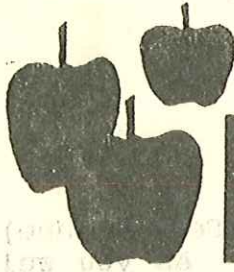


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**Fruit Open House**  
**Wednesday, August 15, 1990**

**WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Mount Vernon Research & Extension Unit**  
**1468 Memorial Highway**  
**(2.5 miles west of Mt. Vernon)**  
**Mount Vernon, WA 98273**  
**(206) 424-6121**

**PROGRAM**

- 9:30      *Registration - Displays Open*
- 10:00     *New Zealand Revisited - Robert Norton*
- 10:45     *Future Insect Control Strategies for the Orchard - Both Home and Commercial.*  
*DR. JAMES WALKER, DSIR, Havelock North, New Zealand*
- 11:30     *Future of the Fruit Research Program in Western Washington - Panel*  
*discussion led by representatives from various fruit organizations in*  
*Washington and Oregon.*
- 12:00     *Lunch - BYO - Barbecue pit will be hot and ready for your steaks, burgers or*  
*hotdogs. Utensils and condiments provided. Just bring your meat and*  
*accompaniments. After lunch visit the fruit display.*
- 1:30      *Orchard Tours*
  - Tour 1      Fruit Garden, organic apple planting, stone fruits, bird control*
  - Tour 2      TFRC apple block, budding demo, summer pruning, bagging apples*
- 2:30      *Tours repeated*

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DRAFT DOCUMENT

## DR. NORTON EXPLAINS PLANS

Before going on sabbatic leave to New Zealand (Feb. - June), I set the dates for our Fruit Field Days for 1990. As you well know, we have had a memorable spring, with conditions favorable for ducks, but not for fruit. As a result of the cold and rain, we have virtually no apricots, and just a handful of other stone fruits, peaches, plums and cherries. These fruits were to be the subject for our primary field day this year.

Since some folks make their plans long in advance, we have decided to go ahead with our Field Day, but will change our emphasis somewhat to a diversity of topics which we hope will be of interest (see attached program).

Our featured speaker, Dr. Jim Walker, a federal scientist from New Zealand presently working in Wenatchee, will discuss a very pertinent subject which should be of interest to all fruit growers, whether commercial or hobbyist - How to reduce pesticide application. Dr. Walker has been doing some exciting work on the development of mite predators which are resistant to certain pesticides. He will also address the general topic of using strategies other than pesticides for insect control.

Since I have been away in New Zealand on a sabbatic leave for 4 1/2 months, you might be interested in an update on what is happening "down under" in the way of variety development and cultural techniques being used there where apple yields are the highest in the world.

In addition, you should all know that I plan to retire officially as of July 1, 1991. At present I plan to continue on a 40% basic, working on the Tree Fruit Research Commission (TFRC) Apple Cultivar Project. But what about other fruit research in western Washington? Will it be continued? We have invited a group of nurserymen, growers and reps from our fruit societies to discuss alternatives for the future and solicit your input. It should be a lively discussion.

In the field, we plan to conduct our traditional wagon tours with emphasis on the following:

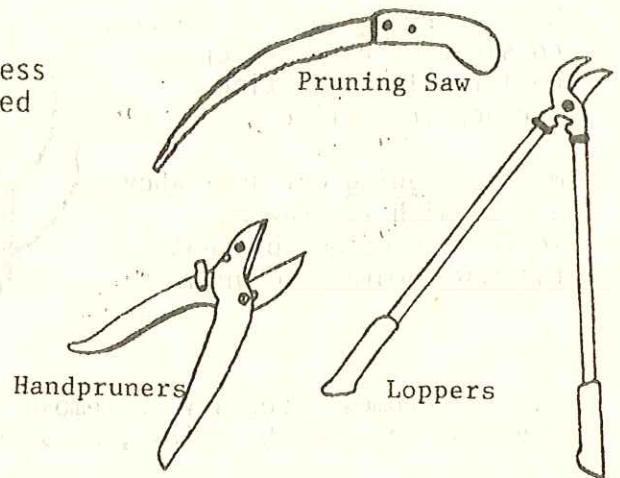
1. TFRC apple block (most advanced cultivars available).
2. Budding demonstration - "T" and chip budding.
3. New organic apple orchard (40 varieties).
4. Stone fruits - What's left, what happened?
5. Summer pruning - Why and how to do it.
6. Bagging apples - Why the Japanese do it.
7. Bird control - Results and techniques.
8. Commercial orchard and nursery visits - optional.

Although limited, Jacky King will have our traditional fruit display in the Processing Lab.

## PRUNING FRUIT TREES

Pruning is important on fruit trees to remove excess branches and prevent overcrowding. Properly pruned trees produce higher quality fruits and produce more abundantly. Crowded branches reduce air circulation which increase the chance of disease.

