# Assessing Your Orchard Renewal Strategies?

Clark F. Seavert Professor Oregon State University INDIRECT COSTS OVERHEADS DERSONNEL CAPITAL

# Capital Investment Analysis

### Profitability

Can I make money doing this?

- Net Present Value
- Internal Rates of Return
- Payback Period

# **PENNSYLVANIA 2012-2013 REE FRUIT** PRODUCTION GUIDE

#### TREE FRUIT PRODUCTION BUDGETS

This section presents sample tree fruit budgets based on projected costs, technology, and management for the 2012 crop year.\* Enterprise budgets represent estimates of the costs and returns associated with the production of specified agricultural products. The information contained in enterprise budgets can be used by agricultural producers, extension specialists, researchers, financial institutions, governmental agencies, and others for making decisions in the food and fiber industry. Budgets are used:

- · for farm planning and enterprise evaluation
- · as a basis for extending credit
- · to complete cash flow projections
- · to provide basic data for economic research
- to inform nonfarmers of the costs incurred in producing food and fiber crops<sup>†</sup>

The sample budgets were developed using a computerized budget generator. Input data reflect current production practices and prices. Major subheadings in the budgets are receipts, variable costs, fixed costs, and total specified costs. They are defined as follows:

- Receipts are the gross returns (price times quantity) from production. For tree fruit, receipts may be zero for several years. Because yields, grades, and prices are so variable, you should use representative values for your operation.
- Variable costs are costs that vary depending on the level of production for such inputs as fertilizer, herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and labor.
- Fixed costs are costs that do not vary by level of production and are incurred by virtue of owning assets such as machinery and land. Depreciation, insurance, and taxes are examples of fixed costs.

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### Table 9-3. Fresh-market apple production budgets, 908 trees per acre, with and without mating disruption, Pennsylvania, 2012. Summary of estimated costs per acre.

			Without mating disruption		With mating d		
Item	Unit	Unit Price (\$)	Quantity	Amount (\$)	Quantity	Amount (\$)	Your estimate*
RECEIPTS	bushel						
VARIABLE COSTS							
Lime	ton	26.70	0.50	13.35	0.50	13.35	
Fertilizer							
N	pound	0.25	20.00	5.00	20.00	5.00	
P	pound	0.38	30.00	11.40	30.00	11.40	
к	pound	0.32	30.00	9.60	30.00	9.60	
Urea (spray additive)	pound	0.25	2.50	0.63	2.50	0.63	
Solubor	pound	1.88	6.00	11.28	6.00	11.28	
Calcium chloride	pound	0.44	50.00	22.00	50.00	22.00	
Herbicides	12-11-11-1						
2,4-D amine	gallon	14.82	0.23	3.47	0.23	3.47	
Gramoxone Inteon	gallon	32.83	0.08	2.56	0.08	2.56	
Princep 90DF	pound	5.70	0.75	4.28	0.75	4.28	
Solicam 80DF	pound	27.01	0.75	20.26	0.75	20.26	
Fungicides	**************************************						
Captan 80W	pound	6.99	23.00	160.77	23.00	160.77	
Flint 50WG	ounce	10.79	2.50	26.98	2.50	26.98	
Inspire Super	ounce	1.70	20.00	34.00	20.00	34.00	
Kocide 3000	pound	10.00	7.00	70.00	7.00	70.00	
Penncozeb DF	pound	3.62	15.00	54.30	15.00	54.30	
Streptomycin	pound	11.76	9.00	105.84	9.00	105.84	
Sulfur 90W	pound	0.68	12.00	8.16	12.00	8.16	
Topguard	pound	6.88	26.00	178.88	26.00	178.88	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Pristine 38WG	ounce	3.11	37.00	115.07	37.00	115.07	
Insecticides/Mating Disruption**							
Actara	ounce	3 15			5.00	15 75	



All you need is a little preparation a lot of bricks & mortar

# 3 key Factors to Successful Orchard Renewal:

Price
Yield (When & How Much)
Establishment Costs

#### Comparing Factors of Successful Orchard Renewal when Establishing a H-D Gala Block <u>Based on Assumptions in Study</u>



(1) Eliminate Fumigation (\$750); 20% less trees (1,089 to 871); 20% reduction in cost of trellis system (\$2,050 to \$1,640); 20% reduction in cost of irrigation system (\$2,165 to \$1,732); and pruning & training costs reduced by 20% in years 1 through 10 (less trees)

# Establishing High Density Gala Block Based on Assumptions in Study



# Establishing High Density Gala Block With a 20% Increase in Price from \$250 to \$300/Bin



# Establishing High Density Gala Block <u>PLUS Increasing Yields 20% from 50 to 60 Bins/Ac</u>



### Establishing High Density Gala Block <u>PLUS Producing 35 Bins/Acre in Year 3</u>



# Capital Investment Analysis

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Profitability Can I make money doing this?

