

WTFRC Project: AH-03-316

Project Title: Picking Aid for Fresh Market Quality Apples and Pears

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

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Final Quarterly report

Objectives: The objective is to develop a picking aid for fresh market quality apples and pears, grown on narrow inclined trellises that would maintain hand picked fruit quality, improve picker productivity, and permit in-field sorting so that only premium fruits are placed in the bins.

Progress:

The harvest aid has been modified for pruning and hand thinning operations. Dana Faubion is leading this phase of the research. Our efforts for 2005 will concentrate on developing a dry bin filler that does not cause any damage and has sufficient capacity to be of value on both harvesting equipment and in the packing shed.