

LC 443

WHY NOT TO GROW APRICOTS IN WESTERN OREGON

The apricot thrives in a dry, warm climate. It blooms very early (February to March), even before the peach. Warm, dry weather following bloom is required for apricot fruit set. Even if the diseases which infest apricots are successfully controlled and even if the blossoms are protected from frost, the weather during and after apricot bloom in Western Oregon is usually too cool for fruit set. Because it is also too cool for the seeds to develop, the fruit falls before reaching maturity. Some varieties of apricot, Earliril, Riland and Perfection, require another variety for pollination. Royal tends to bear only every other year. Apricots are highly susceptible to peach leaf curl, brown rot, bacterial canker and coryneum blight which are associated with wet weather.

Many sprays to control diseases in fruit trees contain sulfur. Apricots are sensitive to and damaged by sulfur. Fungicides available to control their many disease problems are copper, ceptan, benomyl, and Daconil.

by Duane Hatch
rewritten by Ross Penhallegon, 4/99

G:/LCEPUBS

Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials--without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, and disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran status--as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.