosphorus, magnesium, and calcium



http://simplysoiltesting.com

# Why Fruit Trees Fail to Bear



# Non-pest/disease Problems

- Broken branch
  - Splint branch if not too high and not completely broken off
  - If broken off, re-shape tree by pruning
- June drop
- Failure to bear fruit
- Burrknot \*







How to Repair Broken Branches by Growing Wisdom <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TFFvAj1FXs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TFFvAj1FXs</a>

https://pnwhandbooks.org/plantdiseas e/host-disease/apple-malus-spp-burrk not

## Bitter Pit

- Nutritional imbalance boron,
   potassium
- Low movement of calcium in the fruit
- Hot, dry weather in July and August
- Irregular and low summer irrigation



Bitter pit associated with localized deficiency of calcium in apple fruit. Lesions typically concentrated towards the calix end of fruit.

#### Honeycrisp very susceptible

# **Boron Deficiency**

- Increasing pH above pH
   6.5
- 2. Very wet or very dry soils
- 3. Increased leaching



Boron deficiency internal and external symptoms.

(Photo: Mary Ann Hansen, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Bugwood.org)

# Split Fruit



split fruit due to dry soil conditions followed by unusual amount of water

# FRUIT TREES—JUNE DROP—WHY?

- Especially on apple trees, you'll find a lot of smallish apples on the ground. "Survival of the fittest."
- Frequently poor pollination
- If shedding any insect damaged fruit
- Thin the fruit yourself BEFORE June drop.
  - Help tree put energy into producing large, healthy fruit
  - Prevent alternate-year bearing



Note: June drop occurs with peaches and plums, too. They should have been thinned in May—3-4 weeks after blooming. If you didn't, the tree will do it for you. Prune plums may need extra thinning-4 inches apart.

http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu/8047.pdf

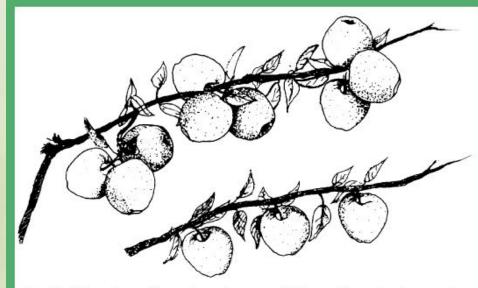
# FRUIT TREES—THINNING APPLE TREES

- Sooner you thin the fruit, the less of the tree's resources the apples will use.
  - Bigger, tastier fruit
  - Less chance of tree injury from excess weight
  - Helps next year's fruit buds form
  - Helps to even out the production from year to year



# FRUIT TREES—THINNING APPLE TREES

- Thin to 4-6 inches apart on each branch.
  - Remove smaller apples, and ones that have spots or other signs of damage
  - Break up large clusters, leaving plenty of space for the apples to develop
  - Use your fingers to twist the apples off, or carefully cut them off with pruners.



Fruit thinning. Top drawing: unthinned apple branch. Apples, pears, peaches, nectarines, and Asian pears should be thinned so that they are approximately 4 to 6 inches apart, as shown in the lower drawing. Nickola Dudley .ncsu.edu



# Non-pest/disease Problems - Small Fruit, Biennial bearing

#### Fruit Thinning

- More consistent bearing each year
- Bigger better fruit
- Protects tree from breakage
- Less codling moth damage

#### Instructions

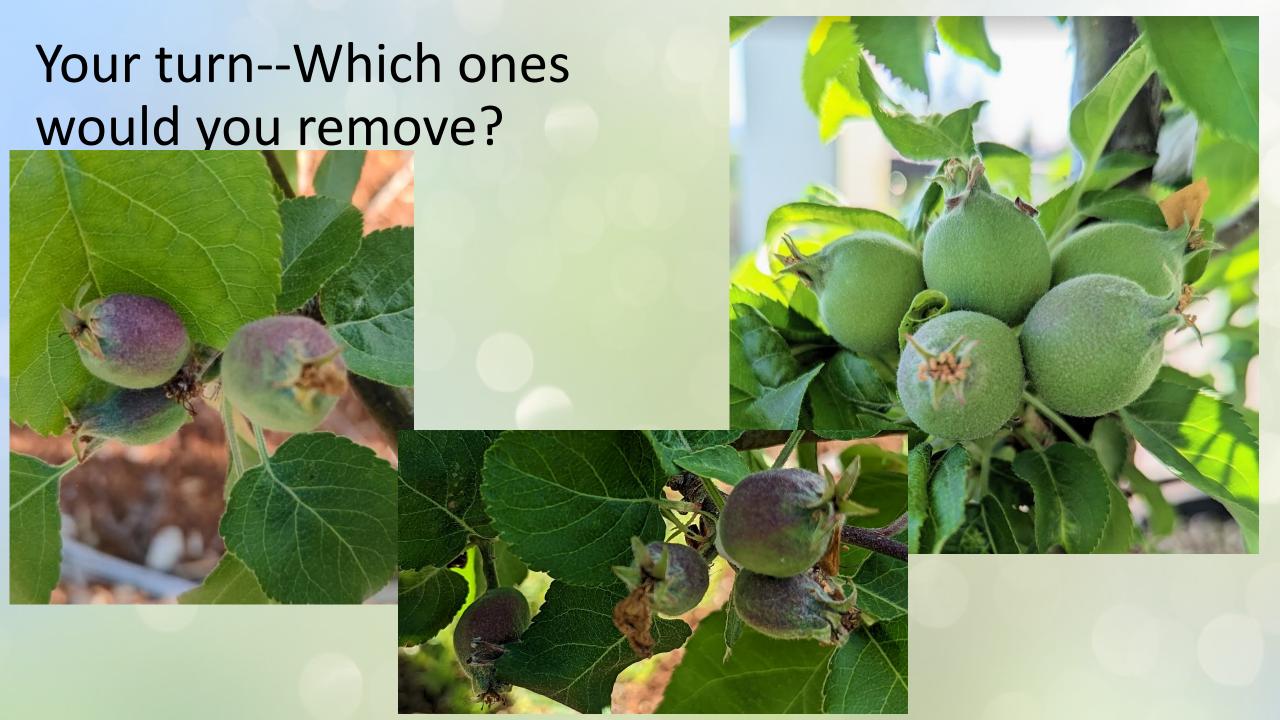
- Remove all but 1 or 2 fruits from the cluster when they are about thumbnail-size.
- For apples, pears, peaches- leave 4-6 inches between fruit on any branch
- Plums can be 3-4 inches apart.
- Cherries don't need thinning.

