Pruning Dwarf Fruit and Nut Trees

Can youth do this job safely?

Youth must be able to do/have all of the following to perform this job safely:

- Avoid loose clothing, clothes with strings, tie up long hair
- Climb safely, using proper climbing technique
- Mature enough to consistently do what is expected
- Think through actions and consequences before acting
- Attention span long enough to complete work
- Physical stamina to perform job for 50 minutes
- Safely demonstrate job 4-5 times
- Maintain two-way communication link
- Wash hands when job is finished



Adult Responsibilities

- Comply with the working outdoors guideline
- Provide safe transport to the work area
- Ensure re-entry standards are followed
- Confirm youth is free of insect allergies or has remedy available
- Ensure work area is free from as many hazards as possible
- Educate youth on avoiding/addressing remaining hazards
- Ensure cutting tools are properly sized for youth
- Provide appropriate training on the safe use of cutting tools
- Demonstrate how to safely prune fruit and nut trees

Supervision

If climbing a ladder:

12-13 yrs	Constant supervision
14-15 yrs	Constant supervision progressing to intermittent
16+ yrs	Intermittent supervision progressing to periodic

Working from the ground:

12-13 yrs	Constant supervision progressing to intermittent
14-15 yrs	Intermittent supervision progressing to periodic
16+ yrs	Periodic supervision

Hazards



Slippery/ uneven surfaces | Repetitive motion | Chemicals | Sharp edges | Height

Protective Strategies



Non-skid shoes | Gloves | Eye protection | Handwashing | Sun protection



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https://doi.org/10.21636/nfmc.nccrahs.youthwork.pruningfruittrees.g.2018