

Pruning Tour and Production Workshop

Thursday March 20, 2008

All day

On March 20, 2008 the Production Committee of the NSFGA has the pleasure of hosting Dr. Rich Marini, Department Head and Professor of Horticulture at Pennsylvania State University, and a noted tree fruit horticulturalist. We will be holding meetings at a number of commercial orchards during the day to discuss pruning and tree training, with a stop at the NC-140 rootstock plantings at the Kentville Agricultural Center. We will have an evening session at the Woodville Community Center where Dr. Marini will be making a presentation on pruning high-density orchards. Charlie Embree will also be speaking on the NC-140 rootstock trials around North America, and Larry Lutz will show some slides comparing the NC-140 rootstock plantings in Nova Scotia to those in California. Dr. Marini is a very dynamic speaker who has carried out a lot of pertinent research on pruning apple and peach trees. The tour and talks will be well worth attending!

Tour Stops

1. **8:30 am- Geoff Hennigar's** – Meet at Peach Pit Farm Market. We will look at peach trees of various ages, and discuss training systems, canopy management, and dealing with mature trees.
2. **10:00 am- Birchleigh Farms** – Meet at block on Buchanan Road, approximately 1 mile south of the #1 Highway. We will be discussing training and canopy management of Honeycrisp on a variety of rootstocks.
3. **11:00 am- Lloyd and Barb Dyck** - meet at the farmyard just off the Bent Road in Waterville. We will be looking at the training of young Honeycrisp on CG-30, discussing the effects of Apogee on Royalcourt, and possibly looking at some pears on trellis if time permits.
4. **12:00 - Lunch on your own.**
5. **1:00 pm- Kentville Research Center** – Meet at the parking lot in front of the Farm Services Garage – We will be looking at the NC-140 comparative rootstock trials, which have been established at the station for a number of years. This will be a very interesting stop where growers will have the chance to view first hand the new and upcoming rootstocks that are being commercialized.
6. **2:30 pm- Canard Orchards, Gerry VanOostrum** – Meet across the road from Gerry's house in Lower Canard. We will be looking at some close plantings of Honeycrisp and Golden Delicious, and possibly older plantings of Jonagold and McIntosh if time permits.

Evening Session

7:00 pm Woodville Community Center

There will be presentations by Dr. Marini, Charlie Embree and Larry Lutz. There will not be a meal served this year.