#### VIDEO:

https://extension.umn.edu/small-far ms/farmbytes-thin-apples-better-har vests



https://extension.umn.edu/sites/extension.umn.edu/files/styles/caption\_small/public/apples-thinning.jpeg?itok=huVh2LWJ



## Sunscald

https://forestry.usu.edu/news/utah-forest-facts/ sunscald-injury-or-southwest-winter-injury-ondeciduous-trees

https://thestroyker.ru/en/the-ceilin g/when-it-is-better-to-whitewash-tl



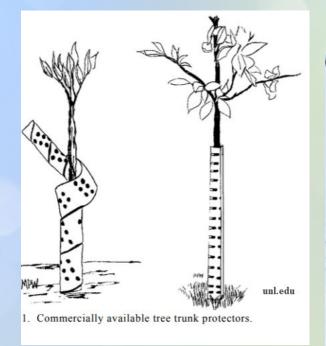








## Animal damage



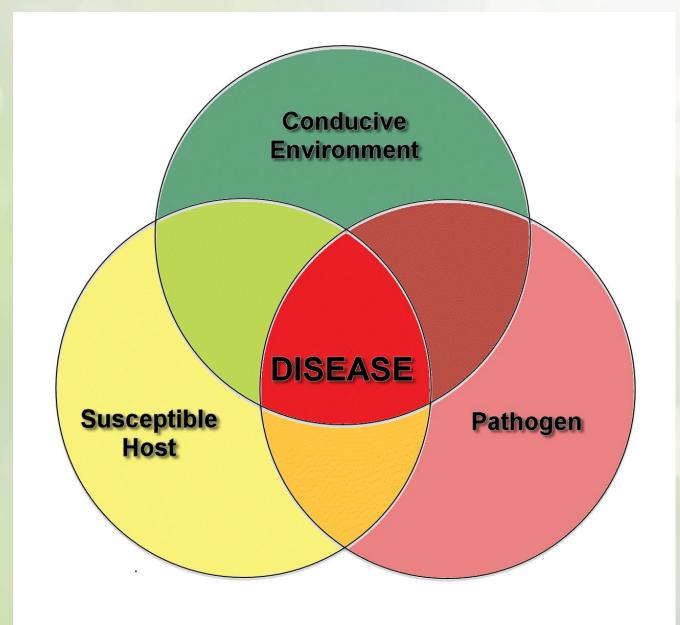


Bury 3 inches in the ground to exclude voles (field mice)



## Disease Triangle

- Conducive Environment: Do YOUR part!
  - Remove fruit and leaves with disease spots, hail damage, or other defects.
  - Pick pick up fallen fruit and leaves
  - Water properly
  - Remove grass and weeds around young trees
  - Mulch to moderate soil moisture and keep weeds from competing with tree for moisture and nutrients
  - One inch of water/week during the summer dry season.
  - Tree guards protect young trunk from sun and animal pests
  - Prune to allow good air circulation
  - Avoid use of broad spectrum pesticides



## Home Orchards--a HUGE responsibility

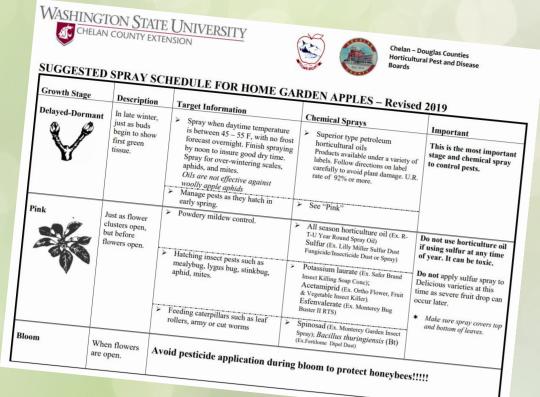
We have a legal and social responsibility to control pests--both insect and disease--that come with growing fruit trees.

- Year round commitment during the entire lifetime of the trees.
- Diseases and insect pests that are uncontrolled with affect your trees, and your neighbors trees,
- More important, not taking care of your problems can impact commercial fruit and nut production.
- Some pesticides will be required, but our IPM strategy should minimize the use of broad spectrum chemicals.
- Protect Washington's worldwide reputation for excellent quality tree fruit!

## **Backyard Fruit Tree Spray Schedules**

The spray recommendations for home garden fruit trees have been updated for 2019. The list of PDFs below shows the suggested spray schedules for each tree crop.

