



2019 Apple Horticulture and Postharvest Research Priorities

The following areas have been identified by the WTFRC Apple Horticulture and Postharvest committee as the highest priorities for research needs in 2019. Note that the list within priorities categories are in alphabetical order and do not necessarily reflect highest priority within each category.

Production

High Priority:

- Environmental stress and water relationships
- Fire blight control with alternatives to antibiotics
- Fruit pathogen management
- Labor, alternatives to labor and mechanization
- Organic systems (including: managing organic soils and tree fruit production)
- Soil and rhizosphere ecology
- WA 38 (*COSMIC CRISP*[®]): achieving sustainable production and consistent fruit quality

Medium Priority:

- Crop load management
- Systems approach for controlling bitter pit and calcium related disorders
- Orchard infrastructure engineering

Postharvest

High Priority:

- Fruit pathogen management
- Organic fruit storage (in conjunction with production and maturity management)
- WA 38 (*COSMIC CRISP*[®])

Medium Priority:

- Systems approach for controlling bitter pit and calcium related disorders

Food Safety

High Priority:

- Holistic approach to food safety and sanitation
- Organic systems
- WA 38 (*COSMIC CRISP*[®])

Breeding/Genetics/Genomics

Medium Priority:

- Improved scion and rootstock genetics