

“Old” Pests Persist in the Pacific Northwest



the Urban Scion Post

a publication of the Seattle Tree Fruit Society,
a chapter of the Western Cascade Fruit Society

8/22/22 Message from the President

I end my work week knowing that I'll have to spend a good deal of the weekend working in my garden, just to accomplish what should've been done a month or more earlier. But I'm usually exhausted and look for excuses to divert my attention from what I should be doing, at least for one of the two weekend days. So, it happened last weekend that I attended the open gardens of members Gudrun Utz and Tracey Bernal. It is so enjoyable to spend time with others that share my (our) interests, not just the hosts, but also the other attendees. And, of course, both Gudrun and Tracey are culinary mavens, so there were treats aplenty to sample. Thanks.

Then, I was able to repeat the adventure the following weekend on beautiful Vashon Island. STFS member Laure Jansen opened her (Alta Rose) farm to club members. Among the highlights at Alta Rosa was Laure's young cider apple orchard. We sampled some of her cider product. We also toured the Dr. Bob Norton Memorial Orchard, which is stewarded by the Vashon Island chapter of the Western Washington Fruit Society (WCFS). This orchard has a great example of the great lengths us hobbyists will go to succeed in the production of challenging fruit crops, as it contains a stand of apricot and nectarine trees that are totally protected (via plexiglass, netting, etc.) from unfavorable elements, while allowing natural development to occur.

Laure J's alpacas sizing up Mike Aug 20th on Vashon



Thanks to those who attended our work party at Magnuson Park early this month. The orchard looks much better than it did at our previous work party in June. Thanks to all who help, on a regular basis, with this stewardship.

Last month I mentioned the opportunity to volunteer at the Puyallup fair for the WCFS booth that is organized each year by the Tacoma chapter. There are still shifts available. The fair runs from September 2nd through 25th. Volunteering for a shift will allow you the opportunity to mingle with other fruit hobbyists and inform the

public about best fruit culture practices. On top of that you will receive free admission to the fair. If interested, please sign up using ["Sign-Up Genius"](#). If you have questions or problems, contact Bill Horn (hornbill66@msn.com 253-770-0485) or John Jacobs (johnsblooms@gmail.com 253-581-0290).

While pondering my next vacation, I was thinking about my options. I tend to favor out-of-the ordinary events and locations, especially if they enhance my special interests. I remember touring the heritage orchards at Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, Iowa many years ago, as part of a multi-faceted vacation. It was great. I'm planning a trip to see my family on the east coast, including a brother in Maryland. While investigating opportunities, I happened upon a "Paw Paw Festival" in Maryland., and another in nearby York County, Pennsylvania, and several more, mainly in the Midwest states. I'll get to one of them, and report back to you. I also learned that there is a Paw Paw River in Michigan. And, on that river, there is a village name "Paw Paw." Yes, it was named after the fruit tree. And, yes, they have a festival.

Urban Scion Post

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Mike about to drag away huge plum branch pile pruned by STFS members Aug 6th at demo orchard



On the cover

Adult apple maggot fly laying eggs under skin of uncovered maturing Belle de Boskoop apple (post photo: immediately removed and placed in closed plastic bag but not forgotten as the delicious treat it could have been. Note to self: Cover apple and seckel pear fruitlets next spring to protect from apple maggot and codling moth.) Photo taken 8/15/22 at Port Orchard.

**August 2022,
the watering month
By Marilyn Tilbury**

As this is written, on August 15, the radio tells us that it is the one year anniversary of our country's withdrawal from Afghanistan. The weather forecast is for a perfect summer day. A stroll in the garden, coffee cup in hand, reveals a very dry landscape with unripe Gravenstein apples on the ground with bites from grey squirrels. Time to pick these up and do some watering! Some 'Sun Gold' tomatoes are ripe and 'Bush Early Girl' will soon be. Goldenrod, lavender and oregano are blooming as well as crinum lilies. Can naked ladies (*Lycoris squamigera*) be soon behind?

Even tho fall is officially a month away, there is the hint of it in the air. Each day now is over 3 minutes shorter than the previous day. Statistically our state is most at risk from wild fires for the next 30 days, to mid September. The fire season in drought-stricken CA is just ramping up with their dreaded Santa Anna and Diablo east winds at risk of blowing into early November whenever low pressure systems are off shore. We've been so blessed with smoke free air so far this year. Be ready with N95 masks and room air purifiers if smoke comes up our coast from CA.

Were you able to attend our garden tours this month? Goodie's well-labeled Food Forest was an introduction to the principles of Permaculture. She has found that a generous layer of arborist chips conserves moisture and greatly reduces weeding. But deep rooted weeds can contribute to soil nutrients for desirable plants when their tops are composted. Speaking of compost, she has adopted the "let it rot" method of composting. Just use one spot to pile yard debris and harvest it a year or so later when it's finished composting—no turning or watering required. If you haven't done so yet, do go to the link to the nearby church's [Permaculture site on page 5 of our July USP](#) for a quick read on their wonderful program.

Tracey's yard is also densely planted and bedded with arborist chips for a low water garden. She has learned that planting an elaeagnus near a plant that is struggling results in invigorating the laggard. (Elaeagnus, like alders and legumes, fix nitrogen in their roots.) She has been working with her *Prunus mume* fruit and showed us her (in progress) green plum syrup which is to be steeped in only dry sugar for 100 days. Her mix of ornamental and fruiting plants includes a variegated *Cornus mas* beautifully set off by the dark foliage of surrounding plants in her back yard.

From past experience the writer can attest to the worth of journeying to Vashon Island on August 20 for the tour of the Dr. Bob orchard and Laure's working farm with its many colored chickens and "the boys," the 3 alpacas. It's a beautiful day trip in a wonderful part of the country.

Good news! No murder hornets reported yet this year. They've received a new common name as well: "northern giant hornet" in place of "Asian giant hornet." A similar but slightly smaller Asian hornet, *Vespa velutina*, is ravishing honey bees in large areas of Europe now. WSDA is hoping their efforts to eradicate "our" giant hornet will be successful. The other new invasive insect of concern here, the Japanese beetle, is presently only found in the Tri-Cities area of Eastern WA but seems to be expanding its range. Be worried if you find clumsy beetles with 5 white tufts on each side eating your roses and report online to WSDA.