- Apples
- Cherries
- Peaches, Nectarines, and Apricots
- Pears
- Plums and Prunes
- Walnuts



## Fruit Care Calendar

								needed			apple-pear
Jan	apply control for peach leaf curl apply three (3) times 3 weeks apart starting in early January until bud break	plant bare root trees, vines, graft scionwood	apply fertilizer &	Collect scion wood while fully dormant	Anthracnose Control		net cherries, <u>strawberries</u> , and <u>blueberries</u>	Reduce irrigation if tree is growing vigorously (>16- 18 inches new growth)			Fertilize
Feb	protect peach, apricot, nectarine blossoms from frost	Prune Grape Vines UC Pruning Videos Cane Spur	lime	dormant season pruning & Video	Mason Bee Release	June	Late June: Set out apple maggot traps	Remove fruit infected with disease or insects immediately.		train young trees	blueberries & raspberries
March	Prune/fertilize blueberries	Fertilize raspberries/blackberries	delayed dormant control (Buds begin to swell but		Stone Fruit Control brown rot & shothole	July	Codling Moth Control Organic pest management		4	stake, use spreaders cut suckers	
April	repair trellis support systems Fruit trees Grapes	check for tent caterpillars, leaf rollers, use BT	before green tips start to show.)			August	Cut back June-bearing strawberries after harvest, fertilize		monitor apple maggot control	remove <u>laterals</u> on stone fruit	Grape Spray mildew botrytis
May	Codling Moth Control Organic pest management	If necessary, fertilize when trees finish blooming	aphids, scale, mites	apply sticky trap ant barrier (see "Ant	Fruit Thinning (video) apple-pear	Sept.	finish bark grafting trees		summer pruning	support fruited branches	extract mason bee cocoons
		Check/install		Management	peaches-	Oct.			prepare ground for	avoid late pruning	Sanitation- cleanup
		irrigation.	scab and mildew control		Fertilize blueberries & raspberries	Nov.			spring planting	pruning	diseased/ dropped fruit & leaves
		Check soil moisture at 6 inches deep, irrigate if	(apple, pear)		rt. milit.		begin transplanting nursery trees	collect scionwood		begin dormant	Monitor anthracnose and begin
Adapted from https://nwfruit.org/fruit-tree-care-calendar/					Dec.				pruning	control after harvest	

Available:

https://tinyurl.com/fruit-tree-calendar

## Useful tools

But they only work if you use IPM, too!

# Spectracide Spectracide IMMUNEROSE FINGLIDE FOR GARDENS COLOR BRANCH COLOR BRANC





#### **Fungicides**

- Copper based
- Sulfur based
- Neem\* Contact
- Horticultural oil

Contact

ALWAYS read the label!
ALWAYS follow directions!

\*apply late evening

#### **Insecticides**

- Spinosad \*
- Pyrethrins Contact
- Insecticidal soaps Contact (potassium laureate)
- BT (Bacillus thuringiensis)







ACTIVE INGREDIENTS:

Pyrethrins
Potassium Salts of Fatty Acids
OTHER INGREDIENTS
OTAL

T OF REACH OF CHILDREN
ON SET BACK PARE FOR STATEMENTS & FIRST AID
TENTS 32 FL OZ (946ml)

Safer

DON'T Apply to FLOWERING PLANTS!

## Primary Apple and Pear Pests in SW Washington

- Anthracnose
- Bitterpit\*
- Apple Scab
- Codling moth
- Apple Maggot
- Birds
- BMSB
- Tent Caterpillars and other caterpillars
- Rust
- Pearleaf blister mite



Photo by Alice Slusher. My very own beautiful Liberty apples chewed on by #@\*&! scrub jays!

# Codling Moth (Apples and Pears)

- First generation emerges in spring just before bloom (late Apr/Early May—can fly a mile to mate.
- 100 eggs on new fruit
- Larvae feed on fruit surface, then burrow in
- Mature larvae leave fruit, find sheltered place to spin cocoons.
- Some larvae stay in cocoons through winter and emerge as adults in spring
- Others transform immediately to pupae and emerge as adults a couple weeks later for a second generation

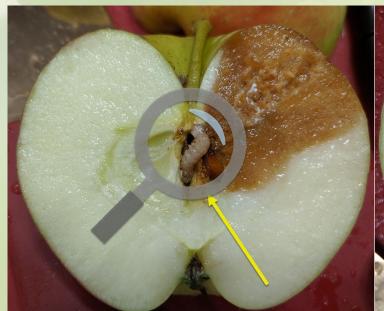
http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/MainMenuWithFactSheet.aspx?CategoryId=3&PlantDefId=64&ProblemId=100





odling mothCydia pomonella LinnaeusAdult © Ken Gray Insect Image Collection

https://pnwhandbooks.org/insect/tree-fr uit/apple/apple-codling-moth





## Codling Moth

- Mechanical Control-Trunk bands and fruit bagging
- Larvae exit fruit
- Pupates under bark
- Bands offer attractive shelter for pupation
- Install corrugated cardboard strip in early May and remove late June
- Second generation: Install new strip mid-July and leave on until November.

Excellent resource:
<a href="https://extension.umn.">https://extension.umn.</a>
<a href="edu/yard-and-garden-in">edu/yard-and-garden-in</a>
<a href="mailto:sects/codling-moths">sects/codling-moths</a>







## Codling Moth







#### Fruit bagging

Fancy Japanese bags, paper bags with twist tie, footies.

Bag 10 days after petal fall (when MOST petals have fallen off blossom) and after fruit (1/2 - 3/4 inch) have been thinned to one fruit per cluster, 6-7 inches apart.

Remove three weeks before harvest to allow the fruits to color properly

Sanitation--pick and destroy infested fruit, do not allow to sit on ground.





Figure 21. These apples have been sprayed with kaolin clay to protect them from insect pests. Photo courtesy of Charles Brun.

## Codling Moth-Chemical Approach

- IPM approach--spray twice for each generation
- How do you know? Eggs hatch 3 weeks after adults begin to fly...
- MONITOR with a sticky pheromone trap to catch male moths.
- Less precise, but works: Apply Spinosad product about 10 days after full petal fall; twice in June (10-14 days apart),; once in July and once in August
- Spinosad gives reasonably good control.





## Apple Maggot

- Adult apple maggots (a fly) begin to emerge from the soil starting around July 1, continuing through most of the summer.
- Adults lay eggs on the fruit
- Each female fly can lay hundreds of eggs.
- Larvae tunnel through fruit
- When apples drop to the ground, the larvae transform into pupae in the soil.
- Pupae spend the winter underground, emerging as adults the following summer.