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Can I afford to do it with the current resources available? Feasibility

# Whole Farm Analysis

- Cash Flow
- Net Income
- Net Worth



All you need is a little preparation a lot of bricks & mortar



### Examples of what *AgFinance*<sup>™</sup> can do for you!

- Incorporates *AgProfit<sup>TM</sup>* & *AgLease<sup>TM</sup>* files to:
  - Determine the number of acres you can remove and replant to another cropping system without jeopardizing liquidity, solvency & profitability
  - Determine whether the capital investments in technology can be paid from annual cash flows or require a capital loan
  - Show the annual cash flows of individual blocks/crops/fields or livestock enterprises and their contributions to the business
  - Provide 10-years of pro-forma net income statements and balance sheets.





What makes *AgTools*<sup>™</sup> so different from other cost studies or previous computer programs?

- Takes into account the time value of money
- The ability to inflate returns and costs over time
- Generate machine operation costs
- Determines profitability & feasibility
- Determines equitable crop-share and cash rent leases for up to 40-years
- Provides a whole farm analysis with accrual adjustments for inventories & generates 18 financial ratios and performance measures



#### *AgTools*<sup>™</sup> Academy Results









# The Williams Tree Fruit Farm

Block	Variety	Acres	Years of Age	System	Trees/Acre
Α	Gala	15	Mature >20	Free Standing	350
В	Gala	20	Mature 10	Single-wire trellis	550
С	Gala	10	Mature 5	4- wire trellis	800
D	Fuji	20	Mature >20	Free Standing	350
E	Fuji	20	Mature 10	Single-wire trellis	550
F	Fuji	20	Mature 5	4- wire trellis	800
G	Golden Delicious	40	Mature >30	Free Standing	200
Н	Golden Delicious	10	Mature 7	Free Standing	400
۱ <sup>1</sup>	Red Delicious	25	Mature >30	Free Standing	200
J	Red Delicious	25	4	Free Standing	400
К	Honeycrisp	20	1	4-wire trellis	800
L	Peaches	55	Mature >12	Open Center	150
М	Peaches	10	Mature 5	Perpendicular V	300
N	Peaches	7	Mature > 12	Open Center	150
0	Nectarines	3	Mature 5	Perpendicular V	300

<sup>1</sup>All 25 acres of Red Delicious in Block I are leased property at a rate of \$300 per acre.



# Situation: 10-Year Analysis

- Unsustainable Business Model
- <u>45% of orchard blocks</u> generate a positive cash flow in most years
- <u>48% of orchard blocks</u> are currently or soon to be unprofitable
- **Net income declines** over the 10-years
- Net worth declines from \$2.5m to \$650k
- Financial ratios and performance measures run counter to a vibrant business prepared for the future
- Fearful of not having the ability to pass the business to Tim



<b>Financial Informatio</b>	n 01/01,	/2	013
Beginning Cash on Hand		\$	50,000
Other Current Assets		\$	380,000
Market Value of Machinery and Equi	pment	\$	320,000
Market Value of Facilities & Other Im	nprovements	\$	100,000
Market Value of Real Estate		<u>\$2</u>	<u>,062,500</u>
Total Assets		\$2	,912,500
Accounts Payable		\$	50,000
Value of Loans on Intermediate Loar	is \$	75	5,968
Value of Loans on Long-term Assets		<u>\$</u>	204,526
Total Liabilities		\$	430,697
Net Worth		\$2	,461,903