"Okay," you're saying, "I know pruning is important but why talk about it now? Winter is pruning season." Pruning in the winter or early spring certainly makes sense, since you can see the branch structure more easily. Unfortunately, dormant season pruning also invigorates the tree causing lots of new growth the following season.



In May and June you should be pruning out any water sprouts on the trunk or upper branches that you don't need for limb renewal. These and the suckers that appear from the crown and roots should be eliminated as they appear. The quicker you get to them, the easier it is to remove them. Rub them out or pull them when they are still succulent or snip them out if they have already become woody.

The next pruning you will want to do is fruit pruning. To avoid a lot of small undersized fruit, it's a good idea to take some of the fruit off the tree. Fruit trees that are allowed to bear too many fruit are often reluctant to set flower buds for the following spring. When a heavy crop is borne one year, little or no crop will follow the next season. Thinning can help to prevent this "alternate bearing".

Reducing the fruit load can also help to prevent limbs from breaking and make it unnecessary to prop or tie up limbs. Fruit that has not been properly pollinated will usually drop off the tree naturally before mid-June. Before doing any fruit thinning you should wait for this natural drop to occur.

Apples are often thinned to three fruit for every two spurs. Pears may be treated the same way. Peaches are often thinned so there's one fruit for every six to eight inches of branch. Plums and prunes are thinned so they are about three to five inches apart. Cherries, figs and most other fruit do not need thinning.

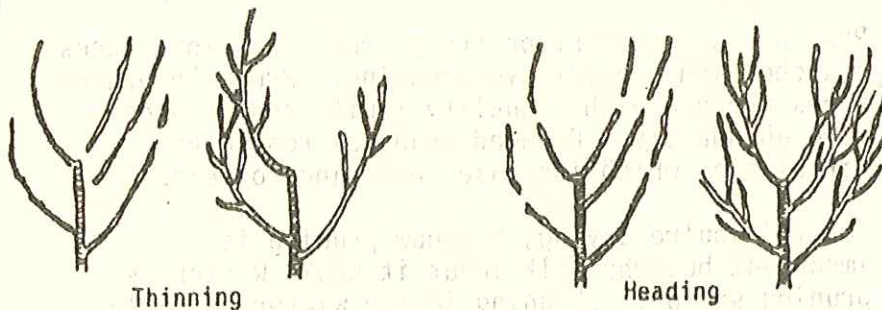
Finally, in July or August you can do your major pruning. Removing branches after next year's buds have formed and gone into a resting mode, should keep the trees small and manageable. With proper summer pruning, less wood will need to be removed each year and the task will not be so big and time consuming.

Now on to the "how-to" of pruning. The first thing you need to know is that there are two types of pruning cuts: THINNING AND HEADING. When we thin excess branches, we are cutting them off completely where they arise from the larger branch. Heading, or heading back a branch, on the other hand, is simply cutting it back without removing it entirely.

Thinning and heading produce opposite effects. While heading encourages the production of new shoots, thinning decreases it. Use these two methods thoughtfully to create a uniformly shaped fruit tree. You can stimulate growth in one part of the tree while decreasing it in another part to create a desired shape. Many people prune using almost nothing but heading cuts. Their trees are usually very twiggy, not as productive as they could be, and require lots of time each year to prune. Unless you need new growth, try to keep to thinning cuts.

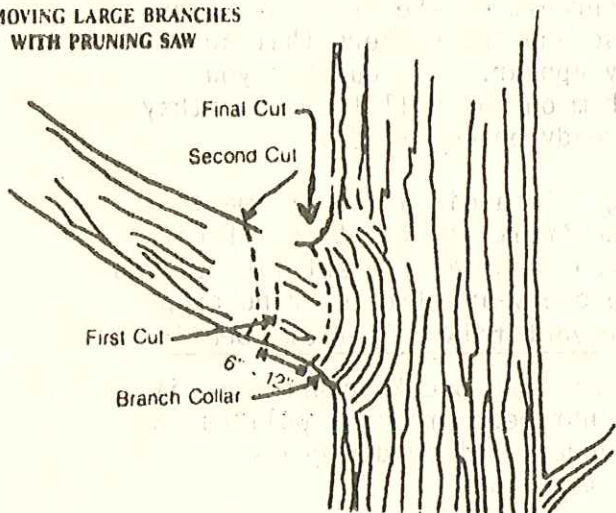
Make thinning cuts as close as possible to bark branch collar without cutting through the collar.

Make a heading cut just above a bud which is growing in the direction you want the new terminal to grow.



If it becomes necessary to remove a large branch, follow these steps to prevent tearing the branch. First, at a point about 6 to 12 inches from the base, saw halfway up the branch from the bottom. Second, saw through from the top, removing most of the branch. Finally, remove the remaining stub sawing it off almost flush with the branch.