 $\frac{http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/MainMenuWithFactSheet.aspx?CategoryId=3\&PlantDefId=5\\9\&ProblemId=19$ 



https://extension.umn.edu/yard-and-garden-insects/applemaggot



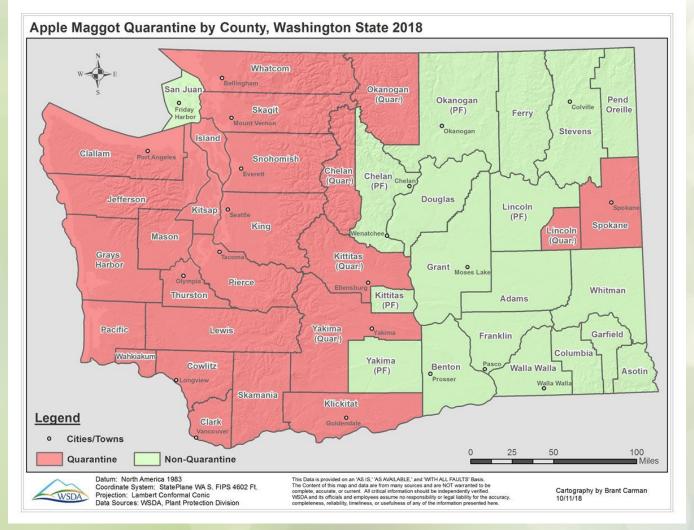
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COURTESY PHOTO

## Apple maggot quarantine

 State law prohibits the movement of homegrown fruit and municipal waste from a quarantined area into or through a pest-free area.

#### This is **EXCELLENT**

https://extension.umn.ed u/yard-and-garden-insec ts/apple-maggot#kaolinclay-1814713



## Apple Maggot management (Mid-June/July)

- Red ball sticky traps with ammonia lure--for monitoring only
- Sanitation—remove and destroy infested fruit from tree and any on the ground—Stop them from dropping to the ground to overwinter.
  - Do not compost. Leave fruit in black garbage bag in the sun for a week.
- Cover the fruit with fruit bags after "June drop" and fruit thinning.
- Cover the entire tree with netting.
- Pesticides
- Spinosad 17-21 days after petal fall.
- Chemical management: Pesticides in early July, repeat applications every 7 to 14 days until preharvest, or more frequently if it rains.
  - spinosad (organic), Not organic: acetamiprid, esfenvalerate



## Powdery Mildew

Infrequent west of cascades

Choose resistant varieties.

Avoid excess nitrogen fertilizer.

Fungicide spray when leaves are just. separating in the bud (or after most blossom have dropped). Repeat weekly.

Prune out affected shoots, and prune to improve air circulation.

Options: Neem oil (Apply at night), Potassium bicarbonate, horticultural oil, sulfur, myclobutanil (apply at night)



Caption: Russeting from powdery mildew on fruit Photo by: G.G. Grove

## Apple Scab (and Pear)

- Fungus
- Blackish brown blotches on leaves
- Shed infected Bud/blossom
- Scabs on fruit
- Fungus overwinters on dead apple leaves or fruit on the ground, spores spread by cool, rainy weather in spring

http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/MainMenuWithFactSheet.aspx?CategoryId=3&PlantDefId=59&ProblemId=15





Note the olive-brown lesions on this apple leaf. Apple scab (Venturia inequalis) Photo by Iain MacSwann, 1972

## Apple Scab (and Pear)

- Fungicides only protect healthy trees from becoming infected.
   Once leaf spots appear in the tree, fungicides will not control the disease.
- Plant scab resistant trees in sunny area with good air circulation and prune properly
- Shred leaves in fall (decreases infection transmission rates by 85-95%).
- Or Rake up and remove leaves (ok to compost if shredded).
- Sulfur, Copper, Armicarb (potassium bicarbonate).
   Apply in April when buds show at ½ in., re-apply when the buds grow swollen and start to open, and again when 1/2 inch of green leaf tissue is peeking out.



Figure 40. This apple spur is classified as "1/2 inch green tip"—the proper time to apply fixed copper for scab management. Photo courtesy of Charles Brun.

Don't apply fungicides/insecticides to blooming trees!

https://pollinators.msu.edu/resour ces/growers/fungicidesafety/fungic ides-during-bloom/

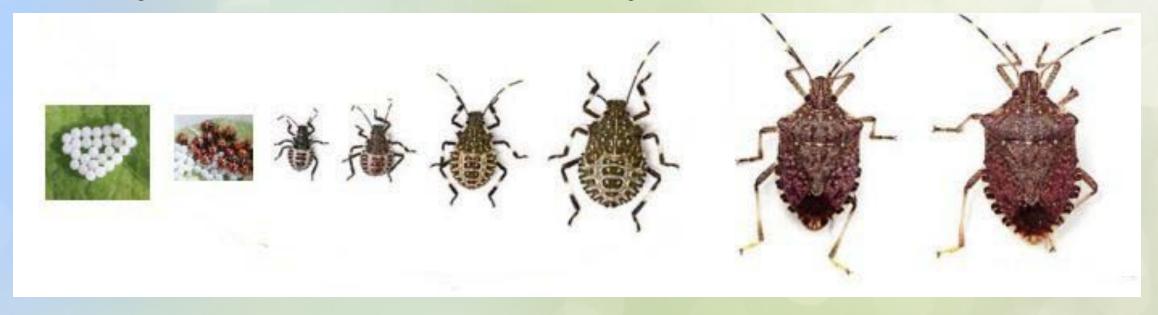
# Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BSMB)

- They're everywhere!
- When they find a good spot, they secrete a hormone to attract other BMSBs
- Impervious to most pesticides





## Recognize immature stink bugs



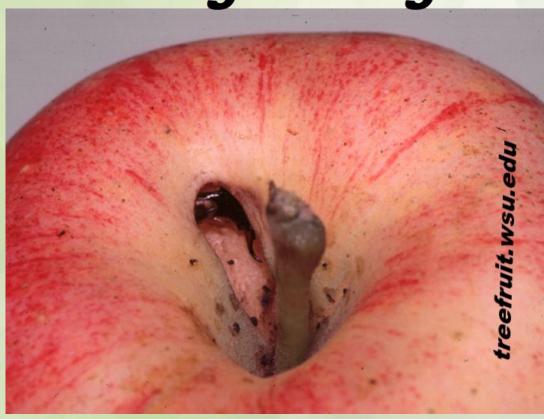
Allentown, Pennsylvania 1996\*Vancouver, WA 2010\*Kalama, WA 2014 and the rest is history!