Never fear, the rains are coming, but not yet. Do keep plants from suffering moisture stress now. High temps combined with no meaningful rain for a month add up to serious evaporation of available moisture. Try to keep windfalls picked up a couple times a week and dispose of them if infested with apple maggot and/or codling moth. Bare spots can be seeded with ground cover crops such as crimson clover now. Magellan's fuchsia will soon ripen its little purple fruits. These edible but bland fruitlets are a colorful addition to cantaloupe salads.



**Tracey's Elaeagnus (aka silverberry or oleaster) fixing nitrogen behind rhubarb
Photo credit: Mike Ewanciw**

August 6 Demo Orchard Summer Pruning



Laure J. starting summer prune of overgrown mature Italian plum tree at STFS demo orchard.

Following the past several years of neglect (blame COVID-19), on August 6th, 6 STFS members and Chloe, a Magnuson Park visitor interested in fruit trees, summer pruned several full-grown plum and pear trees in the demo orchard. Earlier that week, Mostafa M. had marked branches suggesting where to prune. Thanks to Mostafa M., Tracey B., Laure J., Mike E., Sandy B., Judy S., Chloe, and Trent E. for the demo orchard work done in August 2022.



Tracey B. giving Chloe instruction on pruning of a mature apple tree.

Summer Pruning Still in 2022? Hurry Up.

Editor's note: Thanks to Laure J for providing the article below which was last published in USP 36 07 2018 Jul. For info on Dr. Robert Norton's amazingness, check out [USP 39 03 2021 Mar](#)

SUMMER PRUNING FRUIT TREES

by Dr. Robert Norton



Everyone knows you prune fruit trees in the winter when they are fully dormant, right? Well, not exactly. Here are some of the cases in which summer pruning (June-September) may be preferable and even essential to do at this time rather than waiting for winter:

1. Old trees with moderate to high vigor that have grown too tall or that have been topped or butchered in the year or two previously.
2. Young trees with excessive vigor (i.e., more than two feet of new growth.) This applies to any type of fruit tree, but is particularly applicable to plums, apricots, cherries, and peaches. More on this later.
3. Cherry trees of any age that tend to be getting too tall and out of reach for anything but the birds.
4. Plum, apricot, and peach trees that send up vigorous, non-fruiting branches.
5. Non-fruiting branches of pears and other fruit types that tend to become too rigid and unbending before they have the opportunity to carry a crop load. Explanation to follow.

Here is an explanation of why summer pruning is sometimes justified and, in fact, preferred.

Summer Pruning Fruit Trees (cont.)

Dormant pruning, in fact all pruning, is a dwarfing process. A non-pruned tree always will be larger than a pruned tree. Pruning removes plant tissue that developed as a result of photosynthesis, which occurs in the leaves during the growing season. Dormant pruning results in local stimulation of growth in the vicinity of the cut, so it may seem as though it is resulting in more growth. Summer pruning, on the other hand, reduces the photosynthetic factory production and provides little or no local stimulation of growth.

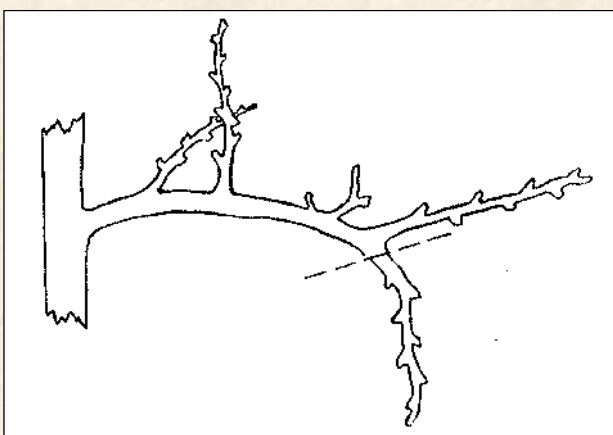
Looking back at the examples of summer pruning above, can you now see why this type of pruning can be the preferred method in some situations? Let's go into a little more detail with the examples.

1. Old trees—apples, pears, plums, and cherries, especially. First, be sure that these older trees are in generally good health and vigor. They may not be carrying a crop, better if they are not cropping heavily, and better if they are in the off year of production. On the other hand, if the trees have made only a few inches of new growth by the first of July, it is better to delay pruning until the following dormant season. Once you have decided the trees are good candidates for summer pruning, look at the upper part of the tree canopy to see if there are major vertical or otherwise upright branches that can be cut back to similar-sized lower branches, particularly ones growing more closely to the horizontal position. These branches may come from deep within the tree, and even may be one of the major trunks. This can open up the entire center of the tree to better light distribution on the remaining branches. Never cut back major branches, leaving a bare stub. Always try to cut back to a branch of similar size. In this way you may be able to reduce or avoid the production of water sprouts, so commonly seen on trees butchered with a chain saw during the dormant season.



Tracey B. opening up center of Italian plum tree for better light distribution.

2. Young trees with excessive vigor. Here's my "rule of thumb" for pruning young trees. Year one (planting year): concentrate on training new branches to have good branch angles (>30 degrees from the vertical) with spreaders, toothpicks (when very young), weights, or tie-downs to stakes in the ground. Remove only branches that are competing with the leader (topmost shoot) or are too close to other more desirable branches. Year two and maybe year three (depending on the vigor imparted by the rootstock): leave the tree



Remove branches that fall below the horizontal

alone to develop spurs and fruit buds. Once the tree comes into production, then let fruiting help to shape the tree. Too many fruits may bend the branches below the horizontal (not good). Thin or prop the branches to keep them above the horizontal. Some fruit trees, especially plums, pears, or even vigorous varieties of apple, such as Gravenstein and Jonagold, may still make excessive growth (more than 24 inches annually). Removing some of this growth in summer will slow down growth and possibly will enhance fruit development of adjacent branches, reduce disease and insect infestation, and generally open the tree to easier access.

Summer Pruning Fruit Trees (cont.)