**REMOVING LARGE BRANCHES WITH PRUNING SAW**



You will, of course, want to remove diseased branches and any that cross or rub. Other candidates for removal are: a) branches that are growing back into the crown of the tree, b) watersprouts that are growing straight up, c) branches with narrow angles of attachment to the main trunk or limb (these will be weaker), d) branches that heavily shade out lower branches. Beyond that, you will base your pruning on the type of fruit and pruning system you have chosen. For more information, order the Extension Bulletin EB 660 "Pruning the Home Orchard" by calling 296-3986. It's full of good advice and, at 25 cents, is a real buy.

Two more quick points. Many gardening "experts" still tell you to paint pruning wounds over 2 inches with orange shellac or tar-like compounds to prevent infection. Research does not support this, so save your time and money and leave cuts unpainted. Research does prove that you can spread diseases with your pruning tools, however. For this reason, it's a good idea to mix up a solution of 1 part bleach and 9 parts water in a can and dip or wipe down your tools frequently as you work.

*By Holly Kennell, King County Extension*

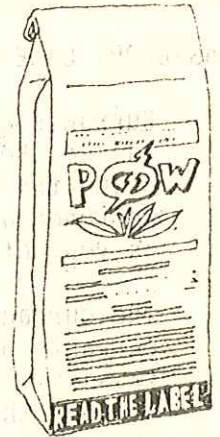
New Training Systems For Apple Orchards Are Evolving by combining the training techniques for the Dutch slender spindle with those for the French AXE in developing a central-axis tree form to meet local growing conditions and handling requirements. The newest form appears to be developing as the Northwest spindle, according to Bas Van Den Ende, horticultural advisor for Naumes, Inc., California in the March 15 issue of the Good Fruit Grower. Previously, a marriage of systems occurred in Quebec, Canada, which may be termed the "Quebec system". In British Columbia, Canada, where both low and high central-axis tree forms are being tried, a version is evolving to meet their needs. All of these systems employ the more dwarfing clonal rootstocks, require central leader support, and incorporate growth renewal practices to obtain a compact tree for early bearing, high acre yields of premium value fruit, and management largely from the ground level. As in Europe, selected apple cultivars and strains will be those with growth and bearing habits best fitting the training method. Changes in equipment design and size are necessary to best fit these systems. - - L. D. Tukey

## INSECTS (AND ONE DISEASE) OF SMALL FRUITS

Blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, currants, gooseberries and strawberries all grow quite easily in Puget Sound gardens. However, occasionally they come under attack by various insect pests. Here is a gallery of the most common ones and control recommendations. In some cases, chemical pesticides are the only effective solution if you decide damage is too severe to be ignored.

If you choose to use these pesticides, please read the label and follow the directions carefully. Above all, remember that insecticides are not preventative. They should only be used when a specific pest is present or has consistently been a problem in past years. Many people will raise small fruit for years, never see any of these pests, and never have a need for pesticides.

About the time that the blossoms drop from blueberry plants, a small, brownish moth sometimes lays her eggs on the small, developing berries. The little pink worms that hatch from these eggs begin to feed inside the berries which eventually shrivel and are, of course, lost. To control this critter, called the cherry fruitworm, two applications of malathion are recommended - the first at blossom drop and the second two weeks later.



Lecanium scales, those turtle-shaped insects that suck plant juices from the stems of many species of plants, can devitalize blueberries when they build up in large numbers. These beasts can be controlled by using an oil spray during the winter when the plants are dormant, or a pesticide during late spring or summer when the new generation of crawlers has emerged from under the dead mothers' shells.

Use a 10 power hand lens to check the twigs and undersides of the leaves of scale-infested plants during the spring/summer period to tell you when the crawlers are out there and that a pesticide should be applied. Wrapping clear, double-stick tape around the twigs of infested plants will ensure that many of the very small white crawlers will be trapped and be easily available for viewing. This would be the time to spray. Insecticidal soap should kill the crawlers easily. Spray all over thoroughly, especially the undersides of the leaves.

The light brown worm sometimes found in raspberries is the larva of a small, brown beetle that spends the winter in the soil around and underneath the plants. In the early spring the beetle emerges and begins to feed on flower buds and the open flowers. Sprays of diazinon will control the western raspberry fruitworm when applied at the time blossom buds separate, and then again just before the blossoms open. Don't apply the pesticide after the flowers open, otherwise many bees will be killed.

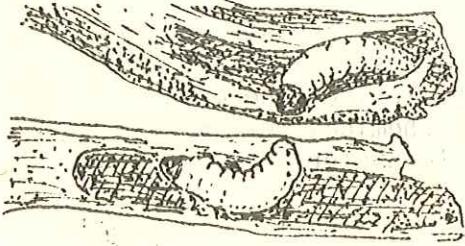


RASPBERRY FRUITWORM

A serious pest of all caneberries is the raspberry cane borer. This black and yellow moth which looks more like a yellowjacket than a moth lays its eggs on the plants during the summer. When they hatch, the little caterpillars eventually arrive at the base of the canes where they bore in and begin to feed. The life cycle of this monster lasts two years and, in order to effect control, it will be necessary to apply diazinon to the crowns and lower two

feet of the cane area two years in a row. Spray and drench the lower parts of the plants sometime between October 1 and March 1 each of the two years.