## Earwig damage

More likely on soft-skinned fruit



Earwig Damage



## Caterpillars on fruit trees

Leafrollers--monitor your garden and handpick and squish

Don't use broad spectrum pesticides--will kill beneficial insects that help to control insects.

Chemicals--

BT, Neem, dormant spray oil, spinosad

BT can be used only if the caterpillars are actively feeding



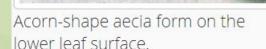
## Rust-it takes TWO to tango!



Pacific Coast Pear & incense cedar most obvious after flowering and before July.

Pear Trellis Rust & Juniper acorn-like structures on back of leaf--late summer





Neil Bell, 2016.

Aecia on bottom side of leaf.

https://pnwhandbooks.org/plantdisease/host-disease/
pear-pyrus-spp-trellis-rust-european-pear-rust

### **Pear Rusts**

- Sanitation
- Resistant varieties
  - Asian and European kinds are affected. 'Bartlett' is usually less affected
    while 'Winter Nellis' is severely affected. Resistant varieties aren't listed for
    trellis rust
- Pear Trellis Rust
   —- Usually appears late summer. Remove all junipers within 1000 feet
  - Some juniper species such as *Juniperus communis*, *J.* confería 'Blue Pacific' and *J.* virginiana 'Hetz' are more resistant to the disease than other species.
- <u>Pacific Coast Pear Rust</u>--Appears before July. Remove alternate hosts around the orchard.
  - Spores from the gel on incense cedar can be blown 6 for 10 mile

### Pearleaf Blister Mites

- Tiny insects lay eggs under leaves, causing "blistering" galls
- Usually affect only a single tree or even a single branch-but severe infestation weakens tree, affects fruit bearing
- Infest bud scales in August-September to overwinter.
- Apply horticultural oil as the buds begin to swell in the spring.
- Remove affected leaves





© MELODIE PUTNAM, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/MainMenuWithFactSheet.aspx?CategoryId=3&PlantDefId=64&ProblemId=104

61

## Stone fruits

- Cherries
  - Sweet
  - Tart (Pie)
- Plums-
  - European
  - Asian
- Peaches-Nectarines
- Apricots

#### **Common Problems**

- Peach leaf curl
- Bacterial canker
- Brown rot
- Coryneum blight
- Bark splitting
- Fruit cracking
- Pollination problems occur when bad weather at bloom time.
- Cold damage for early bloomers
- Spotted Wing Drosophila

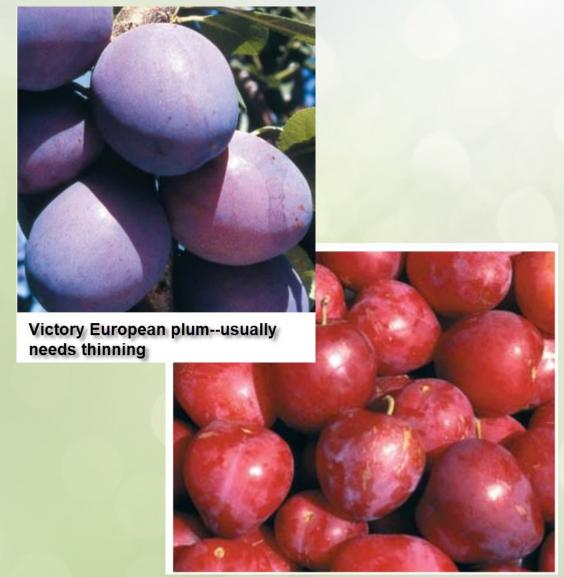
## **Growing Cherries in Western WA**

- Tart (pie) cherries less susceptible than sweet cherries
  - Bloom later—less blossom damage, better pollination
  - Fruit Cracking
  - Bacterial canker/gummosis (lethal for sweet cherries)
  - HOWEVER—new disease resistant varieties using dwarfing Giessen rootstock
- Birds
- Spotted Wing Drosophila (aka suzukii)

Tart cherries don't need pollinizer tree, Sweet cherry tree must have a proper pollinizer

## Plums

- Japanese—Bloom very early, susceptible to frost damage
  - Cling stone—round, brightly colored red, yellow
  - Recommended: Methley, Beauty, Shiro (most reliable), Hollywood
- European—bloom later
  - "Prune" plums—free-stone
  - Aphids common on new growth--apply dormant spray for control
- Most require cross-pollinating



Beauty Japanese type plum

## **Growing Peaches and Nectarines in the PNW**

- Well drained soil
- Need heavy pruning to because they bear fruit only on NEW WOOD.
- Perhaps the only peaches that can do well here in our wet, cold springs are genetic dwarf peaches planted in pots (3-5 ft. tall).
- Cover with a plastic bag from December late February, then remove bag.
- Better yet, keep under roof away from the rain to minimize fungal diseases and frost damage to blossoms.
- Peaches have a LOT of <u>cold-related disorders</u>, including "split pit"



"Hardired" (yellow flesh) is the only nectarine recommended as consistently productive for our cool maritime climate conditions.

