School Orchard
Internship overview
Jack Cawood, Spring 2022, Spillman farm horticulture center

Operation Overview
Spillman farm is split into two sites. The old site by the bear research center which consists of established fruit trees mostly being apples/pears. And new site which doesn’t have much established yet but has had the vast majority of it’s space filled with new plantings very recently. This plantings consist of pears, cherries, plums, several types of berries and more. The idea behind this new site it to give students interested in Agriculture a large variety of experience they can use to further their careers in the future

Main Section

This picture shows the tree planting that occurred during the end of April with volunteer help. I planted many of these trees and berry plants myself during this volunteer day and in the weeks before and after this planting either by myself or with the other fieldworkers.

The majority of the time during my internship was spent pruning. This picture shows the fuji block I helped prune but I also worked in golden/red delicious blocks. Each fruit type has different quirks that must be worked around. For example, the goldens were very vigorous and needed to but cut back while some of the red delicious were more spur heavy.

I was also responsible for many miscellaneous tasks such as cleaning up brush, doing tractor repair/maintenance, or harvesting grating material. If I was at the old site, all the necessary tools for these tasks could be collected at this tool shed that is referred to as the “Bunker”.

Summary
I believe this experience will provide great benefit to my professional growth. As this internship helped me learn a lot and gave me many new experiences. I learned to work with many differing types of crops and systems as well as help improve my communication skills and work ethic.