Another insect whose larva bores into the stems of caneberreries is called the raspberry cane maggot. This fly larva burrows into the pith of soft, young shoots and eventually causes them to wilt suddenly. As soon as these wilted canes are noticed, remove and destroy them. Cut them off near the ground to make certain you get the maggot too. This insect will sometimes do the same thing to young rose canes.



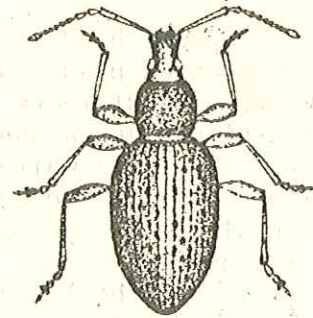
RASPBERRY CANE BORER

Currants and gooseberries are not immune to insect pests. A clear-winged moth called the currant borer lays its eggs on this group of plants with red currants being the most susceptible host. The caterpillars tunnel in the canes which are weakened and eventually show wilted leaves in summer and autumn. Again, as soon as you notice this insect, remove and burn infested canes.

The currant fruit fly is perhaps the most serious pest of goosbeberries and currants here in western Washington. The white maggots feed inside the berries, causing the fruit to be unusable. The flies are present during April and May and lay their eggs on the developing berries at this time. Methoxychlor is the recommended insecticide to control them and needs to be applied at 2 week intervals from about the second week in April to the end of May.

The greenish spotted worm that feeds on the foliage of currants and gooseberries is a sawfly larvae called the imported currant worm. They are at times so numerous as to cause defoliation of the plants. As soon as damage from this pest is noticed, an application of malathion should be applied to the plants and worms.

The strawberry's most serious insect problem is associated with the various species of root weevils is common in western Washington. The adults are beetles that notch the leaves of plants, usually at night, but it's the larvae in the soil that cause the most damage by feeding on roots. If there are enough of them present, they can and do kill plants. There are no registered insecticides that will control weevils in home garden plantings, but over the last few years a predatory nematode has shown some effectiveness in controlling weevil larvae when applied to the soil in a drench as recommended in label directions. Some garden centers and nurseries have containers of nematodes available for sale.



ROOT WEEVIL

There are many other insects like leaf rollers, various aphids, spittlebugs and some species of mites that attack small fruit in Puget Sound gardens. All of them, as well as those noted above, are pictured and described in an excellent, full-color, twenty-page Washington State University Extension publication. If you are really into small fruit, this bulletin, EB1388 Small Fruit Pests is worth it's cost of \$3.00. Drop us a note if you want a copy...W.S.U. Cooperative Extension, 612 Smith Tower, Seattle, WA 98104.

And now for that one disease...There are numerous fungus organisms that cause rust diseases on a wide range of host plants. At one stage of their life cycle

they produce rusty-colored eruptions on the surfaces of leaves or stems. These blisters make diagnosis easy and, of course, are the reason for the common name.

This spring has seen an explosion of rust symptoms on several different plants, no doubt encouraged by the cool, cloudy, humid conditions. Of all the different plant species attacked by rusts, it seems that raspberries have been most severely infected. Rust has not been a problem with most of the commonly planted raspberry cultivars such as 'Meeker', 'Summer' and 'Willamette' until this year. Previously, only 'Washington', an older cultivar, has been very susceptible to yellow rust.

The symptoms of the disease include yellow spotting on the upper leaf surface which eventually becomes powdery with masses of spores. Lower leaves turn yellow and usually drop off the plants. If the infection is especially bad, enough leaves are likely to fall off to seriously hurt the plant, possibly leading to a crop reduction. Even though the fruit itself is not directly attacked by the fungus, it often fails to mature because of the loss of so much foliage.

Unfortunately, once the disease appears there's not a whole lot that can be done to stop it during the current season; however, sanitation this year and protective sprays of lime sulfur next spring may prevent it from reoccurring.

W.S.U. plant pathologists recommend a thorough cleanup this season. All leaves should be raked up and destroyed. When removing old canes, be sure that no stubs are left to serve as overwintering sites for the fungus. Burn or otherwise destroy the canes that have fruited. Next spring, apply lime sulfur at the green tip stage at the dormant rate and then follow it up with a spring/summer dilution two weeks later.

