



Dr. Sharon M. Douglas
Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology
The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
123 Huntington Street, P. O. Box 1106
New Haven, CT 06504

Phone: (203) 974-8601

Fax: (203) 974-8502

Email: Sharon.Douglas@po.state.ct.us

PRUNING AND FRUIT BEARING OF COMMON TREE FRUIT IN CONNECTICUT

Since pruning, training, and fruit bearing are not the same for all tree fruit, as follows is a summary of this information for the major tree fruit grown in Connecticut. Diagrams to supplement this information are available upon request.

Fruit	Habit	Training	Position of Fruit Buds		Life of Spur	Pruning
			Annual Shoots	Spurs		
Apple	Upright, spreading	Modified leader, central leader	Some	Most	12-15 yrs	Light, dormant (February, March)
Apricot	Upright, spreading	Modified leader, open	Some	Most	3-4 yrs	Heavy, late winter, early spring (March, April, May)
Cherry, Sour	Spreading	Modified leader	Some	Most	10-12 yrs	Very light, dormant (February, March)
Cherry, Sweet	Upright	Modified leader	Some	Most	10-12 yrs	Very light, dormant (February, March)
Nectarine	Spreading	Open center	Most	Few	_____	Very heavy, early spring (April, May)
Peach	Spreading	Open center	Most	Few	_____	Very heavy, early spring (April, May)
Pear	Upright	Leader	Some	Most	10-12 yrs	Very light, dormant (February, March)

Plum, European	Various	Modified leader	Some	Most	6-8 yrs	Light thinning, dormant (March)
Plum, Japanese	Various	Open or delayed open	Some	Most	6-8 yrs	Heavy thinning, dormant (March)
Quince	Shrubby	Open or delayed open	All	_____	_____	Light thinning, dormant (March)

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