





SUGGESTED ORGANIC SPRAY SCHEDULE FOR HOME GARDEN PLUMS AND PRUNES

| Growth Stage | Description | Target Information | Chemical Sprays | Important |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Dormant/ Delayed Dormant | Before buds swell/ In late winter just as buds begin to show first green. | Coryneum blight (shot hole), bacterial canker and leaf curl. ➤ When daytime temperatures reach 40-45 F. | ➤ Copper-based fungicide (Ex. Concern® Copper Soap Fungicide Ready to Use); Sulfur (Ex. Lilly Miller Sulfur Dust); Bordeaux Mix | An important stage for pest control. <i>Finish spraying by noon to insure good dry time.</i> |
| | | Overwintering scales, aphids, mites and peach twig borer ➤ When daytime temperature is between 45 – 55 F, with no frost forecast overnight. | ➤ Superior type petroleum horticultural oils. Dormant horticultural oils (Ex. Brands Bonide, Ortho, Ferti-lome, Gordons's, etc.) | |
| Pre bloom  | Buds show color, but before flower opens. | Hatching insect pests: ➤ Aphid | ➤ Insecticidal soap (Ex. Concern Insect Killing Soap Conc) ➤ Larvae of green lacewing, lady beetle and other beneficial insects | Plant bugs and stink bugs feed on swelling fruit and leaf buds causing buds to dry up. Repeat spray applications may be necessary in warm weather. See spray timing on label. |
| | | ➤ Leaf bugs & stink bugs | ➤ Hand pick and destroy ➤ Eliminate weeds serving as protection & early season food source for insect. | |
| | | ➤ Scale | ➤ Insecticidal soap – Crawler stage only (Ex. Concern Insect Killing Soap Conc) ➤ Larvae of green lacewing, lady beetle and other beneficial insects | |
| | | ➤ Peach twig borer | ➤ Spinosad (Ex. Bull's-Eye Bioinsecticide) | |
| | | ➤ Shot hole (Coryneum blight) ➤ Brown rot ➤ Powdery mildew | ➤ Sulfur (Ex. Lilly Miller Sulfur Dust., Safer Brand Garden Fungicide/Flowers, Fruit & Vegetables Conc, ferti-lome Dusting Sulfur) | |
| | | ➤ Caterpillars: Leaf rollers | Spinosad (Ex. ferti-lome Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar & Leafminer Spray) | |
| Bloom | Flowers are open | Avoid pesticide application during bloom to protect bees. | | |

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| Petal Fall or Shuck  | Just as dead flowers fall away from young fruit. | Fungal problems: ➤ Brown rot, powdery mildew, Coryneum blight | ➤ See 'Pre bloom' above | An important time for managing pest problems. <i>Make sure spray covers top and bottom of leaves.</i> |
| Insect pest problems: ➤ Aphid, plant bugs, stink bugs | ➤ See 'Pre bloom' above | | | |
| Feeding caterpillars: ➤ Peach twig borer, leaf roller | ➤ See 'Pre bloom' above | | | |
| Summer | Warm weather | Peachtree borer – major pest ➤ Alternative control for Peach tree borer: Wrap trunk with spun polyester garden blanket, burying the bottom edge at least 4 inches into soil. | ➤ If larvae found, dig out with pocket knife | Peachtree Borer can kill peach and other stone fruit trees. * New Summer Pest! |
| Fall | Prevention of coryneum blight (shothole), bacterial canker and peach leaf curl. ➤ Prior to rainy weather, usually October, apply copper or sulfur based fungicide as suggested in “Dormant” section. | | | |
| Additional Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ CAUTION – Read this guide carefully. Read the product label directions carefully. Read and follow all label directions for responsible use of any pesticide. ◆ Aphids – Seldom build up to damaging levels in home garden fruit trees. Wash them off with a stream of water from the hose, you rarely have to spray. ◆ Pesticide resistance – Vary products during the season and in following seasons to minimize pest resistance. ◆ Too much fruit to handle – <i>Cut down tree and purchase quality fruit for use. Help commercial orchards by maintaining good care and pest management practices for your desired fruit trees!!!</i> ◆ Further information – Contact WSU Chelan County Extension at (509) 667-6540 or our website at http://county.wsu.edu/chelan-douglas/GARDENING/MG/Pages/default.aspx ◆ Trade name disclaimer – Use of trade names are for example purposes only. No endorsement is intended. Other appropriately labeled products containing similar active ingredients should provide similar levels of control. | | | |

Compiled by Paula Dinius, Urban Horticulturist, WSU Chelan County Extension. Revised 06/2013.

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