Year	Blk A, Gala >20	YOABIK B, Gala 10 YOA	Blk C, Gala 5 YOA	A BIK D, Fuji > 20 YOA	Blk E, Fuji 10 YOA	Blk F, Fuji 5 YOA
1	\$29,389	\$84,634	\$65,113	\$27,419	\$64,577	\$171,117
2	\$24,592	\$77,402	\$60,909	\$21,613	\$58,067	\$161,480
3	-\$52,366	-\$60,547	-\$27,859	-\$68,393	-\$61,340	-\$51,087
4	\$14,760	\$62,577	\$52,292	\$9,713	\$44,724	\$141,725
5	\$9,631	\$54,845	\$47,798	\$3,506	\$37,765	\$131,423
6	\$4,333	\$46,857	\$43,154	-\$2,907	\$30,575	\$120,778
7	-\$1,143	\$38,600	\$38,355	-\$9,535	\$23,143	\$109,775
8	-\$74,023	-\$78,665	-\$15,051	-\$94,818	-\$90,950	-\$94,013
9	-\$12,594	\$21,336	\$28,320	-\$23,393	\$7,605	\$86,771
10	-\$18,578	\$12,314	\$23,076	-\$30,636	-\$516	\$74,749

/ear	Blk G, G.Del >10 YO/Blk H	G.Del 7 YOABIKI,	R.Del >30 YOA Blk	J, R.Del 4 YOA BI	k K, Hcrisp,	1 YO Blk L, Peach, >12 YOA
1.5.2	A DESCRIPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE					A THREE TO MAN A SELECTION OF THE THREE AND AN ADD

1	-\$21,621	\$2,641	-\$31,910	-\$2,806	-\$275,323	\$84,380
2	-\$34,723	-\$1,298	-\$37,412	\$8,894	-\$41,598	\$79,210
3	-\$183,491	-\$50,625	-\$96,424	-\$95,993	-\$45,126	-\$56,261
4	-\$61,579	-\$9,370	-\$48,681	\$9,552	\$52,606	\$68,613
5	-\$75,586	-\$13,580	-\$54,558	\$705	\$246,727	\$63,087
6	-\$90,058	-\$17,930	-\$60,631	-\$8,435	\$285,692	\$57,377
7	-\$105,015	-\$22,426	-\$66,909	-\$17,882	\$276,268	\$51,475
8	-\$241,788	-\$68,082	-\$121,678	-\$133,115	-\$11,561	-\$83,338
9	-\$136,290	-\$31,826	-\$80,035	-\$37,635	\$216,575	\$39,135
10	-\$152,634	-\$36,739	-\$86,895	-\$47,958	\$206,278	\$32,686



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10	-\$152,634	-\$36,739	-\$86,895	-\$47,958	\$206,278	\$32,686



Year	Blk M, Peach, 5 YO	Blk N, Nect.,>12 YO	Blk O, Nect., 5 YO	A Total	
1	\$33,476	\$10,739	\$10,043	\$251,868	
2	\$32,412	\$10,081	\$9,724	\$429,354	
3	-\$3,480	-\$7,160	-\$1,044	-\$861,196	
4	\$30,232	\$8,733	\$9,069	\$384,966	
5	\$29,094	\$8,029	\$8,728	\$497,616	
6	\$27,919	\$7,302	\$8,376	\$452,402	
7	\$26,705	\$6,551	\$8,011	\$355,974	
8	-\$8,917	-\$10,607	-\$2,675	-\$1,129,280	
9	\$24,166	\$4,981	\$7,250	\$114,366	
10	\$22,839	\$4,160	\$6,852	\$8,997	



Farm/Ranch Gross Income	Farm/Ranch Costs	Annual Net Income
\$2,956,113	\$2,778,344	\$177,769
\$3,013,475	\$2,657,321	\$356,154
\$1,379,950	\$2,313,434	-\$933,484
\$3,262,672	\$2,956,458	\$306.214
\$3,565,505	\$3,145,384	\$420,121
\$3,670,330	\$3,294,805	\$375,525
\$3,670,215	\$3,398,667	\$271,548
\$1,653,808	\$2,867,539	-\$1,213,731
\$3,629,987	\$3,600.014	\$29,973
\$3,629,862	\$3,705,105	-\$75,243
	Farm/Ranch Gross Income \$2,956,113 \$3,013,475 \$1,379,950 \$3,262,672 \$3,565,505 \$3,670,330 \$3,670,215 \$1,653,808 \$3,629,987 \$3,629,862	Farm/Ranch Gross IncomeFarm/Ranch Costs\$2,956,113\$2,778,344\$3,013,475\$2,657,321\$1,379,950\$2,313,434\$3,262,672\$2,956,458\$3,565,505\$3,145,384\$3,670,330\$3,294,805\$3,670,215\$3,398,667\$1,653,808\$2,867,539\$3,629,987\$3,600,014\$3,629,862\$3,705,105