## **Aphids**

- •Don't damage the fruit, but can damage leaves enough to decrease the tree's health.
- Honeydew---> black mold
- BENEFICIAL INSECTS!! (Avoid pesticide use!)
- Adults lay eggs in bark crevices and buds--hatching in spring; 2-3 generations
- Don't over-fertilize; control weeds around the trees--especially mustard family
- •Late March apply horticultural oil to bark and buds--works well to keep populations down by smothering them.
- Neem and insecticidal soaps--must be sprayed ON the aphids to work!





## Peach Leaf Curl

- Fungal disease affecting leaves and twigs
- Overwinters on twigs and buds
- Major problem in Western WA
- Severe leaf drop affects fruit production, reduces vigor of trees, and increases susceptibility to winter injury.
- PLANT RESISTANT VARIETIES-Frost is resistant but not immune.
  - 'Krummel', 'Muir', and 'Redhaven' are reported to be tolerant. 'Rosy Dawn

#### Remove and destroy infected leaves

- Be proactive--start in late fall when half of the leaves have dropped
  - Apply copper-ammonia fungicide (E.g.-Montery Liqui-cop Fungicidal Garden Spray)
  - First week of January, then every 3 weeks with the last treatment just before the leaves open



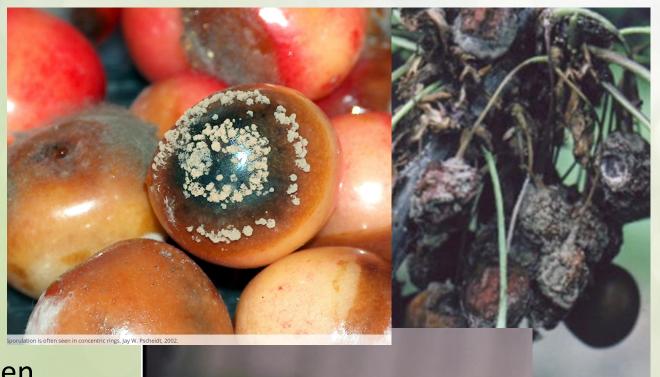
Note the reddish swellings or galls on these peach leaves. OSU Extension Plant Pathology Slide Collection, 1976.

http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/MainMenuWithFactSheet.a spx?CategoryId=3&PlantDefId=63&ProblemId=7867

### Brown Rot-\*Blossoms

- Infected flowers wilt and die
- brown blossoms remain attached to the twigs, becoming covered with a grayish-brown fungal growth during wet weather
- Infected twigs develop sunken, elongate cankers with gumming at the margins.
- Apply fungicides just before blossoms open, at full bloom, and when most petals have fallen
- Prune out infected shoots, remove infected fruit from tree, ground
- Apply copper fungicide before bloom. After blooming, use a wettable sulfur to provide some protection

http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/MainMenuWithFactSheet.aspx?CategoryId=3&PlantDefId=61&ProblemId=35





Caption: Brown rot blossom infection

Photo by: R.S. Byther

## **Bacterial Canker**

- Sweet Cherry very susceptible
- Plant resistant varieties--and don't plant old and new trees together
- Prune in summer after harvest when weather is dry
- Completely remove infected trees and branches girdled and killed by cankers.
- Cut out cankers--cut away bark around edges of infection with sharp knife, leaving smooth margins. Leave uncovered to dry.
- Treatment is of limited value, but copper-based fungicides and be used in October before rains start, and again in early January



Cankers seldom form, but the diseased buds may produce a slight gumming. Jay W. Pscheidt, 2009

https://pnwhandbooks.org/plantdisease/host-disease/cherry-pru nus-spp-bacterial-canker

## Coryneum Blight (Shothole)

- Spreads by water
- Avoid overhead watering (yeah, right!)
- Prune out and destroy dead buds, twigs (if present)
- Rake and destroy leaves

#### **Fungicides**

- myclobutanil (apply late evening), sulfur, copper (Avoid chlorothalonil)
- Apply at petal fall, shuck fall, and 2 weeks later
- Rotate fungicide products

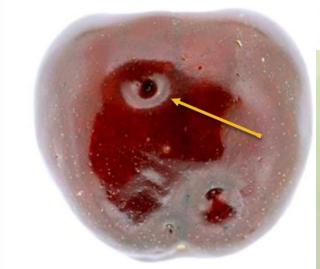






## Spotted Wing Drosophila

- 1/8 inch long, with red eyes and a yellow-brown body
- Attacks healthy fruit as it ripens on the plant
- Eggs are laid beneath the surface of ripening fruit as it begins to soften and show color



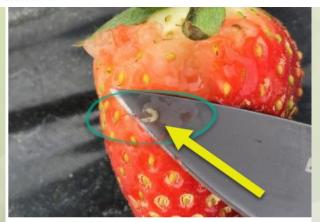
Caption: male SWD (thumbnail), damage on cherry (large) Photo by: Fly: J. Davis; fruit: M. Hauser, CDFA



Spotted wing drosophila on a strawberry

Image Credit: Washington State University

Extension



A spotted wing drosophila larva is dug from a Lowcountry strawberry.

Image Credit: Zachary Snipes / Clemson 71

Extension

http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/Mai nMenuWithFactSheet.aspx?CategoryId=3&Pl antDefId=61&ProblemId=789

## Spotted Wing Drosophila

- Monitor for the presence SWD using vinegar traps (does NOT control them!) This will determine if/when a pesticide may help with control.
- Pick ripe/damaged fruit frequently, remove fallen fruit immediately
  - Dispose in sealed container
  - Do not compost infested fruit

Pesticides-- PROTECTIVE--are effective ONLY for adults. Has no effect on eggs and maggots in the fruit.