*By Holly Kennell, King County Extension*

The Degree Of Apple Tree Size Control among very dwarfing rootstocks is being clarified in research at Penn State. The smallest stions are developing with M.27, followed by P22, B491, B146, M.9 regular, Lancep, Cepiland, CG10, CG24, with M.26 the largest. However, in some research plots stions with CG10 are slightly smaller in size than with Lancep and Cepiland (Pajam I and Pajam II), based on trunk cross-sectional area (TCSA). At Rock Springs, stions with M.26 have developed fairly large trees, resembling those with M.7 in some commercial areas. The soil at Rock Springs is a clay loam which has a good water holding capacity. Tree efficiency has been good with Lancep, Cepiland, B146, B491, CG10, and P22, all being as good as or better than M.9, based on data for the past 2 years. -- L. D. Tukey

The Stionic Size Of Apple Trees With The More Dwarfing Rootstocks varies among apple regions and even among and within apple orchards. For example, during a tour of British Columbia orchards in early March at the annual meeting of the International Dwarf Fruit Tree Association, stions with M.26 resembled those with M.9 in the research orchard at Penn State, and M.9 like those with M.27. At the Horticulture Research Institute of Ontario at Simco, Canada, Dr. D. C. Elfving has observed a striking difference in stionic size between two orchard soils at the Institute. Thus, the best choice of a more dwarfing rootstock for a particular tree training system depends upon local growing and soil conditions and not solely on the system. That is, it is the response from a more dwarfing rootstock rather than the rootstock itself which is important. -- L. D. Tukey

# THE ROLE OF BEES IN POLLINATION

Submitted by Ray LaBeau

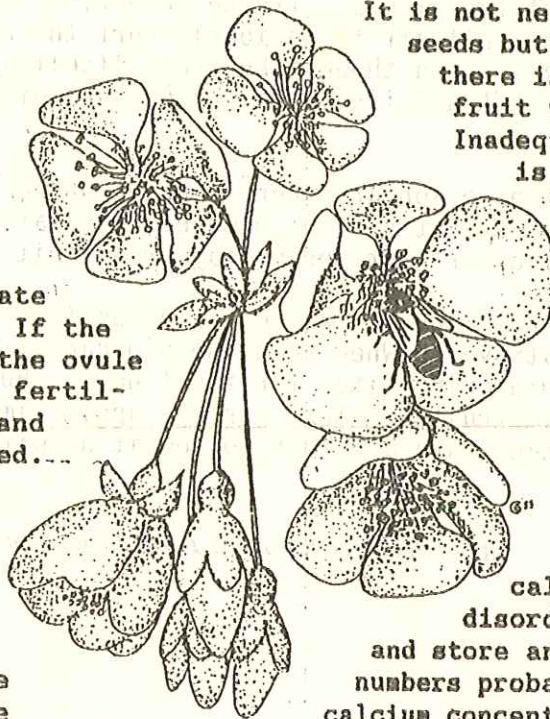
I read an article in Good Fruit Grower about the apple bloom cycle and the role bees play in flower pollination. We have individuals concerned about over pollinating their trees due to heavy blooming. I say it's a lot easier to thin out the apple or fruit crop than have a poor set and try to hang fruit on the limbs to grow.

I won't go into the fertilization process, however, getting the pollen deposited on the stigma as soon as the flower opens is very important because the ovule begins to degenerate once the flower opens. If the sperm nuclei arrive at the ovule when the ovule is dead, fertilization will not occur and no fruit will be produced.... During warm seasons the ovule will die faster than in cooler temperatures. The ovule is very short-lived, lasting only 2-3 days. So the sooner the flower is pollinated the better chance fertilization will happen. A note of interest -- blossoms that have been pollinated are believed to be less susceptible to frost damage than non-pollinated ones.

Bee visits are very important, in fact, it takes a lot more than one bee visit to make a high quality apple with a high seed count. A good hive of bees can expose a flower to between 54 to 88 potential visits during its lifetime. A flower needs to be visited by a bee 68 times to produce fruit with a high number of seeds. Larger fruit is associated with increased number of bee visits to a flower.

The fruit seeds are the final product of pollination and fertilization. They play a vital role by producing hormones that promote fruit development. The influence of seed hormones is seen in the shape of the fruit and is particularly noticeable in apples, which have five stigmas each with two ovules.

It is not necessary to have all ten seeds but the more seed complement there is, the better chance the fruit will have of surviving. Inadequately pollinated fruit is often lopsided, having less development around the seedless carpels.



Another role of well fertilized seeds is that there is a significant increase in fruit calcium with the increasing seed numbers in Delicious apples. So larger fruit contain more calcium, have less calcium disorders, i.e., bitter pit, and store and taste better. Low seed numbers probably contribute to low calcium concentrations in McIntosh and Delicious apples, and contribute to disorders during storage.

So in nice, warm weather, around 65 degrees or more for several days during bloom, there should be a minimum of 20 bees per tree, per minute, for maximum pollination.

In conclusion, it's the bee or insect that determines our crop; pollination determines the fruit size, taste, etc. So let's give the bee a pat on the back, but, I recommend it be done very carefully!