# **Possible Solutions**

- Remove Blocks G, H, I and J after the 2013 harvest and replant in year 4 (2016) to a high-density apple system comparable to the Honeycrisp block.
- Block I is a leased orchard. This option also includes developing an equitable crop-share lease in which the landowner will pay for trees, trellising and irrigation system in the establishment year and Williams Tree Fruit Farm pays the annual production costs.
- Blocks A and D are removed in 6 years (2018) and renovated for three years. A high-density apple system planted in year 10.





	Beginning	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	AgTools **
Assets	32.00 32.0	0					and the second
Current Assets							
Cash balance: Prepaid expenses and supplies: Products on hand or not sold: Invest in growing crops: A ccounts receivable: Other current assets:	\$50,000 \$20,000 \$200,000 \$50,000 \$100,000 \$10,000	\$56,602 \$20,600 \$200,000 \$51,500 \$103,000 \$10,300	\$235,452 \$21,218 \$200,000 \$53,045 \$106,090 \$10,609	-\$849,578 \$21,855 \$200,000 \$54,636 \$109,273 \$10,927	-\$731,595 \$22,510 \$200,000 \$56,275 \$112,551 \$11,255	-\$506,678 \$23,185 \$200,000 \$57,964 \$115,927 \$11,593	
Intermediate Assets:							
Market value of equipment and breeding livestock:	\$320,000	\$307,883	\$294,702	\$340,430	\$326,439	\$311,302	←
Long term Assets:							
Market value of facilities and other improvements: Market value of real estate:	\$100,000 \$2,062,500	\$101,116 \$2,062,500	\$102,123 \$2,062,500	\$102,996 \$2,062,500	\$103,682 \$2,062,500	\$104,243 \$2,062,500	
Total Assets:	\$2,912,500	\$2,913,501	\$3,085,740	\$2,053,038	\$2,163,617	\$2,380,036	←
Liabilities							
Current Liabilities							
A ccrued interest: A ccounts payable and accrued expenses: Principal due over the next 12 months on term liabilities: Value of operating loans:	\$0 \$150,000	\$0 \$154,500 \$49,568 \$0	\$0 \$159,135 \$52,210 \$0	\$0 \$163,909 \$44,803 \$0	\$0 \$168,826 \$56,237 \$0	\$0 3,891 9,348 \$0	
Intermediate Liabilities							
Value of loans on intermediate assets:	\$75,968	\$57,250	\$37,124	\$25,689	\$86,1 <mark>0</mark> 8	\$62,850	
Long Term Liabilities							
Value of loans on long term assets:	\$204,628	\$173,778	\$141,694	\$108,327	\$73,624	\$37, <mark>534</mark>	
Total Liabilities:	\$430,597	\$435,097	\$390,164	\$342,727	\$384,796	\$333,623	←
Net Worth:	\$2,481,903	\$2,478,404	\$2,695,576	\$1,710,311	\$1,778,821	\$2,046,412	<