3. Sweet cherry trees on the common rootstocks (Mazzard and Mahaleb, sometimes referred to as standard and semi-dwarf stocks). They tend to be strongly upright in growth habit, but by spreading them when young, right from the first year on, you can reduce this vertical growth though only temporarily. The branches still tend to be 'heaven' bound. Newly developed rootstocks, referred to as Gisela 5, 6, or 12, enable one to keep a cherry tree within a reasonable height. In my orchard I allow them a space of 8'x8'x8' and hope to be able to hold them to this box size by summer pruning entirely. If you have the standard or semi-dwarf type of cherry, prune the vertical growth immediately after harvest (mid July). If the tree does not have a crop, you can prune it in mid June, removing upward growing shoots back into two-year and older wood. The earlier pruning will stimulate moderate new growth, which may or may not be pruned again later, depending on how large you permit the tree to become.



Sandy B. removing interior center shoots of Italian plum tree.

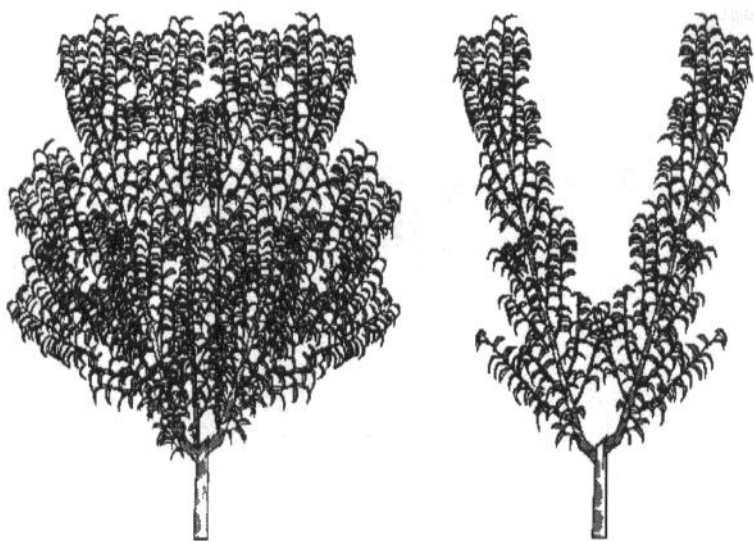
4. Plum, apricot, and peach trees, especially those that have a light or nonexistent crop (poor pollination, frost or cold) may send up shoots, often from the interior of the tree. These shoots can grow 3-4 feet in one season, often forming side shoots on these vigorous, non-bearing branches. You should easily be able to identify them. They should be removed entirely or cut back to one-half to two-thirds of their length in July or August.

5. Non-fruiting branches of pears and other fruits. Normally, pear shoots grow vigorously upright in the first and second years, but develop fruiting spurs and fruit by the third year, which tend to pull the branches over to a more horizontal position. Cutting these branches back too soon will cause them to

stiffen, delay fruiting, and result in a taller tree than if left to bend naturally. However, if the pear branch does not crop, it may need to be spread to at least a 60-degree angle from the trunk or even be removed in favor of smaller branches that haven't lost their bending ability, late June to mid August is the best time to do this.



Italian plum tree summer pruned.



Summer Plum, Apricot, Peach Pruning—before (left) & after (right)

More Pruning Fruit Trees Guidelines

From the WSU Master Gardener Manual (WSU EXTENSION CURRICULA EC0001) pages 7-15 & 7-16:

Tree Pruning & Training Tree pruning is a necessary part of home orchard care. Prune trees to direct growth, maintain health, and manage fruit-bearing potential. The discussion here covers only guidelines specific to pruning fruit trees. Your pruning strategy should take into account the fruiting habit of each tree. The type and age of wood that bears fruit varies with the kind of tree. Some fruits bear on more than one kind of wood. For example:

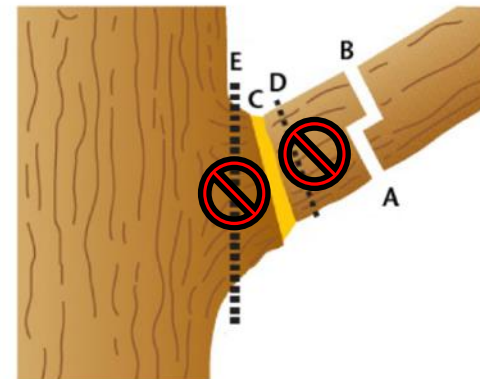
- * Walnuts and quince produce fruit on the current season's shoots.
- * Hazelnuts, nectarines, peaches, quince, and Japanese plums produce fruit on the previous season's shoots.
- * Sour cherries, some apples, and some pears produce fruit on the previous season's spurs and shoots.
- * Apples, apricots, sour cherries, sweet cherries, pears, and plums (European and Japanese) produce fruit on long-lived spurs.

Good light penetration is necessary for fruit spur formation and productivity. Trees that fruit on spurs should be maintained in a fairly open form. Those that produce their crop on one-year-old wood (such as peaches and hazelnuts) benefit from pruning because it stimulates new wood formation—and, therefore, more fruit.

Pruning & Training Guidelines

- * Prune all fruit and nut trees at planting time. Cut just above the height where you want the lowest branches to grow (usually 30 to 40 inches above the ground).
- * Prune young trees very lightly. Heavy pruning will delay tree fruiting.
- * Prune mature trees more heavily, especially if they have shown little growth.
- * Prune the top portions of trees more heavily than the lower portions.
- * Train young trees in the first few years after planting to avoid corrective pruning later. Bend main scaffolds to a 45° to 60° angle.
- * To keep trees small, prune moderately every year and do not apply excess fertilizer, manure, or compost. (This does not apply to dwarf trees.)
- * Prune during the dormant season (after fall or early winter freezes, but before full bloom in spring). Sweet cherry trees may be pruned in August, when there is less danger of bacterial infection.
- * When removing large limbs, first cut part way through from the underside, about 6 inches out from the collar, then make a second cut from the top a little farther out, cutting all the way through until the branch falls away. Finally, cut the stub back to the branch collar. Do not remove the branch collar.
- * There is no need to paint pruning wounds. The best protection for a wound is to leave the branch collar intact so the tree is protected from wood-rotting fungi.

