

**Bugs and Blights**  
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**Fruit drop** occurred later this year. Trees abort fruit that will not produce offspring. To confirm, cut into the seed area. On apples there will only be a little flake where a plump seed should be. Lack of pollination (symptom: fruit drop) has a number of causes including lack of bees to move pollen (no bees or too cold to fly), lack of a pollinizer (some plants need cross pollination from another cultivar), temperatures too cold for the pollen tube to grow among others.



The [PNW Insect Management Handbook](#) provides a bit more detail on the insect biology and life cycles, scouting, and references to other information, plus separate pesticide recommendations for homeowners and commercial. Products are listed by the common name of the pesticides registered for each pest. (A hardcopy can be purchased at <http://pubs.wsu.edu>. Type the title in the browser to access the on-line versions. (There is also an Oregon version of Hortsense and both WA and OR have links to Pestsense). I will be referring to these in future columns.