		Liquidity		Solvency					
	Current	Quick	Working	Debt/Asset	Equity/A	Asset	Debt/Equity		
Year	Ratio	Ratio	Capital (\$)	Ratio	Rati	0	Ratio		
1	2.17	1.19	\$237,934	14.93	85.0	07	17.54		
2	2.96	2.02	\$415,069	12.64	87.3	36	15.08		
3	-2.17	-3.13	-\$661,599	16.69	83.3	31	15.56		
4	-1.46	-2.35	-\$554,067	17.78	82.2	22	22.06		
5	-0.42	-1.28	-\$331,249	14.02	85.9	98	17.44		
6	0.53	-0.35	-\$107,778	10.44	89.5	56	12.58		
7	1.06	0.12	\$11,857	12.86	87.1	14	14.80		
8	-5.26	-6.17	-\$1,381,563	24.36	75.6	54	19.32		
9	-5.73	-6.61	-\$1,537,876	25.65	74.3	35	31.97		
10	-6.63	-7.48	-\$1,806,297 30.49		69.5	51	36.65		
		Profi	tability						
	Rate of	Rate of	Operating						
	Return on	Return on	Profit	Net					
Year	Assets	Equity	Margin	Income					
1	6.59	7.17	6.49	\$177,769					
2	12.25	13.77	12.20	\$356,154					
3	-35.99	-42.37	-67.02	-\$933,484					
4	15.14	17.55	9.78	\$306,214					
5	18.93	21.97	12.06	\$420,121					
6	15.11	16.90	10.41	\$375,525					
7	10.42	11.29	7.73	\$271,548					
8	-58.22	-70.45	-72.78	-\$1,213,731					
9	2.96	3.11	1.05	\$29,973					
10	-6.56	-9.81	-1.92	<mark>-\$</mark> 75,243					
	Rep	ayment Capacity				Asset	0		
Ca	apital Lease an	d				Tumove	r E		
	Term Debt	Capital Debt	Capital Debt		Voar	Datio			
1000	Coverage	Repayment	Repayment		1 cai	Railo			
Year	Ratio	Capacity	Margin		14	404.40			
		Westerney and			1	101.48			
1	1.54	\$97,968	\$30,322		2	100.46			
2	4.26	\$270,957	\$203,310		3	53.71			
3	-19.17	-\$1,024,225	-\$1,081,665		4	154.75			
4	3.14	\$217,166	\$143,984		5	156.94			
5	4.70	\$324,902	\$250,944		6	145.15			
6	5.00	\$273,850	\$214,298		7	134.80			
7	4.22	\$172,210	\$126,667		8	80.00			
8	-32.34	-\$1,318,414	-\$1,363,956		9	282.80			
9	-1.97	-\$80,299	-\$125,842		10	342.06	10		
10	-4.69	-\$191,365	-\$232,131		TO .	042.00			

Asset	Operating	Depreciation	Interest	Net
Tumover	Expense	Expense	Expense	Income from
Ratio	Ratio	Ratio	Ratio	Operations Ratio
101.48	91.81	1.70	0.48	6.01
100.46	86.08	1.72	0.38	11.82
53.71	163.14	3.88	0.63	-67.65
154.75	88.51	1.70	0.40	9.39
156.94	86.34	1.61	0.28	11.78
145.15	87.98	1.61	0.18	10.23
134.80	90.62	1.65	0.33	7.40
80.00	169.00	3.78	0.61	-73.39
282.80	97.18	1.77	0.22	0.83
342.06	100.09	1.83	0.16	-2.07



Initial Purchase Price, Hours of Total and Annual Use, Salvage Value and Operating Costs for DBR Harvester, Trailer, Platform, Self-Steering & Creeper Gear, and Tractor.

Parameters	Harvester <sup>1,2</sup>	Trailer <sup>1,2</sup> Work Platform <sup>1,7</sup>		Self-Steering & Creeper Gear <sup>1</sup>	4-WD 55 Hp Tractor
Purchase Price	\$71,500	\$3,600	\$12,400	\$6,500	\$35,000
Estimated Hours of Life	10,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	15,000
Years of Useful Life	20	25	25	25	15
Estimated Hours of Annual Use <sup>3</sup>	960	960	532	960	1,491
Estimated Hours of Annual Use <sup>4</sup>	489	489	532	489	1,020
Years of Useful Life Based on Farm Use <sup>3</sup>	10	21	38	21	10
Years of Useful Life Based on Farm Use⁴	20	41	38	41	15
Annual Repair Costs (3% of purchase price) <sup>1</sup>	\$2,145	\$108	\$372	\$195	\$2,363
Salvage Value (30% of purchase price) <sup>2</sup>	\$21,450	\$1,080	\$3,720	\$-	\$10,338
Fuel Use per Hour	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4.0
Initial Cost per acre, based on 138 acres	\$518.12	\$26.09	\$89.86	\$47.10	\$253.62
Salvage Value	\$155.43	\$7.83	\$26.96	\$-	\$74.91
Operating Costs (\$/hour):					
Repairs & Maintenance <sup>3</sup>	\$2.23	\$0.11	\$0.69	\$0.12	\$1.58
Repairs & Maintenance <sup>4</sup>	\$4.39	\$0.22	na	\$0.12	\$1.62
Fuel & Lube (\$4/gallon diesel fuel)	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$16.56

<sup>3</sup>DBR Harvester used to harvest all fruit in tree canopy

<sup>4</sup>DBR Harvester used only to harvest fruit in the top one-third of the tree canopy, the lower two-thirds was first harvested from the ground using conventional methods.