Pruning cut reminder—To avoid bark stripping when removing a large limb, make the first cut at A, below the limb about 12 inches from the trunk. Make the second cut at B, further out on the limb from A. When the limb sags and breaks, it will break to A, leaving a stub. Make the final cut at C, just outside the branch collar to remove the stub. A cut at D would leave too much of a stub, which might rot before the branch collar can grow over it, and a cut at E is a flush cut that would damage the branch collar and inhibit wound healing.



2022 STFS edible landscape & home orchard tour in review



Longtime STFS member Larry D. catching some shade and refreshment at Tracey B's. Photo credit: Mike E.

BIG THANKS to Gudrun U., Tracey B., & Laure J. for opening up their edible landscapes & fruit growing operations to STFS members on Sat August 13th & 20th. Each host also generously prepared and offered tasty sustenance and drinks containing home-grown ingredients.

Fruitful delights for guests created by Gudrun U. Photo credit: Mike E.



The spread at Gudrun U's home orchard tour was chock full of homegrown yuzu, goumi, aronia, mulberries, elderflowers, Oregon grape, hazelnuts, raspberries, blueberries, crabapple, ... Fruitful treats at Tracey B's included homegrown candied Aromatnaya quince and dried Nikita's Gift persimmon.

On Vashon, Laure J. guided visitors through a fact-packed tour of Bob's Sunrise Orchard (aka Bob Norton's Memorial or Sunrise Ridge Orchard) with its numerous demonstrations of fruit growing techniques. More info on the features at Bob's Sunrise Orchard is available in [USP 39 09 2021 Sep](#) & [USP 38 09 2020 Sep](#). To schedule tours, volunteer with orchard upkeep, and participate in pruning/grafting/other onsite events at Bob's Sunrise Orchard, call Emily MacRae, Orchard Manager (phone 206.408.7072).



Sandy B., Mike E., & Laure J. sampling inside netted blueberry tunnel at Bob's.

And Laure hosted visitors at [Alta Rosa Farm](#) featuring 80+ espaliered fruit trees, 130+ free standing cider apple trees, 20+ hazelnut bushes, many varieties of rhubarb, grapes, blueberries, quince, perry pears, ... and a greenhouse with



Sparkles and Ed S. listening to Laure J.'s overview of regenerative farming.

citrus plants. Visitors shared lunchtime dishes & drink including vegan dolmas wrapped with grape leaves harvested onsite & cider fermented from juice pressed from apples grown onsite both by Laure J.

Mound of brown on adjacent apple's surface is poop from codling moth (CM) larva eating through this unprotected apple in Bob's Sunrise Orchard August 20. This & other infected pome fruit need to be collected & removed from orchard before CM can drop to ground & overwinter. Early summer next year, volunteers are needed to cover fruitless & remove remaining fruitlets. Call Emily to volunteer.



Wanted: VIFC Vashon volunteers now to prevent this:

from happening next year at Bob's Sunrise Orchard.

Quarantined in Puget Sound: Apple maggot fly

PNW backyard orchardists: Visiting distance friends and family soon following 2+ years of COVID-19 and want to bring along beautiful FRESH fruit you grew? Make sure not to spread apple maggot around Washington state.

From [WSDA](#) (Washington State Department of Agriculture): [Apple maggot](#) is spread through fresh homegrown fruit and municipal waste. Host fruit include apples, crabapples, cherries, pears, plums, hawthorn, and quince. Washington state law prohibits you from transporting these items out of the apple maggot quarantine area.

[Apple maggot](#) is a pest that is a threat to commercial and homegrown fruit, especially apples. Apple maggot is native to the Northeastern USA where its primary host was hawthorn fruit until European settlers introduced apples to the region. Now apple maggot has spread throughout much of North America, threatening fruit crops from coast to coast.

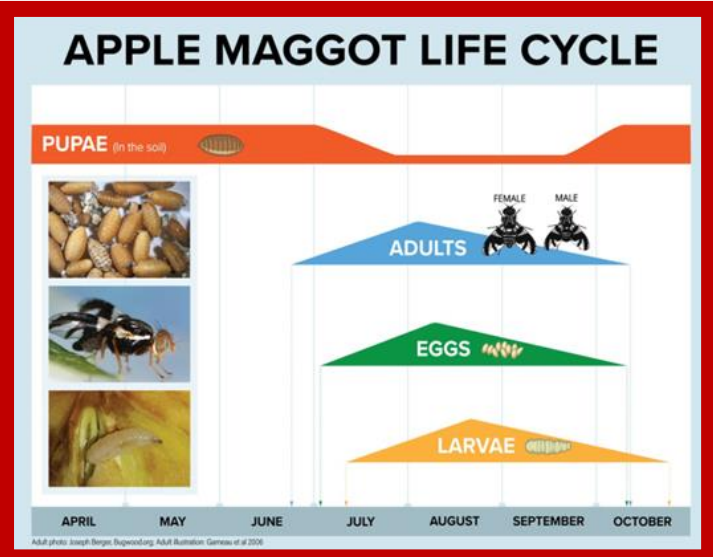
While most counties in Western Washington have been quarantined, not all counties in Washington state have apple maggot. Most notably, most of central Washington state's prime fruit growing region remains apple maggot free.

