Fruit Calendar for Yavapai County
(Fruit Trees, Brambles, Grapes)

January
- Start planting berry vines in lower elevations; continue through March

February
- Clean and repair drip irrigation systems
- Prune deciduous fruit trees, grapes, and brambles
- Plant bare root trees (February and March are the best months, but anytime during the dormant season, fall to bud-break, is OK)
- Plant berry vines

March
- Check water basins - they should extend out to the drip line
- Finish pruning deciduous fruit trees and grape vines
- Apply dormant oil before leaf emergence to help manage scale insects, aphids, and mites
- If needed, apply lime sulfur spray (except to apricot trees) before dormant oil sprays
- Plant deciduous fruit trees and berry vines

April
- Begin deep watering fruit trees (2 to 3 feet for mature trees)
- Fertilize deciduous fruit trees when they leaf out. Apples and pears: 0.1 lb N per inch of trunk diameter; apricot, cherry, peach, nectarine and plum: 0.05 lb N per inch of trunk diameter.

  Example: apple tree with 2 inch diameter trunk needs .2 lbs Nitrogen. Ammonium phosphate (16-20-0) contains 16% actual N, i.e. there are 16 lbs of actual N in 100 lbs of fertilizer. 0.2 \( \div 0.16 = 1.25 \) lbs. Apply 1.25 lbs of ammonium phosphate to supply 0.2 lbs of actual N.

- Add mulch to conserve water (keep mulch away from tree trunk)
- Protect trees from late frost
- Watch for first generation of coddling moths now through May

May
- Continue to watch for coddling moths

June
- Thin deciduous fruit to approximately 6 inches apart when fruit becomes about the size of the tip of your finger
July

- Adjust automatic irrigation controllers to compensate for monsoonal moisture
- Monitor ripening fruit for bird damage; cover smaller trees with bird netting to minimize losses from pecking birds
- Monitor ripening fruit for June beetle damage

*June beetles can be trapped using apple juice and small quantities of yeast placed in one gallon milk jug traps. Use two milk jugs to make each trap: one cut in half to create a funnel, one left whole to trap beetles. Tape them together with duct tape at the opening and hang one in each tree.*

- Watch for second generation of coddling moths in mid-month
- Watch for peach tree borers now through September
- Harvest fruit

August

- Continue deep watering if monsoonal moisture is inadequate
- Watch for third generation of coddling moths in mid-month
- Keep basins weed-free
- Harvest fruit

September

- Continue regular watering as long as leaves are green
- Lightly fertilize deciduous fruit trees following harvest and before they enter dormancy
- Plant containerized trees now through October

October

- After fruit harvest, continue periodic irrigation until tree leaves drop

November

- Water periodically (every 6 to 8 weeks) during winter if no rain or snow (dry roots die)
- Apply dormant oil spray to deciduous fruit trees to control overwintering pests
- Remove fallen leaves that may contain insects or diseases

December

- After fruit harvest, continue periodic irrigation until tree leaves drop

Related bulletins:
- Backyard Fruit Production at Elevations 3500 to 6000 Feet, AZ1162
- Backyard Cane Fruit Production at Elevations 4000 to 6000 Feet, Yavapai County Bulletin #7
- Common Fruit Tree Pests, Yavapai County Bulletin #13
- Coddling Moth, Yavapai County Bulletin #10

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http://extension.arizona.edu/yavapai
Replaces Fertilizing Fruit Trees, Bulletin #19

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