# How many DBR harvesters are required to harvest the blocks on the Williams Tree Fruit Farm?

Two harvesters are required to cover the 138 acres within the harvest window under Option 1. The Gala and Fuji apple blocks cannot be harvested within their harvest window. It falls short by 506 total hours.

			Hours Available to Harvest	Acres to Pick	Harvesting All Fruit			
Crop	Start of Harvest	Days to Pick			Hours Required to Harvest	+/- hours	Hours of Annual Use Harvester	
Stone Fruit	4th week of July	28	896	13	173	723	173	
Gala	4th wk Aug	21	672	30	667	5	667	
Honeycrisp	1st wk of Sept	10	320	20	76	244	76	
Reds & Goldens	3rd wk of Sept	21	672	35	150	522	150	
Fuji's	15th of Oct	14	<u>448</u>	<u>40</u>	400	48	<u>400</u>	
Total			3,008	138	1,466		1,466	
Total acres on fa	rm		300					
Percent of acrea	ge machine is use	d on farm	46%					
Machine hours p	er day		16					
Number of Mach	ines		2	J				

Parameters for Williams Tree Fruit Farm to Determine the Hours of Use for the Tractor, DBR Harvester, and Platform.

#### How many DBR harvesters are required to harvest the blocks on the Williams Tree Fruit Farm?

However, under Option 2 (harvesting only the top one-third of the canopy) requires fewer hours which results in one DRB harvester harvesting the 138 acres.

					Harvesting All Fruit			Harvesting Top One-Third of Tree Canopy		
Crop	Start of Harvest	Days to Pick	Hours Available to Harvest	Acres to Pick	Hours Required to Harvest	+/- hours	Hours of Annual Use Harvester	Hours Required to Harvest	+/- hours	Hours of Annual Use Harvester
Stone Fruit	4th week of July	28	448	13	173	275	173	58	390	58
Gala	4th wk Aug	21	336	30	667	-331	336	222	114	222
Honeycrisp	1st wk of Sept	10	160	20	76	84	76	25	135	25
Reds & Goldens Fuji's	3rd wk of Sept 15th of Oct	21 14	336 <u>224</u>	35 40	150 400	186 -176	150 <u>224</u>	50 133	286 91	50 <u>133</u>
Total			1,504	138	1,466		960	489		489
Total acres on farm 3			300							
Percent of acreage machine is used on farm 46%										
Machine hours per day			16							
Number of Machines			1	J						

Parameters for Williams Tree Fruit Farm to Determine the Hours of Use for the Tractor, DBR Harvester, and Platform.

# **Profitability**

# Is the DBR harvester profitable under Option 1 in all study blocks at the Williams Tree Fruit Farm?

NO, Block B using Option 1 (harvesting all the fruit in the canopy) on the Williams Tree Fruit Farm has a net present value of -\$62 per acre over the 10-year analysis than using ladders.



10-year net present value analysis; discount rate 8%

\*\*An existing tractor was used on the farm with an additional 532 hours annually inserted in the costs of that tractor.

### **Profitability**

#### Is Option 1 or Option 2 more profitable?

Depends on the system. The grower should use Option 2 (harvest fruit in the top third of the canopy only) on systems that are less efficient to harvest (Blocks B, Gala apples and Peaches and Nectarines), whereas the more efficient the system the more Option 1 (harvest all the fruit) should be used.



10-year net present value analysis; discount rate 8%

\*DBR Harvester was used only to harvest fruit in the top one-third of the tree canopy.

\*\*An existing tractor was used on the farm with an additional 532 hours annually inserted in the costs of that tractor.

### Feasibility – Net Income

#### Is the DBR harvester feasible for the owner of the Williams Tree Fruit Farm?

Based on net income, yes, the accumulated net incomes are greater than the base operation using ladders, whether the grower decides to pay for the initial cost of the tractor, DBR machine, etc. from annual cash flows or finance the cost over 10-years at 6% interest.





### Minimum Farm Size

What is the minimum farm size that would be able to afford this technology and stay within a reasonable annual net income, liquidity and solvency?

If the composition of orchard systems remained the same as a percentage of the total acreage the following happens:

1. Williams Tree Fruit Farm: a 150-acre tree fruit grower similar to this operation could afford to finance this technology.



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# Questions or Comments?