

R. B. Tukey Orchard

Pullman, WA

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Tukey Orchard is a research and learning orchard for students of WSU Pullman. The orchard is in place for members of WSU to do research, teaching or extension work. The surplus produce which is not used for those purposes is then sold to the general public. There are 83 different varieties of apples at the orchard, as well as 11 varieties of pears and many more varieties of stone fruits that are available in the summer. There are about 3 acres of trees in production. There are typically fruit sales every Friday and Saturday, except during the off-season when the sales are only on Fridays.

Bottom photo: Fruit sale. Many different varieties are available for sale, depending on the season. The fruit in bins is available in larger quantities and contains more popular varieties such as D'Anjou pears, MacIntosh apples and Red Delicious apples. The fruit in white bins tends to be heirloom varieties in much smaller quantities such as Black Jon and Gravenstein.



Right photo: Members of the community bring their families to the U-Pick operation and pick Golden Delicious and Red Delicious Apples. **Bottom photo:** Fuji trees in October after being picked. The fruit was being picked to be stored for the WSU bears to eat in the spring.



Generally, my duties involved work on the orchard. I was heavily involved with picking apples as well as the fruit sale and the U-Pick sale. I also had the opportunity to work in Dr. Peace's cider block in order to prune some of the more unruly trees. I was able to work closely with Deb Pehrson and ask her many questions about the operation. Towards the end of the semester I had to chance to start pruning pear varieties, such as those shown in the picture at the top of the page.

