

# Backyard Fruit Trees & Pest Management

## Michael R. Bush, Ph.D.

Washington State is the “fruit basket” of the United States as many areas of the state have the perfect climate to produce apples, cherries, pears and other fruit trees. Dr. Bush is a firm proponent of the “Bonsai Fruit Tree Approach” to backyard trees. Shorter trees will take up less space in the backyard, reduce reliance ladder work and allow homeowners to adopt more effective *and legal* pest management strategies. Fruit trees have some serious pest problems including apple maggot, codling moth, cherry fruit fly, apple scab, and birds that directly impact home fruit quality. Bush will present several management strategies of **I**ntegrated **P**est **M**anagement including scouting/monitoring, cultural control, physical/mechanical control, plant breeding and chemical control. Bush will also recruit MG volunteers to help him in his new role in detecting exotic and invasive pest species in Washington State.

### ***Authored publications:***

- Bush, M. R. T. A. Murray, D. Pehling, D. Whaley, R. Zack, & S. Collman. 2018. Common Spiders of Washington. EM113E. WSU Extension Publishing, Pullman, WA Pages—15.  
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- Chalker-Scot & M. R. Bush. 2017. Lady Beetles: Should We Buy Them for Our Gardens? FS268E. WSU Extension Publishing, Pullman, WA Pages—6.  
<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/FS268E/FS268E.pdf>
- Brun, C. A. & M. R. Bush. 2016. Pest Management Guide for Apples in Washington Home Orchards. EM101E. WSU Extension Publishing, Pullman, WA. Pages- 21.  
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- Bush, M. R. & M. C. Ophardt. 2014. The Western Cherry Fruit Fly and Your Backyard Cherry Tree. FS125E. WSU Extension Publishing, Pullman, WA. Pages- 4.  
<https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/western-cherry-fruit-fly-and-your-backyard-cherry-tree>
- Brun, C & M. R. Bush. 2013. Organic Pest Management in Backyard Fruit Trees and Berry Patches Extension Manual 066E. WSU Extension Publishing, Pullman, WA. Pages- 29.  
<https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/organic-pest-management-in-backyard-fruit-trees-and-berry-patches>
- Bush, M. R. & M. Ophardt. 2013. Codling Moth and Your Backyard Fruit Tree. WSU Extension FS120E. WSU Extension Publishing, Pullman, WA. Pages- 4.  
<https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/codling-moth-and-your-backyard-fruit-tree>

### ***Recommended Websites:***

- Hollingsworth, C.S., editor. 2020. *Pacific Northwest Insect Management Handbook [online]*. Corvallis, OR: Oregon State University. <http://pnwhandbooks.org/insect>
- Hortsense: *Home Gardener Fact Sheets for Managing Plant Problems with Integrated Pest Management*. Washington State University. <http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Home/HortsenseHome.aspx>
- WSU Garden Extension Team Webpage- <http://gardening.wsu.edu/fruits/>
- Washington State Department of Agriculture: *Inside Agriculture*. <http://agrapoly01/wসাda/pp/pest/>

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