Adult apple maggot flies are fruit flies with distinct black-striped wings. Female apple maggot flies primarily fly and lay their eggs in July and August in Washington state. Female apple maggot flies make tiny punctures in the apple skin

and lay their eggs just under the surface. While the initial damage is easily overlooked, the damage eventually leads to dimpling of the fruit surface. In only 3 to 7 days, apple maggot eggs hatch and tiny apple maggot larvae emerge. The legless maggots are about 1/16 of an inch long and a creamy white-colored before growing to about 1/4 inch long at maturity. The larvae eat and tunnel their way through the fruit,



Smashed dead and picked off Belmac apple. Port Orchard Aug 15



Off-white juice residue where apple maggot flies fed. Port Orchard Aug 24



Same apple, different pest: Mound of brown poop where codling moth larva bore through apple's skin. Port Orchard Aug 24

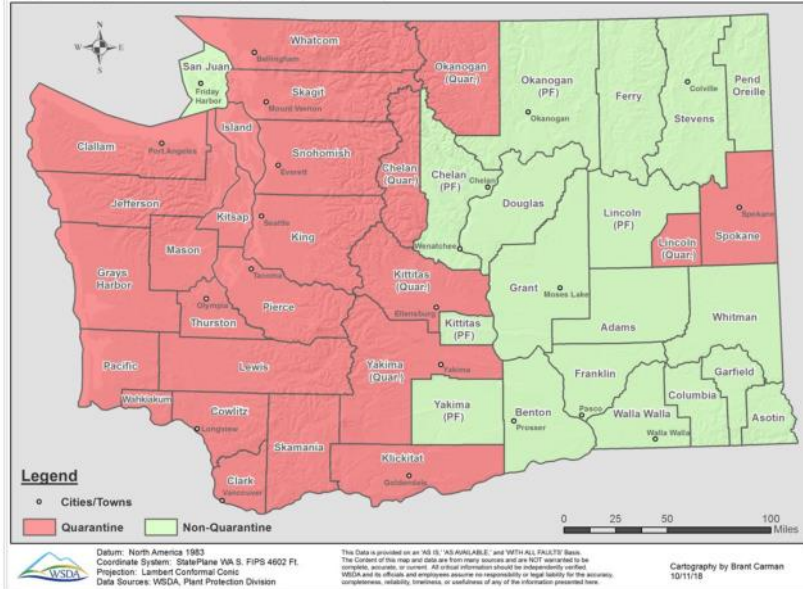
Apple maggot fly WSDA Quarantine

leaving brown trails behind. When apple maggot larvae are mature, they exit the fruit and drop to the ground. Apple maggots overwinter as pupae in the soil, emerging the next summer as adult flies, starting the cycle over again.

APPLE MAGGOT QUARANTINE

The purpose of the WSDA apple maggot quarantine is to stop the spread of apple maggot into pest-free areas of the state. State law prohibits the movement of homegrown fruit and municipal waste from a quarantined area into or through a pest-free area. To help you comply with state law, WSDA has created a [searchable map](#). Enter an address into the search bar and the map will tell you if the address is within the quarantine boundary or not. For a printable version of the current quarantine map, [click here](#)

Apple Maggot Quarantine by County, Washington State 2018



LEAVE HOMEGROWN FRUIT AT HOME

Don't risk spreading apple maggot. If you live in a quarantined area, such as King County, you cannot take homegrown fresh fruit on a trip to an apple maggot-free area, such as Grant County. If you did, you could be carrying infested fruit to an apple maggot-free area. This only applies to fresh homegrown fruit. Store-bought fruit or fruit that has been baked, canned, or processed in some way, can be safely transported out of the quarantine area.

BACKYARD FRUIT TREES AND APPLE MAGGOT

In Washington state, property owners are required by state law to manage pests on their property to prevent their spread. This includes managing apple maggot if you have it. Managing apple maggot at home can be costly and time consuming, but don't simply abandon your trees. This would allow apple maggot and other pests to multiply rapidly. If a tree is left unmanaged, it should be removed.

Manage Apple Maggot with Backyard Orchard Sanitation

Homeowners need to remove or treat any alternate hosts for apple maggot including crab apples, ornamental hawthorns or other fruit trees. Although apple maggots do not fly far, any wild or untreated hosts within 1/4 to 1/2 mile can serve as a source for apple maggots in your own backyard. Regularly inspect fruit while it is on the tree, removing and destroying ALL insect-infested fruit and ALL fruit not being protected from insect infestation. Minimize contact of these fruit with the ground. Apple maggot will continue to develop inside any



Infested apple separated and placed in plastic bag to decompose.

Apple maggot fly WSDA Quarantine

downed fruit and then pupate in the soil. Pick up fallen apples frequently from early August until the trees are bare; Keep separate from other compostable matter. To make backyard sanitation easier, consider planting apple trees grafted onto dwarfing rootstocks. Dwarfing rootstocks will produce smaller trees (less than 12 feet tall) more easily covered entirely with protective netting or allowing individual fruit to be covered with protective barriers with minimal ladder use.

Excerpted from Protecting Backyard Apple Trees from Apple Maggot by Michael R. Bush, Michael Klaus, Arthur Antonelli, and Catherine Daniels

Suggested method for killing potential apple maggots before fertilizing with decomposing apples
Last fall, longtime STFS member Greg Giuliani put fallen apples in a large watertight open barrel, held apples down with the flipped lid and weights keeping the apples underwater as the barrel filled with water. Apples were soaked for several months in autumn to kill any residing apple maggots. Prior to winter, soaked apples were spread around the orchard to decay and fertilize prior to spring.



Fallen potentially infested apples submerged in rainwater.



After soaking several months, fallen apples spread on floor.



By spring, soaked apples nearly decayed and fertilizing.



Pacific Tree frog on apple leaf eats a wide variety of arthropods ... hopefully all life stages of codling moth and apple maggot. Aug 15 Port Orchard

Japanese Beetle: Another invasive insect potentially impacting WA backyard orchardists & triggering a new quarantine effective Sept. 15, 2022.



Image credit: WSDA

From [WSDA](#): In 2020, WSDA for the first time detected [Japanese beetles in Washington state](#): just three Japanese beetles in the Grandview area. In 2021, WSDA detected more than 24,000 beetles. To date in 2022, WSDA has detected around 8,300 beetles.

The Japanese beetle is a highly destructive plant pest that can be very difficult and expensive to control. Feeding on the roots of grass and other vegetation, Japanese beetle grubs (larvae) damage lawns, golf courses, and pastures. Japanese beetle adults attack the foliage, flowers, or fruits of more than 300 different ornamental and agricultural plants, including crops such as grapes and hops, which are significant crops in the areas where the beetle has been detected

The Japanese beetle was first found in the United States in 1916 near Riverton, New Jersey. Since then Japanese beetles have spread throughout most states east of the Mississippi River. WSDA is working to keep the pest from permanently establishing in Washington state.