## POOR POLLINATION - REDUCES EDIBLE YIELDS

One of the most common problems associated with growing many fruit species and some vegetables west of the Cascades is poor pollination. Without the transfer of compatible pollen and the consequent production of seed, plants generally will not set fruit.

Fruit, which is actually the swollen ovarian tissue formed to protect the seed as it matures, will not usually hang on a plant if seeds are not formed. Lack of pollination often leads to deformed fruit or no fruit at all.

It is not all unusual for apple trees to apparently set a sizeable number of fruit after bloom and then proceed to drop most, if not all, of the crop before it matures. This happens with other tree fruit as well, and even some vegetables, especially those in the cucurbit family. An examination of the seed cavities of dropped fruit invariably reveals the absence of viable seed. If there are seeds present, they are often shrivelled and deformed.

Many fruit such as apples, pears and Asian plums are self-sterile, and unless there are other cultivars of these species nearby with compatible pollen, there's not likely going to be much in the way of fruit set. In the case of cucumbers, squash and melons, it's not a matter of different cultivars but rather the need to have enough male blossoms open to supply pollen to the female flowers. The same holds true for kiwi fruit, but in this case male flowers appear on separate plants, which of course do not produce fruit.

Even peaches, European plums, raspberries, strawberries, blueberries and grapes which are largely self-fertile still require pollen to be transferred from one flower to another for fruit to set. Without insects to move all this pollen about, there would be precious little fruit.

Temperature is certainly one big factor that leads to poor fruit set in western Washington among many tree fruits. Honeybees, the major pollinating insects, are not very active when temperatures fall below 55 F. and since such cool weather often prevails during flowering, there's often a scarcity of bees.

Even when the temperature is above 55, cloud cover and rainy conditions will also tend to restrict honeybee activity. A week or two of poor weather during bloom can easily lead to partial or even total crop failure. Bumblebees and other bees which do fly in colder weather are not normally present in sufficient numbers to take up the slack, and syrphid flies, which also help in the pollination process and which may be present, simply do not work the flower hard enough to lead to good fruit set.

To make matter worse, many bees are killed because of the careless use of insecticides in home gardens. Insecticides should never be applied to any plants while they are in flower because of the potential for killing bees.

Disease control on tree fruit does not require the application of fungicides during the flowering period, but fungicides such as benlate, captan, lime-sulfur, cyprex, funginex and most others do not present a hazard to bees. The problem occurs when fungicides are mixed with insecticides by the gardener or are purchased in a commercial mixture. Such mixtures containing an insecticide should NEVER be applied at bloom time.

Perhaps the one insecticide available to home gardeners and implicated in killing more bees than any other is Sevin, a chemical routinely used for controlling tent caterpillars, leaf rollers, leaf tiers and other caterpillars that infest a wide variety of plants. Apparently Sevin closely resembles pollen and is carried back to the hives by the bees. It has certainly been identified in the extermination of more than one bee colony.

When necessary, if caterpillars must be controlled during the flowering cycle, some form of Bacillus thuringiensis should be used. B.t., Dipel, Thuricide and Attack are a few of the brand names it comes under, and it is safe to use on plants that bees are foraging in.

Honeybee colonies, either wild ones or undermanaged domestic ones, often swarm when the number of bees in the hive gets to be too large. When swarming does occur, the old queen takes with her from 1/3 to 1/2 of the bees of that colony. Until a swarm finds a suitable place to start a new colony, they often congregate in a tree or shrub or even on the side of a building. Swarming bees should not be disturbed and certainly should not be attacked with an insecticide. These are valuable animals and every effort should be made to locate a beekeeper who will pick them up.

'Criterion' Is A New Apple Cultivar discovered in 1968 by Francis Cites as a chance seedling in his Parker Heights orchard, near Wapato, Washington. The apple is a large, yellow fruit with a rosy blush. About 2000 acres have been planted in the U.S. Criterion, resembling Golden Delicious, has the typiness of Red Delicious, a natural waxy appearance, and a blush similar to that of Winter Banana, suggesting its parents. Since its growth habit is similar to that of Golden Delicious, handling should be the same as for Golden Delicious. Fruits are firm, crisp, and sweet, having a good flavor and taste, but must be handled carefully. Fruits store well in longtime CA. Criterion should be harvested when fruits are breaking yellow with a blush, according to E. W. Brandt & Sons, a family owned orchard and warehouse operation near Wapato, with 30 acres of Criterion. Exclusive propagation rights are held by Carlton Plants, Dayton, OR 9714-0398. (Good Fruit Grower, March 15, 1990.) - - L. D. Tukey

Red Delicious Probably Will Continue To Be The Leading Apple Cultivar Group in Washington for another 20 years. Trees budded for 1990 are definitely fewer than for previous years. New cultivars coming into importance are Fuji, Braeburn, Gala and Jonagold. Trees budded for 1990 by commercial nurseries in Oregon and Washington and serving these states were just under 10% for Fuji, and almost 24% for Gala. Granny Smith has dropped to 9%, according to Lindsey Smith of Tree Top Inc., Selah, Washington. (Good Fruit Grower, March 15, 1990.)