The fruit MUST be listed on the label!



https://extension.unh.edu/resource/monitoring-spotted-wing-drosophila-swd-traps#:~:text=The%20bottom%20line%20is%20that,been%20shown%20to%20improve%20attractiveness.

## Spotted Wing Drosophila

- Spotted Wing Drosophila-Chemical control
- Thoroughly spray foliage and ripening fruit.
- Multiple applications may be needed.
- Alternate between pesticides with different active ingredients.
- Check label for pre-harvest interval.
- Apply in the evening to protect pollinators, and don't apply on or near flowering plants.
- Use least toxic choices: products containing spinosad and pyrethrins (some are OMRI) More toxic: malathion, esfenvalerate



Oystershell scale Lepidosaphes ulmi Linnaeus Adult

© Ken Gray Insect Image Collection



Oystershell scale
Lepidosaphes ulmi Linnaeus

© Ken Gray Insect Image Collection

## Scale Insects-Oystershell and San Jose

Rub off or prune out affected wood if possible.

Late April: monitor for crawlers with double sided sticky tape

Apply Tanglefoot or other adhesive around hard-shell adults to catch crawlers

Apply oil to overwintering stage just prior to bud swelling in early spring.

Mid-Juny-July-10 days after full petal fall--Neem oil (azadirachtin), spinosad



Three San Jose scales settled on the surface of an apple. Each scale is about 1/16 diameter in size. Note the minute yellow crawler stage are also visible in this image.

© Ken Gray Insect Image Collection



Apple limb encrusted with San Jose scale.

Michael Bush, WA State University
Extension

## Walnuts-Walnut husk fly

- Serious mid- to late season pest of walnuts in the West.
  - can attack peaches
- Size of housefly
- Infest the meat of the walnut--husks turn black



Walnut husk fly adult



Walnut husk fly larvae in walnut (Ken Gray Image Courtesy of Oregon State University)



Walnut husk fly eggs in walnut (Ken Gray Image Courtesy of Oregon State University)

## Walnut husk fly

- Remove fallen infested fruit and remove the
- Source of the infestation-probably a nearby walnut tree.
- Early July-hang yellow sticky traps at least 6 ft. above the ground in a shady part of the tree.
- Begin spray as soon as husk flies are detected
- Late July-mid-August (\*\*critical time for protections)
- Apply again in 10 days if the husk fly was a problem the previous year. A third application may be needed 3 to 4 weeks later if flies continue to be caught in traps.
- Neem oil (azadirachtin) or Spinosad-apply at dusk to protect pollinators.



Yellow sticky trap for walnut husk fly (R. Van Steenwyk)

The following table, developed by Washington State University, lists Fahrenheit temperatures for each stage of development at which 10% and 90% bud kill occurs after 30 minutes exposure. The percentage bud kill which causes crop

reduction will vary with each crop. For example, to have a full crop of cherries requires well over 50% bud survival in most years, while apples, pears, and peaches may only need 10-15% bud survival.

A P P L E













	Silver Tip	Green Tip	Bud burst Half-Inch Green	Tight Cluster	First Pink (Pink)	Full Pink (Open Cluster)	First Bloom (King Bloom)	Full Bloom and Post-bloom
10%	15	18	23	27	28	28	28	28
90%	2	10	15	21	24	25	25	25

- 15	Swollen Bud (Scale









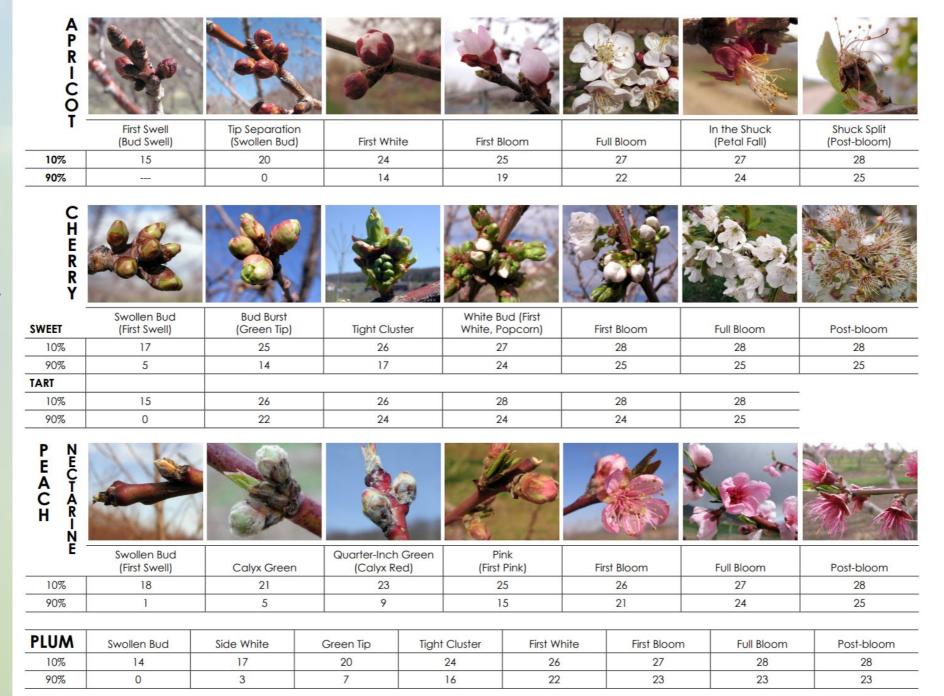






	Swollen Bud (Scale Separation)	Bud Burst (Blossom Buds Exposed)	Green Cluster (Tight Cluster)	White Bud (First White, Popcorn)	Full White	First Bloom (King Blossom)	Full Bloom	Petal Fall (Post-bloom)
10%	15	20	24	25	26	27	28	28
90%	0	6	15	19	22	23	24	24

https://ecommons.cornell.edu/bits tream/handle/1813/5062/FLS-058 .pdf?sequence=1



## Excellent guide for diagnosing apple "blemishes" specifically for Cosmic Crisp apples, but a good guide for all apples