Japanese beetle adults are metallic green and brown and have little tufts of white hair on their sides. They emerge – usually from lawns or in other soil – in the spring and feed throughout the summer. The adult beetles damage plants by skeletonizing the foliage. Adults also feed on buds, flowers, and fruit on the plants and are frequently intercepted with air cargo from the Eastern U.S.

Japanese beetle eggs and larvae live in the soil below the surface. From fall to spring the grubs (larvae) overwinter in the soil and slowly develop into mature Japanese beetle adults ready to emerge again in the spring.

Preventing Japanese beetle spread requires not moving yard waste or fill and leaving soil on site. Japanese beetle adults can travel on waste or debris from yards, gardens, and other horticulture activities. Japanese beetle eggs and larvae can travel in topsoil containing vegetative material.

From extension services of [Minnesota](#) and [Wisconsin](#) where the Japanese beetle has been an invasive species since the late 1960s:

In Minnesota, Japanese beetles are most commonly found in the Twin Cities metropolitan area and southeast Minnesota. Japanese beetles were first discovered in Minnesota in 1968. At first, only a few beetles were found. By 2001, they occurred in much higher numbers. In one year the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) trapped more than one million beetles. Since then, Japanese beetle numbers have fluctuated from year to year.

Japanese Beetle: Another invasive insect potentially impacting WA backyard orchardists

Adult Japanese beetles feed on the leaves, flowers and fruits of many different plants. They skeletonize leaves by feeding on tissue between the major veins giving them a lace-like appearance. Damaged leaves turn brown and may fall off.

Plants preferred by adult Japanese beetles include rose, grape, linden, apple, crabapple, cherry, plum and related trees, birch, elm, raspberry, currant, basil, Virginia creeper, hollyhock, marigold, corn silks and soybean.

Related 2022 WSDA news releases focused on Japanese beetle

JAPANESE BEETLE QUARANTINE RULE ADOPTED, EFFECTIVE SEPT. 15 From 8/22/2022 release: To prevent the spread of the invasive Japanese beetle, WSDA adopted a quarantine beginning Sept. 15th limiting movement of certain items in the infested Grandview area. Items include: * Topsoil containing vegetative material, * Noncommercial humus and compost, * Noncommercial growing media, * Yard debris including grass clippings, leaves, branches, brush, weeds, flowers, roots, windfall fruit, and vegetable garden debris, * Potted plants, and plants used for planting or propagation unless free from growing media and other listed items. To date, WSDA has confirmed sightings in Wapato, Richland, Mabton, Sunnyside, and Outlook - all outside of the current quarantine boundaries. WSDA mapping specialists created a [real-time detection map](#) that growers can use to determine how close they are to known Japanese beetle detections.

REPORT JAPANESE BEETLE SIGHTINGS From 8/4/22 release: WSDA provided an update on the multi-year eradication response to Japanese beetle in Yakima and Benton counties on August 4. [Click here to view the recording.](#)

JAPANESE BEETLE FOUND IN RICHLAND, GROWING CONCERN FOR AG PRODUCTS From 7/29/2022 release: On July 28, WSDA confirmed a Japanese beetle detection in Richland, more than 35 miles east of the current proposed quarantine zone in Grandview. Earlier in the week officials confirmed a detection in Wapato, 30 miles west of Grandview, meaning detections have expanded over 65 miles of the I-82 corridor, a major pathway for much of the state's agricultural production.

JAPANESE BEETLE FOUND IN WAPATO, STATE ALERTS GROWERS TO PROTECT CROPS FROM GROWING INFESTATION From 7/27/2022 release: A citizen in Wapato captured three suspected Japanese beetle eating his garden peas and grapes. WSDA crews collected and confirmed the Japanese beetle specimens from the homeowner.

YARD DEBRIS SITE NOW OPEN IN GRANDVIEW FOR JAPANESE BEETLE CONTROL From 7/22/2022 release: Providing a site inside the infestation zone allows residents to remove the debris from their property without spreading the infestation further. Items accepted: Brush, branches, and roots, leaves, grass clippings, fruit and vegetable trimmings, weeds, flowers, plants, shrubs, stumps if roots are attached, topsoil containing vegetative material, sod.

JAPANESE BEETLE TREATMENT BEGINS IN YAKIMA, BENTON COUNTIES 4/28/22 release
PUBLIC INVITED TO REVIEW JAPANESE BEETLE ERADICATION ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS 4/20/22 release

PNW Loquat Triumph & Preventable Loss

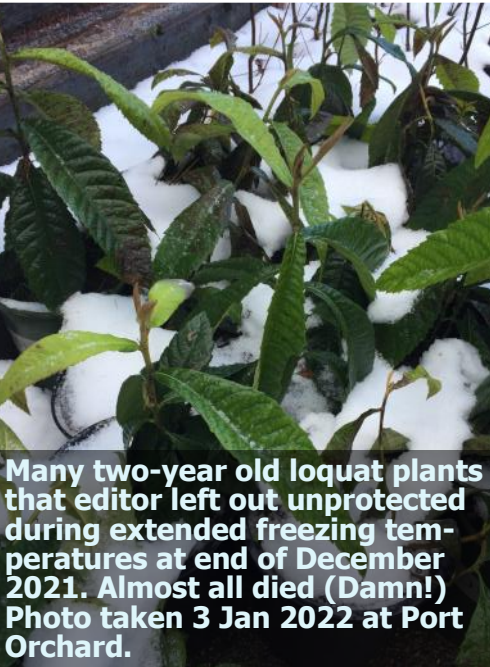
In early August 2022, Shlee emailed pic of her first loquat fruit harvested from a plant growing in the ground for a number of years now at Bellevue. Shlee sent photos last winter of loquat blossoms surrounded by Christmas lights for protection against freezing. Congrats, Shlee and best wishes for more bountiful future harvests.



Shlee's first loquat fruit. Loquat broad-leaf evergreen vegetation in background. Photo taken beginning of August 2022 in Bellevue. Photo credit: Shlee.

