**Introduction**

The WSU Tukey orchard is located at Washington State University and is used for ongoing research projects, learning center for students along with selling fruit to the public when surplus fruit is available. The orchard is home to a wide variety of apples including some of the most notable varieties such as Golden Delicious to more uncommon varieties such as Stark Splendor. Cherries, pears, apricots, peaches and plums are also some notable fruit commodities that are grown at Tukey.

**Tasks Performed**

Many of the assignments that I was given centered around general orchard related jobs which included:

- harvesting apples and pears,
- learning how to prune
- measuring the starch content of apples to test for maturity
- sharpening loppers
- learning various other jobs were part of this internship experience as well.

There was also the opportunity to:

- learn about the irrigation system that is used in the orchard
- pests and diseases that affect the orchard
- Setting up orchard fruit sale

**Summary**

Having gone through this internship I feel like I have increased my level of understanding on the different aspects that are needed to run a successful orchard. My previous knowledge that I had gained from working in orchards in the past was greatly increased as I now know the reasons behind many of the decisions that are made on a day to day basis for operating an orchard. The skills that I have gained from this internship opportunity will allow me to be competent in my future career as a horticulturist in the Washington tree fruit industry.