#### **Table of Contents**

Defects visible during the growing season and at harvest

- Stem puncture
- Clipper damage
- Limb rub
- Green Spot
- Insect damage
- Sunburn
- Sun stress water soaking
- Splits/Cracks
- Russet

https://treefruit.wsu.edu/wa-38-defects-guide/

## Defects visible after storage

- Blotch pit
- Soft scald
- Stem puncture

## Unique characteristics to WA 38

- Leaf shading
- Wandering sepal
- Fruit shape variations
- Hard green background
- Lack of red color

## **Nutrient Deficiency in Apples**

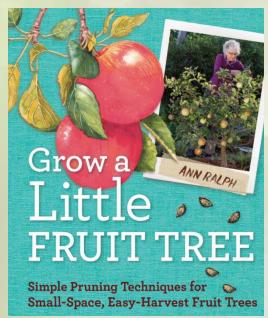
https://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/files/Applenutrition-EricHanson.pdf

- Nitrogen
- Magnesium
- Boron
- Calcium
- Manganese
- Zinc
- Iron



Nitrogen deficiency: pale green leaves and reduced shoot growth.

- WSU Hortsense (Choose your fruit from the list at the left)
- PNW Handbooks (E.g., search for "PNW Handbooks apple")
- WSU Publication EM 066E Organic Pest and Disease Management in Home Fruit Trees and Berry Bushes
- OSU Publication <u>EC 819 Growing Tree Fruits and Nuts</u> in the Home Orchard
- OSU Publication <u>PNW 400 Training and Pruning Your</u> <u>Home Orchard</u>
- Grow a Little Fruit Tree: Simple Pruning Techniques for Small-Space, Easy-Harvest Fruit Trees by Anne Ralph
- ISBN-13 : 978-1612120546



## We're here to help--if you have questions: <a href="https://www.cowlitzcomg.com/plant-and-insect-clinic">https://www.cowlitzcomg.com/plant-and-insect-clinic</a> or 360-577-3014 Ext. 1

Looking Ahead in your Garden and Landscape (Cowlitz County Plant and Insect Clinic): Timely guide to help manage your garden and landscape proactively-https://www.cowlitzcomg.com/lookingahead

Fruit Tree Handbook for Western Washington <a href="https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2109/2019/12/fruit\_handbook\_western\_wa.pdf">https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2109/2019/12/fruit\_handbook\_western\_wa.pdf</a>

Root Stock information: http://treefruit.wsu.edu/web-article/apple-rootstocks/

http://treefruit.wsu.edu/varieties-breeding/rootstocks/

https://www.goodfruit.com/wp-content/uploads/appleRootstock-Feb12016WebPullout.pdf

#### **Apple pollination charts:**

Great tree pollinator summary—short and sweet: <a href="https://www.vanwell.net/pollination">https://www.vanwell.net/pollination</a>

What trees will pollinate your fruit trees? Searchable: <a href="https://www.orangepippintrees.com/pollinationchecker.aspx">https://www.orangepippintrees.com/pollinationchecker.aspx</a>

http://treefruit.wsu.edu/web-article/apple-pollination/

Recommended varieties <a href="https://nwfruit.org/recommended-fruit-trees/">https://nwfruit.org/recommended-fruit-trees/</a>

http://treefruit.wsu.edu/varieties-breeding/cultivar-guide/

Fertilizing the home orchard: https://extension.wsu.edu/maritimefruit/home-orchard-fertilizer-applications/

WSU Publication EM 066E Organic Pest and Disease Management in Home Fruit Trees and Berry Bushes:

https://research.wsulibs.wsu.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/2376/4902/EM066E.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=y

OSU Publication EC 819 Growing Tree Fruits and Nuts in the Home Orchard https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/ec819.pdf

OSU Publication PNW 400 Training and Pruning Your Home Orchard https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/pnw400.pdf

Grow a Little Fruit Tree: Simple Pruning Techniques for Small-Space, Easy-Harvest Fruit Trees by Anne Ralph <a href="https://www.amazon.com/Grow-Little-Fruit-Tree-Easy-Harvest/dp/1612120547">https://www.amazon.com/Grow-Little-Fruit-Tree-Easy-Harvest/dp/1612120547</a>

Purdue Extension publication ID-146-W Managing pests in Home Fruit Plantings <a href="https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/id/id-146-w.pdf">https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/id/id-146-w.pdf</a>

Xerces Society Organic Pesticides: Minimizing risks to pollinators and beneficial insects <a href="https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/2019-09/13-053">https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/2019-09/13-053</a> 04 Organic-Approved%20Pesticides web.pdf

North Carolina Extension Why Is It Important to Prune Fruit Trees Every Year? https://wilkes.ces.ncsu.edu/2013/12/why-is-it-important-to-prune-fruit-trees/

Pruning & Training, The American Horticultural Society, Christopher Brickell & David Joyce, Chapter covering tree fruits (starting on page 93) <a href="https://www.amazon.com/American-Horticultural-Society-Training-Practical/dp/1564583317">https://www.amazon.com/American-Horticultural-Society-Training-Practical/dp/1564583317</a>

#### **Orchard Pest Management**

http://treefruit.wsu.edu/crop-protection/opm/?pn=293

What kind of apple is this? http://www.applename.com/

#### To view this presentation PDF

https://www.cowlitzcomg.com/fruits

#### **FIGS**

Great Guide! Growing Figs in the Pacific Northwest—it's all right here! https://rickshory.wordpress.com/2019/11/13/growing-figs-in-the-pnw/

Raintree Nursery—Growing Figs https://raintreenursery.com/pages/growing-fruit-trees-figs

OSU: https://extension.oregonstate.edu/news/dont-be-fooled-figs-grow-fine-western-oregon