Loquats are broad-leaf evergreen trees that can be grown as bushes or in pots and like full sun and a Mediterranean climate but can tolerate partial shade. Shlee's loquat plant grows as a large bush under full-grown conifer trees in partial shade. Loquats don't do well in cold weather which damages flowers and developing fruit or even worse freezes then kills the entire plant.

If nurturing young loquat plants through the upcoming PNW winter, be wary of any unusual extended periods of freezing temperatures like late December 2021 in the Seattle area. Cover younger plants or bring inside if still in pots. Consider planting in a location with overhead protection from cold starry winter nights possibly underneath mature evergreen conifer trees. Loquats tolerate partial shade.

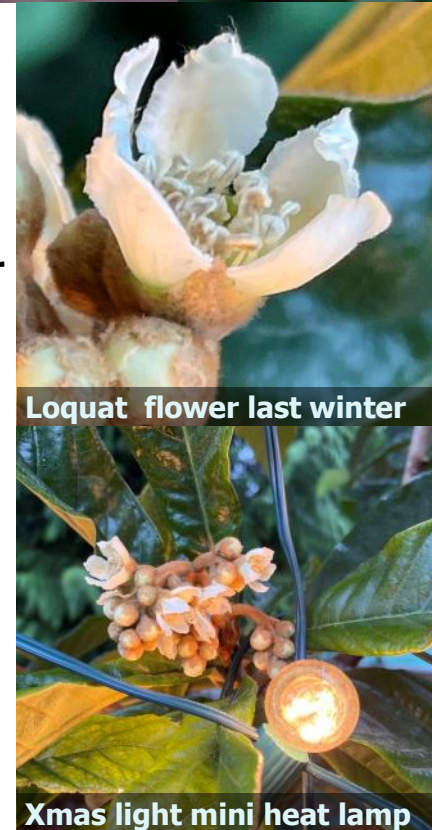


Many two-year old loquat plants that editor left out unprotected during extended freezing temperatures at end of December 2021. Almost all died (Damn!) Photo taken 3 Jan 2022 at Port Orchard.

More on growing loquats at:

[Loquat Tree ~ Grow Loquats at Home for Bountiful Harvest - Rural Living Today](#)

[How to Grow Loquat in the Shade \(sfgate.com\)](#)



Loquat flower last winter

Xmas light mini heat lamp



Ida Lingonberry to be planted in ground this fall. Ida sets two crops of berries a year, one in mid-summer then again late fall.

Bob's Sunrise Orchard has a damp area where several *Vaccinium spp* have been planted including cranberry, blueberry, maybe a huckleberry or two and several lingonberry. Lingonberry is a bushy plant growing up to 14 inches tall and spreading about 2 feet from original planting. More on growing lingonberry at: [GROWING berries LINGONBERRIES - Raintree Nursery](#)



Red Pearl Lingonberry spreading (it's a good thing) at Port Orchard August 18

Peach, Tomato and Farro Salad with Corn and Basil - Contributed by Tracey Bernal

If you are fortunate enough to have a Frost peach tree, which can be very productive, here's a way to use up some of the fruit in quick and easy salad for hot weather when you don't feel like doing much cooking. You might even have early tomatoes ripen around the same time, & if you planted some basil on time this year, you'll have that at hand too.



INGREDIENTS

- 1 Cup farro
- 1 Cup fresh corn kernels
(can use frozen)
- 1/4 Cup white balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 Cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- Salt and pepper
- 1 medium peach or nectarine
- 1 large ripe tomato
- 1/2 Cup crumbled feta
- 1/2 Cup torn fresh basil leaves
- Dash of Aleppo pepper or gochugaru (Korean chile flakes)

1. Cook the farro per package directions- alternatively, bring the farro to a boil in salted water and reduce to a simmer, cook until tender.

2. With farro almost done, add the fresh corn to the pot and cook for a few more minutes. Drain well and spread on a sheet pan to cool.

3. Make the vinaigrette: in a serving bowl, whisk together vinegar, oil, mustard, salt & pepper.

4. Cut up the peach and tomato into 1/2 inch pieces and toss with the vinaigrette.

5. Add the cooled farro and corn, along with the crumbled feta, torn basil, and chile; toss gently and adjust seasoning.



TASKS



Still Needed NOW: WCFS BeeLine Editor



BeeLine editor assembles the quarterly newsletter from other authors' articles. The 9 WCFS chapters are expected to provide content. BeeLine editor also needs to find additional content from other publications like Good Fruit Grower. Ideally, the new BeeLine editor is proficient with Microsoft Publisher which is similar to PowerPoint and other Office software. Past BeeLine editions are available for review at the WCFS website (www.WCFS.org) under the "Resources" tab. Marilyn Couture, former BeeLine editor, emailed on 6/12/21 that BeeLine editor activities are rewarding and educational to all. Marilyn offered some initial mentoring for the new editor. Interested? Contact Ron (email ronweston09@comcast.net) or Marilyn (email marilyncouture1@gmail.com) directly. Past editors have volunteered their time, but with the position still open now for many months, WCFS representatives may realize that a nominal stipend may be necessary to fill this position. You won't know if you don't ask.

And Needed Soon (Jan 2023): WCFS Treasurer

Summarizing the 5/8/22 email from Ron Weston, WCFS President, to chapter presidents: Long-time WCFS Treasurer, Jerry Gehrke, is retiring from this volunteer position at the beginning of calendar 2023. Ron asks to please consider who amongst WCFS chapter members might make a good fit to pick up Jerry's duties in 2023. WCFS doesn't have the luxury of going without a WCFS Treasurer. Ron is confident that Jerry will coach any potential replacement candidate on what the job entails and see that she or he is equipped with the knowledge to succeed. For now, it is imperative that WCFS find the person for Jerry to mentor. Interested? Or know of someone who might be? Please contact Ron Weston, WCFS President, directly via email (ronweston09@comcast.net) ASAP.

Calendar of Fruit-Related Events

❖ **24th Annual SKAGIT VALLEY FARM TOUR - FESTIVAL OF FAMILY FARMS** In-person only. Sat & Sun Oct. 1st & 2nd 2022 at these Host Farms On this weekend, you can have a hands-on-experience learning what it takes to run a farm, from growing crops to feeding animals. It is an opportunity to talk to your farmers and follow your food from the fields to the table. Use the farm map to enjoy a self-guided scenic tour through Skagit County and plan your stops to visit each participating family farm! Participating farms offer fun-filled festival activities for everyone including: educational exhibits, farm tours, harvest markets, gardening demonstrations, free samples, kids activities, corn and hay mazes, animal exhibits pumpkin patches, scenic tours and more.

