



BERRIES, ORCHARDS, AND TREE FRUITS

LAND PREPARATION AND PLANTING

- Fruit trees and berries are normally planted at the end of fall, when the trees and vines are already dormant.
- Workers may start to prepare the soil for planting trees/vines in the late summer or early fall.
- Workers may start staking trees/vines when they are planted in the fall, or when they start to grow taller in the spring.
- Trees and vines are normally fertilized in the spring.



LAND PREPARATION AND PLANTING

Qualifying Activities May Include:

- Preparing soil for fruit trees/vines
- Planting fruit trees/vines
- Grafting fruit trees/vines
- Staking fruit trees/vines
- Fertilizing fruit trees/vines



Apple



Peach



Lemon



Orange



Plum



Cherry



APPLYING PESTICIDES

- Almost all orchards, even organic farms, will spray their trees/vines to prevent pests from damaging their crop.
- Organic farms may spray in the early spring, before the trees begin their annual growth.
- Conventional farms may spray throughout the season.

APPLYING PESTICIDES

Qualifying activities
may include:

- Spraying fruit trees/vines
- Applying pesticides to tree fruits/vines

THINNING FRUIT

As fruit begin to grow in the spring and summer, workers will need to remove or thin out some of the small fruits to allow others room to grow bigger.

Qualifying Activities May Include:

- Thinning fruits



PRUNING TREES/VINES

Fruit trees need to be pruned each year to remove excess branches and prevent crowding. Pruning allows trees to grow fruit every year.

Qualifying Activities May Include:

- Pruning trees/vines
- Trimming trees/vines



HARVESTING

The Harvest of orchard fruits can vary between states. Check with your State Department of Agriculture to know when crops are grown in your state. Tree fruits are often harvested between June and late October.

- **Qualifying Activities May Include:**
 - Picking fruit
 - Sorting fruit
 - Cleaning fruit
 - Packing fruit



NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR ORCHARDS AND TREE FRUITS

[National Berry Crops Initiative](#)

[National Clean Plant Network](#)

[New England Vegetable & Berry Growers Association](#)

[North American Raspberry and Blackberry Association](#)

[State Apple Associations](#)

[Food Northwest](#)

[National Peach Council](#)

[U.S. Apple Association](#)

Google

fruit associations



USE GOOGLE TO FIND YOUR LOCAL FRUIT GROWERS ASSOCIATIONS AND THEN CONTACT THEM TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN WORK TOGETHER!



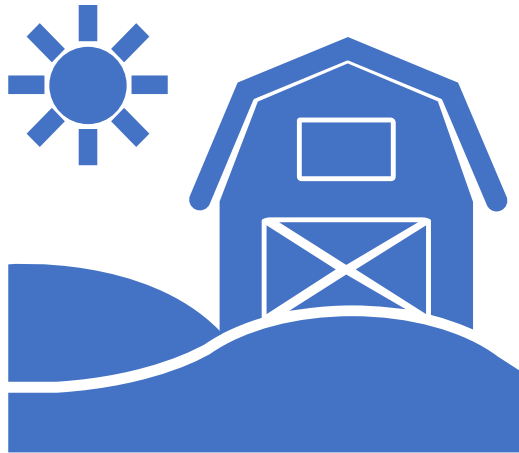
Orange



Plum



Cherry



TIPS FOR REACHING OUT TO GROWER'S ASSOCIATIONS

- Ask growers associations for ideas on how to work with farmers in their organizations.
- Ask them if there are meetings you can attend that you might be able to network with farmers.
- Ask for their suggestions on how you can work best with their associations to find eligible families and youth.
- Get the word out to their associations on the types of services you offer.