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WESTERN CASCADE FRUIT SOCIETY  
1990 Spring Meeting

March 3, 1990: The WCFS spring meeting was held at the Snohomish County Extension Center. 68 members signed the roster.

9:30 am: President John Parker opened the meeting stating that WCFS is in good health. Over the past 8 years, 7 subordinate chapters have been formed and all are doing well.

Secretary's Report: Paul Donaldson reviewed the history of our organization's name change. At the 1989 spring meeting "Fruit Growers of Puget Sound" was endorsed along with a motion to table the name change to the board meeting following. The board subsequently proposed "Western Cascade Fruit Society" in order to preserve part of the original name identity. Organization by-law changes reflecting a name change from "Western Cascade Tree Fruit Association" to "Western Cascade Fruit Society" were approved by a unanimous voice vote of those present. By-law changes to Article IV, Sections 1 and 2, regarding the constituency of the board of directors as detailed in our spring newsletter were also approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Articles of Incorporation Amendments: Dick Tilbury presented proposed amendments to our articles of incorporation with the State of Washington to reflect the new organization name and also to reflect wording changes required by the IRS for non-profit organizational structure. Those amendments were approved by a unanimous voice vote of those present. In response to a question regarding the cost to WCFS for IRS tax-exemption application the following costs were given:

Filing fee to Wash. St. for change to Art. of Incorp.---	\$ 10
Filing fee to IRS for exemption application-----	\$150
Exemption Advisory Service (consultant fee)-----	\$325

Election of New Board Members: Board members whose terms are up are 1) Dr. Robert Bourdeau, 2) Ben LaLonde and 3) Walt Lyon. John Davey, nominating committee coordinator, announced that Emory Leland, Charles Parkman and Pat Stromberg had accepted nomination. There were no further nominations from the floor, nominations were closed and these nominees were elected by a unanimous voice vote of those present.

Treasurer's Report: Walt Lyon presented the following financial statement for 1989:

INCOME

Dues-----	\$2,595.00
Rootstock and scionwood sales-----	3,419.66
Fall fruit show-----	1,489.27
Sale of caps-----	121.00
TOTAL	\$7,624.93

EXPENDITURES

Annual filing fee to State-----	\$ 5.00
Secretary's expenses-----	333.20
Postage-----	677.41
Ferry fares for board members-----	106.80
Speaker fee-----	60.00
Rootstock, tree purchase-----	1,979.38
Fall fruit show expenses-----	1,322.09
Newsletter printing-----	40.00
Insurance-----	417.00
Donations to tree fruit research-----	1,500.00
TOTAL	\$6,440.88

BANK BALANCE on 12-31-89-----\$3,564.12

The treasurer's report was approved. Walt will be retiring after 4 years and John Parker thanked him for his most dedicated service to the organization.

Presidential Award: Board member Emory Leland presented a plaque to outgoing president John Parker, honoring his outstanding service to WCFS.

Approval of South Puget Sound Chapter By-Laws: Motion passed to accept the by-laws as submitted. They may wish to consider amending Article V, Section 1 so that their president may designate any chapter member rather than another chapter officer as proxy to attend WCFS board meetings.

Election of Officers: The new officers are Paul Donaldson, president; John Davey, vice president; Chuck Parkman, treasurer; Dick Tilbury, secretary. John Parker, retiring president, turned the gavel over to Paul.

New Chapter Organizer: John Parker was asked to be WCFS Ambassador at Large to assist the president in organizing new chapters in areas expressing an interest.

Seattle Tree Fruit Society By-Laws: By-laws were approved.

Sea-Tac Orchard Restoration: Seattle chapter member Orel Vallen made a presentation regarding possible restoration of old fruit trees south of the airport. These trees are on airport-noise condemned land owned by the Port of Seattle. The Federal government is considering this site for a new national cemetery. Orel proposed that WCFS study this area for restoration and incorporation into any national cemetery plans. Any proposal should be made to Mike Wilkins, 2040 84th Avenue SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040. A motion to consider this proposal was passed.

Future WCFS Activity: Paul Donaldson suggested the following items for action by WCFS:

- Develop a written history of WCFS
- Develop an apple identification workshop
- Provide representative to Washington Apple Growers Commission
- Research interface with Home Orchard Society
- Set up telephone tree for crises management
- Get liability insurance straightened out
- Resolve San Juan Islands Chapter membership dues situation
- Investigate rotating board meeting site
- Develop new WCFS membership application brochure
- Get new WCFS letterhead stationery
- Update WCFS records at Seattle public library

WCFS Participation in 1990 National Cooperative Extension Agents Convention: Nancy Jo Cushman reported that a WCFS fruit display would be the only activity expected of us for this convention being held September 30 - October 4 at the Sea-Tac Red Lion Inn.