❖ **2nd Annual Cider Fest! Freeway Estates Community Orchard (freewayestates.org)** In-person only. Saturday, October 15, 2 PM to 4 PM. Free: Cider, Music, Kid's activity, Tool Sharpening for Donation. Sales: Homemade Pie Slices, Homemade Berry Jam and Salsa. Location 6030 6th Ave NE, Seattle. On 6th Ave NE, Just north of NE 60th - the west side of I-5. Light Rail Station - Roosevelt, Buses 20, 44, 45, 62 67, 73 Questions? email freewayestatescommunityorchard@gmail.com

STFS: Who Are We & What We Do

Western Cascade Fruit Society (WCFS), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded in 1980 & is made up of nine Western Washington chapters, including STFS, full of helpful hobby orchardists & backyard fruit growers.

STFS members receive automatic membership in WCFS. WCFS publishes a quarterly BeeLine electronic newsletter to inform members of events, tours, articles & reports. WCFS provides other member services, including an online member forum, an online chapter-wide event calendar & an online home for chapter sites. See www.wcfs.org.

Seattle Tree Fruit Society (STFS) is a chapter of WCFS. The purposes of STFS are listed in Article II of STFS By-laws amended & restated as of 18 January 2014:

STFS will bring together people ...

- 1) to promote & stimulate interest in growing fruit bearing trees, shrubs & vines in urban areas,
- 2) to encourage propagation of desirable fruit varieties suited to the local climate,
- 3) to disseminate pertinent horticultural information to its members & the general public through the use of fruit shows, orchard tours, meetings, seminars, workshops, publications & other media,
- 4) to provide financial & other support to our area's fruit research and/or projects, &
- 5) to join with other organizations in promoting tree fruit in the Western Cascade region.

STFS members share an interest in growing fruit & nut trees, berries, kiwis, grapes & other fruit. We offer information on adapted varieties, current growing techniques & share our own experiences growing fruit.

STFS members meet monthly from Sept to May usually in-person on a Saturday morning in Seattle's Magnuson Park. In-person meetings typically include speakers presenting on topics such as grafting, pruning, pest control, plant health & fruit preservation tailored to Western Washington growers. STFS members receive both the STFS online monthly newsletter Urban Scion Post (USP) & the WCFS online quarterly BeeLine. STFS is online at www.seattletreefruitsociety.com and www.facebook.com/SeattleTreeFruitSociety/

The STFS membership is Seattle Tree Fruit Society. The goals of STFS are achieved by STFS members. Please contact STFS representatives listed in this newsletter and communicate what STFS can do for you and what you can do for STFS. When more STFS members get involved, STFS does more & attracts more STFS members who get involved.

Background: Shiro plums picked August 19th at Port Orchard. Japanese plum variety, fast growing, heavy bearer, juicy, clingstone.

Seattle Tree Fruit Society

seattletreefruitsociety@gmail.com

www.seattletreefruitsociety.com

www.facebook.com/SeattleTreeFruitSociety/

PRESIDENT Mike Ewanciw 206.683.9665

(2-year term expires Jan 2023)

VICE PRES. Tracey Bernal 206.913.3778

(2-year term expires Jan 2023)

SECRETARY Vacant—please volunteer

(2-year term expires Jan 20??)

TREASURER Trent Elwing 206.517.3118

(2-year term expires Jan 2023)

MEMBERSHIP Trent Elwing 206.517.3118

HOSPITALITY Judy Scheinuk 206.200.1483

scheinukj@gmail.com

STFS DIRECTORS

#1 - Laure Jansen

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#2 - Linda Sartnurak 425.271.6264

noilinda@yahoo.com

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#3 - Ed Scullywest 425.286.4030

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#4 - Rick Shultz rshultz@highline.edu

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#5 - John Roach

(3-year term expires Jan 2025)

#6 - Vacant—please volunteer

(3-year term expires Jan 20??)

#7 - Vacant—please volunteer

(3-year term expires Jan 20??)

USP NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Trent Elwing trelwing@gmail.com

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Orchard - Vacant—please volunteer

Events - Vacant—please volunteer

Programs - Vacant—please volunteer

NEW MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL FORM

Seattle Tree Fruit Society

www.seattletreefruitsociety.com

A Chapter of the Western Cascade Fruit Society

www.wcfs.org

Name:

Phone:

Address:

City, State, ZIP:

Email address:

DUES (includes STFS and Western Cascade Fruit Society)

New Member – Regular Rate – \$25	_____
New Member – Limited Income or Student Rate – \$15	_____
Renewing – Regular Rate – \$25	_____
Renewing – Limited Income or Student Rate – \$15	_____
Optional: Donation to support fruit research (\$5 min)	+ _____
Optional: Donation (other purpose) (\$5 min)	+ _____

TOTAL _____

make checks payable to STFS., and mail with this form to:

STFS, c/o Trent Elwing,
1035 Alaska Ave E, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Our STFS club is run by and for our members - volunteers make things happen. If you would like to help, contact any Officer or Board member (see your newsletter) or email seattletreefruitsociety@gmail.com

How do I know when my annual STFS membership will expire?

Back in March 2020 before the COVID-19 pandemic took hold, printed USP newsletters were USPS-mailed, and the STFS membership renewal date was printed above the mailing address of each member’s hardcopy printed newsletter.

To minimize spread of the coronavirus causing COVID-19, USP newsletters are now electronic and emailed. A reminder to renew your STFS membership no longer is printed above the mailing address.

Depending upon when a STFS member joins, annual memberships expire at the end of March, June, September or December each year.

Trent Elwing, STFS membership coordinator, will email STFS members one month prior to an expiring STFS membership reminding of the need to renew shortly and how to renew.

**Need to know now? Contact Trent
(phone/text: 206.517.3118 email: treling@gmail.com)**