



Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of California Cooperative Extension

Master Gardener Program of Santa Clara County
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Fruit Tree and Vine Care Calendar

OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT
	1-pruning and dormant oil spray								2-prune apricots & cherries		
			3-paint tree trunks		4-fertilize young trees		4-fertilize young trees		4-fertilize young trees		
	5-shothole fungus spray					6-fireblight spray		(7-fertilize mature trees after harvest, only if needed)			
	8-peach leaf curl spray				9-brown rot spray			(10-apple maggots)			
					11-codling moth sanitation / bag covers on fruit						
					12-powdery mildew sprays for grapes						

1. Pruning can alternatively be done in the summer at the time fruit is thinned, then 2 months later and again after harvest. Dormant oil sprays are used to reduce overwintering populations of insects. Most backyard fruit trees will not need to be treated with dormant oils.
2. If evidence of Eutypa canker, prune apricots & cherries in late summer, well before winter rains. See Pest Note <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/DISEASE/eutypadieback.html>
3. Use white latex paint diluted 1:1 with water
4. Divide the amount of fertilizer that is recommended for the establishment of young fruit trees, for the year, into 3 parts and apply them during the late spring-summer months.
5. Shothole disease affects apricot, peach, nectarine, plum and almond. The disease is most often not severe enough in backyard trees to warrant spray measures. If necessary, use one fixed copper spray after leaf fall. See Pest Note at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/DISEASE/shothole.html>
6. Fireblight is most serious on pears, but may also may damage apples, quince and loquat. Choose resistant varieties. Avoid overwatering and overfertilization. Prune out blighted shoots as they appear. If fireblight is a consistently seasonal problem, fixed copper sprays may be helpful. Copper is protective only. See Pest Note at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7414.html>
7. Fruit trees grown in backyard settings in typical sandy loam to clay loam soil with proper irrigation rarely need to be fertilized. Fertilize after harvest, only if there is a known nutrient deficiency.
8. Peach leaf curl affects peaches and nectarines. The disease is common and frequently warrants treatment. One to two fixed copper sprays (one month apart) before bud break is sufficient for good control. See Pest Note at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7426.html>
9. Brown rot disease affects stone fruit trees and causes the most common rot of the fruits. Avoid overfertilization of trees. Prune out blighted shoots as they appear. Fixed copper sprays during bloom time are expected to be only minimally helpful. See Pest Note at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/DISEASE/aprbrownrot.html>
10. If apple maggots are suspected, bring in samples to the Master Gardener office at Berger Dr. The Ag commissioner should be notified if found in Santa Clara County. See Pest Note at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/PESTS/applemaggot.html>
11. Codling moth infestation can be serious in apples, pears, and quince, occasionally found in plums and other stone fruits. Several different actions should be combined for best management of the pest. Remove and destroy the earliest infested apples. Place bags over fruits that are 1/2-1 inch diameter. Instructions are available for mass trapping also. See Pest Note at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7412.html>
12. Wettable sulfur or oil may be used to manage powdery mildew. Do not treat with oil and sulfur at the same time. See Pest Note at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7494.html>

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