

November 30, 2015

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Environmental Horticulture/Environmental Science
(661) 868-6220**PRUNING DEMONSTRATION FOR DECIDUOUS FRUIT TREES**

We invite all interested to come to our annual fruit tree pruning demonstrations, this year held Monday, December 14, and Tuesday, Dec. 15, at the orchard of the UCCE office, 1031 S. Mt. Vernon Ave., Bakersfield. The demonstration will begin at 12:00 noon each day, led by Mario Viveros of the University of California Cooperative Extension. Trees include apple, apricot, cherry, and almond, and Mario will also show how to prune grapevines.

The beneficial climate of Kern County allows residential planting of many deciduous fruit tree species. Unlike shade trees, deciduous fruit trees should be pruned every year before bud swell for optimum growth and yield. Pruning need not be complicated, but fruit trees are less forgiving than most shade tree species, and if pruned incorrectly the yield of fruit will be reduced or eliminated, and the life of the tree will be shortened. Pruning diagrams or photographs in books or on the Internet may be helpful, but seeing pruning in three dimensions and being able to ask questions are advantages for those who attend one of the demonstrations.

To reach the UCCE office and orchard, take Highway 58 and exit at Mt. Vernon, then proceed south for about 3/4 mile. Publications on pruning, fertilizer for fruit trees, and fruit tree varieties for the valley portion of Kern County will be available. There is no charge for attendance, nor is pre-registration required.



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