Walnut Pruning

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This walnut pruning experiment began with summer pruning in June of 1975. Ashley walnuts are planted at 15' x 15' and are six years old. Several pruning methods will be tried: 1. Winter pruning only by the modified central leader system; 2. Winter pruning followed by summer pruning; 3. Summer pruning only.

Evaluations will be made of growth rate, adaptation to close spacing, and yield.

Selective Limb Pruning

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A selective pruning trial was established in the winter of 1975 in a 15-year-old Hartley block planted 30' x 30'. The purpose of this pruning trial is to determine what effect selective pruning would have upon yield as compared to yields from non-pruned trees.

Each plot consists of 30 trees (10 trees long and three trees wide). There are two treatments (pruned vs. non-pruned) replicated nine times in a randomized complete block design.

Trees were shaken and the dry weight yield was obtained from each plot in October, 1975. Tonnage was less in the pruned rows as compared with the non-pruned rows.

More selective pruning will be done again in the winter of 1975-76 on the rows pruned in 1975. The experiment will be continued for a 5-year period to determine the long-term effect of selective pruning vs. non-pruning upon yields of close-planted Hartley trees.