

Marie Shope

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PRUNING

REASONS FOR:

1. Improving shape

Topping - makes fruit easier to pick
reduces wind resistance in hurricanes

Removing limbs and branches - balance appearance
remove obstructing branches from windows, walks
let light into crown - prevent "V"s.

2. Removing dead, diseased or damaged wood
do not leave stubs

METHODS:

1. Pinch - daily chore

2. Snip - cut close to main branch

3. Saw - avoid when possible. Demonstrate how to remove
heavy branch with 3 cuts.

TOOLS:

Thumbnail, knife, shears and saw.

WOUND PAINT:

Should be used on cuts larger than 1" diameter.
Commercial paints most convenient
Also melted paraffin or varnish may be used

TIME:

When objectionable branches are discovered.
Early summer begin pruning with an eye toward hurricane resistance
Clean-up after hurricanes.
In general, after blooming or fruiting is over.
Poinsettias and Bouganvilleas, by end of Sept. (or Oct. 15th)
Roses should be "cleaned out" in November.

OLD CAVITIES: Clean out. Prepare drainage. Apply wound paint.

ACCIDENTAL WOUNDS: Prune away if possible. Or, remove splintered
wood and crushed bark. Shape into oval vertically. Apply
wound paint. Loosened bark should be tacked or bound tight
with elastic or cloth bandage.