Newsletter Editor Needed: Overworked, underpaid newsletter editor is retiring--replacement needed. Contact Paul Donaldson or another board member.

Paul Donaldson is thinking about organizing a trip to an antique apple orchard near Stehekin on Lake Chelan. If you're interested in going, let Paul know.

The Naming Of The Apple Cultivar 'Democrat' makes an interesting story. It was found as a seedling growing next to the orchard of Mr. J. Duffy in Glenlush, Tasmania, Australia, and was called 'Duffy's Seedling'. Later, the Australian Pomological Committee approved the name 'Tasma'. However, this name never stuck, and the apple became known as 'Democrat'. Currently, the cultivar joins with Richared Delicious in being the second most important exported apple of Tasmania. (Pome Fruit Notes, Tasmania, November 1989.) - - L. D. Tukey

1990 WCFS OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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John Parker (North Olympic Fruit Club Chapter President)

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Norm Schut (South Puget Sound Chapter President)

5619 Sunrise Beach Road NW, Olympia, WA 98502; (206)866-0245

Pat Stromberg (1993)

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## FAVORITE FRUIT COMMENTS

The Spring 1990 Western Cascade Fruit Society newsletter contained an invitation to comment on apples and other fruit shown for the first time at the 1989 All-About Fruit show. I hope that you find my comments of interest. You are free to publish any portion of this letter that you wish.

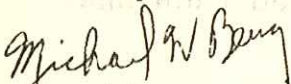
The 1989 Fruit Show variety list contained a mention of an apple identified as "Olympia?". I suspect that I have the original tree planted in my front yard. Its parentage is neither particularly noble nor particularly antiquated. The tree was purchased from Buckley Nursery in 1971 as a semi-dwarf king apple. For several years I was happy with that name as the tree quickly came into prolific bearing and soon was producing at least 400 and sometimes up to 800 pounds of apples per year. Mature, the apples are yellowish, sometimes with a pinkish blush, though those not in good sun remain green. They are large and somewhat flattened. They make first-rate pies when slightly green. They also make great apple sauce and are the mainstay of my cider production. For fresh eating they are acceptable, keeping under refrigeration until early January. However, as I started to collect apple varieties, it soon became clear that my tree was not a "king". I took it to an All-About Fruit show several years ago where it was identified as an "Olympia" by the person at the booth. I mailed the identifier some scion wood the next spring. Meanwhile I continued to puzzle over the tree and took samples to Robert Norton who concluded that the tree was unbudded rootstock, a thesis reinforced in my view by the knots of aerial rootlets all over the trunk and branches. Even though the tree has fallen out of favor with me as a source of apples for fresh eating, it is still important for pies and gallons upon gallons of apple cider.

The buffalo grape was also listed as a 1989 fruit show entrant that was not shown in 1988. As grown here in Olympia, the buffalo grape is one of my favorite seeded grapes. It produces a nicely sized dark berry with well-filled clusters and nice yields. The juice is good, not nearly as foxy as concord. Buffalo ripens here in early October, unlike concord or even campbell's early which do not sweeten up well. In fact, I have better luck with buffalo grapes in Olympia than any other grape. However, I also have a small orchard and vineyard in the Columbia River Gorge near White Salmon. At that site, buffalo is a terrible disappointment. The yields are small and the individual berries are small. They ripen around labor day and attain plenty of sugar but are not fleshy and do not make very good juice.

The chehalis apple is another fruit that I have excellent luck with in Olympia, but disappointing results in White Salmon. Some apples like Jonagold do well at both sites. However, the appearance and flavor of the Jonagold apples is distinctively different, even though I propagated both trees from the same stick of scion wood. Still other apples, like Spartan, look and taste the same at both sites.

These fruit observations provide clear indications of why it is so important to have local fruit-growing organizations that provide information on how fruit does in our home climate. It also illustrates why our experience with a fruit tree might be quite different from what we expect based on a nursery catalog.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Beug  
3732 Wesley Loop N.W.  
Olympia, WA 98502

WESTERN CASCADE TREE FRUIT ASSOCIATION  
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Lake Stevens, WA 98258

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WA 98118

SUMMER 1990

WESTERN CASCADE FRUIT SOCIETY

UPCOMING EVENTS

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| August 15th<br>Wednesday | Stone Fruit Open House at Mt. Vernon Research Station.<br>9:30 am   |
| October 20th<br>Saturday | Apple Fest at Forest Park in Everett, sponsored by<br>Everett Parks and Recreation, WSU/Snohomish County<br>Extension and WCFS members. |
| November 3-4             | WCFS Fall Fruit Show at Urban Hort Center, Seattle.   |
| March 2nd<br>Saturday    | WCFS Spring Meeting, Rootstock/Scionwood Exchange.  |