

thinned out in March or April. The object is to form a framework that is pleasing to the eye, and at the same time will carry a maximum load of fruit without damage when the tree comes into bearing.

SUMMER PRUNING: The trees are well thinned out in August and cut back only enough to keep the tree within bounds, which usually involves simply pinching out the terminal buds from the higher branches. The object is as much as possible to admit a maximum of sunlight and air to develop as many fruit buds and fruit spurs as possible, but at the same time not to sacrifice the shape of the tree any more than is necessary. Early bearing is the object in view.

LITTLE OR NO PRUNING: These trees receive no pruning whatever except that a few cross and broken or otherwise injured limbs are removed. They are left as much alone as is conveniently possible.

Careful records are made of the size and vigor of the trees, blossoming dates, number of fruit spurs and fruit set, quantity of fruit harvested, and comparative size, color and keeping quality of the fruit.

RESULTS—

Table 1: Summary of Fruit Produced 1916. Pruning Experiment Section 7.

Method.	No. of Trees	Total Weight of Fruit	Total Number of Fruits	Ave. Wt. of Individual Fruits
Unpruned.....	207	3,200	14,416	.2261
Winter Pruned.....	228	227	781	.2906
Summer Pruned.....	206	1,820	7,169	.2538

As will be readily seen from a careful study of the above tables, the results to date are very uniform throughout. The summer pruned and unpruned trees were loaded with fine marketable fruit both in 1915 and 1916, while the winter pruned trees, with the exception of two or three

of the filler varieties, have borne practically no fruit. (In 1915, the winter pruned trees bore no fruit, the summer pruned trees 127.7 lbs., and the unpruned trees 209.4 lbs.) There appears to be no doubt that summer pruning, will bring the young orchard into profitable bearing much quicker than the plan usually followed of heading back severely each year. The unpruned trees, of course, have given similar results, but due to this lack of pruning the trees are not in as good condition for future bearing. They are more straggly, and have too many branches, thus not allowing of as free a circulation of air, or as much sunlight as is desirable for the control of insect pests and diseases and the production of the best quality of fruit.

Table 2: Average Diameter in Inches of Trunks of Two Standard and Two Filler Varieties:

Variety	Unpruned.	Winter Pruned.	Summer Pruned.
Wealthy.....	2.267	1.967	2.130
Duchess.....	2.063	1.703	1.942
Baldwin.....	2.369	2.062	2.337
Greening.....	2.489	2.032	2.393

The evidence presented in Table 2 is fully as marked as in the previous table, and is again strongly in favor of the Unpruned and Summer pruned trees. It is of interest also to note that the difference between Unpruned and Summer pruned is quite marked in the case of the earlier bearing, smaller growing varieties, Wealthy and Duchess, while in the case of the later bearing, larger growing varieties, Baldwin and Greening, it is comparatively small.

The differences in the average diameter of the trunks in the three systems of pruning is, of course, correlated with differences in the general size and vigor of the trees. The Unpruned and Sum-