



Critical Temperatures for Frost Damage on Fruit Trees

Marion Murray, IPM Project Leader

The following table, developed by Washington State University, lists Fahrenheit temperatures for each stage of development at which 10% and 90% bud kill occurs after 30 minutes exposure. The percentage bud kill which causes crop

reduction will vary with each crop. For example, to have a full crop of cherries requires well over 50% bud survival in most years, while apples, pears, and peaches may only need 10-15% bud survival.

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	Silver Tip	Green Tip	Half-Inch Green	Tight Cluster	First Pink (Pink)	Full Pink (Open Cluster)	First Bloom (King Bloom)	Full Bloom and Post-bloom
10%	15	18	23	27	28	28	28	28
90%	2	10	15	21	24	25	25	25

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	Swollen Bud (Scale Separation)	Bud Burst (Blossom Buds Exposed)	Green Cluster (Tight Cluster)	White Bud (First White, Popcorn)	Full White	First Bloom (King Blossom)	Full Bloom	Petal Fall (Post-bloom)
10%	15	20	24	25	26	27	28	28
90%	0	6	15	19	22	23	24	24

APRICOT



	First Swell (Bud Swell)	Tip Separation (Swollen Bud)	First White	First Bloom	Full Bloom	In the Shuck (Petal Fall)	Shuck Split (Post-bloom)
10%	15	20	24	25	27	27	28
90%	---	0	14	19	22	24	25

CHERRY



	Swollen Bud (First Swell)	Bud Burst (Green Tip)	Tight Cluster	White Bud (First White, Popcorn)	First Bloom	Full Bloom	Post-bloom
10%	17	25	26	27	28	28	28
90%	5	14	17	24	25	25	25
TART							
10%	15	26	26	28	28	28	
90%	0	22	24	24	24	25	

PEACH NECTARINE



	Swollen Bud (First Swell)	Calyx Green	Quarter-Inch Green (Calyx Red)	Pink (First Pink)	First Bloom	Full Bloom	Post-bloom
10%	18	21	23	25	26	27	28
90%	1	5	9	15	21	24	25

PLUM	Swollen Bud	Side White	Green Tip	Tight Cluster	First White	First Bloom	Full Bloom	Post-bloom
10%	14	17	20	24	26	27	28	28
90%	0	3	7	16	22	23	23	23