

Ground Pear Picker Job Description
Final Draft
4/2/2019

Reports to: Lane Coordinator

Minimum Requirements: Must be at least 12 years of age, in good health, be aware of surroundings, able to walk, raise arms above head, and carry a 10-20 pound bucket of pears. No open wounds.

- 1) Sign in and out at the sign in table.
- 2) Wash hands at the cleaning stations
- 3) Find a suitable bucket to wear. If unfamiliar with how to wear a bucket ask for help.
- 4) Follow directions to the picking location – either walking or ride in the van
- 5) Pick pears gently by using an upward twist of the pear. Generally the stem will break loose where it connects to the tree.
- 6) Pick all pears as high as you can reach and ensure all fruit hiding inside the tree is picked.
- 7) Stay in the assigned lane when picking, reaching into the tree as far as safely possible to pick pears. Do not “circle” the tree to pick all sides. Only “single side” picking the tree.
- 8) If possible avoid cutting through the trees to switch lanes. Doing so exposes the individual to being scraped by the tree and of damaging the tree and the irrigation system.
- 9) If a pear falls on the ground, leave it there. It will be bruised and possibly contaminated.
- 10) Empty the bucket into a bin gently, leaning over and minimizing the distance the pears fall into the bin.
- 11) VERY IMPORTANT – DO NOT START A NEW BIN UNTIL THE CURRENT BIN IS FULL. If unsure, ask the lane coordinator
- 1) ALSO VERY IMPORTANT – DO NOT OVERFILL A BIN. Overfilling a bin damages the fruit on the bottom bin when they are stacked for storage and shipping. A properly filled bin is LEVEL and just slightly below the top lip of the bin. If unsure, ask a row coordinator.
- 12) If you need to use the bathroom while working, be sure to wash your hands before returning to work.
- 13) Keep hydrated. Water containers are distributed throughout the orchard. Take a break as often as needed to keep fresh.
- 14) When finished working, return your picking bucket to the proper bin at the sign in station.

- 15) Thank you for your service.