Introduction

I was fortunate to complete my internship with Campbell Orchards, owned by Craig Campbell, an independent grower in the small town of Tieton Washington. The crops consist of Apples, Cherries, Pears and Apricots. While at Campbell Orchards I was performing the fertigation procedures, trapping and controlled the automatic irrigation systems.

Responsibilities

Automatic Irrigation Systems

- Automatic Irrigation Systems are used to maintain a consistent time for irrigation services. To make sure the fields are being irrigated the same time without the labor of someone turning on valves or shutting them manually.
- Help the person in charge of the irrigation, controls the water for the crops.

Fertigation

- Fertigation is done through the irrigation systems. Its mainly to add liquid fertilizer into the water and to the soil via the drip line. In the images theirs the tank with the liquid fertilizer and the injecting process.
- inject approximate 5gal/acre depending on the stage of the trees.
- Companies that sell liquid fertilizers: Husch and Husch, Simplot

Trapping

- Trapping is used to trap different kinds of insects that are manipulating and injuring the fruit. What was being trapped in the picture was mainly the Codling Moth. Its a type of moth that punctures the apples at the beginning of the process then later goes back and lays the eggs. Finally when the fruit is getting ripped, the moth turns into a worm and infects the apple.
- Control the insects, especially the Codling Moths

Summary

- The experience I got from working with Campbell orchards will help me in my professional growth because working in a company with a different environment than others and seeing how professional everyone else is, enlightens me with new ideas and opens my mind. Working with the irrigation systems and managing the liquid fertilizers when the fertigation process was being done encouraged me to continue working in those fields. I learned how to control the automatic irrigation system, this opens doors for the future because now I’m experienced in the new technology arising in the agriculture world.
- Overall my experience as an intern at Campbell orchards was very good, and I’m looking forward to returning the following summer.
- I also learned how to become experienced in the business by knowing the economic part of it.
- Another learning experience was to be able to be in charge of different crews throughout the cherry season and apricot harvest.