The following is the calendar for almond management in California.

**Winter Dormant Season**
- **Tree management.**
  - **Pruning.** Prune trees in December/January to allow more light into the tree to promote growth of new fruiting wood.
  - Remove dead, diseased, drooping branches and “suckers” in the center of trees.
- **Pest management.**
  - Remove and destroy old nuts on trees and on ground to reduce overwintering navel orangeworms.
  - Spray trees with dormant oil to kill peach twig borer, San Jose scale, and mite eggs.

**Spring Bloom Season**
- **Nutrient management (mature trees).** Just prior to the first irrigation, apply 2 lb (0.9 kg urea = 0.4 kg N) or 30 lb (14 kg) of manure. For young trees, use small, frequent doses of N throughout the growing season.
- **Watering.** Irrigate regularly to meet daily tree water needs.
  - Sprinkle irrigate every 1–3 weeks starting 2–3 weeks after winter rains have finished. Apply 2-3 in (5-7.5cm) water/irrigation. Trees growing in shallow or sandy soils need more frequent watering.

**Summer Growing Season**
- **Watering.** Continue irrigating as during spring bloom season. Do not over irrigate as Almonds do not like to be waterlogged.
- **Nutrient management.** Fertilize trees at same rate used for the spring application just prior to last irrigation before harvest.
- **Harvest.** Nuts are ready for harvest after hulls split and the shell is dry and brown. Separate hulls from nut and discard. Nuts can be in shell or out.
- **Post harvest.** Freeze in-shell nuts for 1–2 weeks to kill resident worms. Store in sealed containers to prevent re-infestation.

**Fall Harvest Season**
- **Pest management.** May need to spray trees (with fixed copper) during or after leaf fall but before onset of winter rains to reduce damage from shot hole fungus.

Prepared by Louise Ferguson, Maria P. Santibanez and Mark Bell 2011


For more information visit: [www.ip.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ip.ucdavis.edu)

Copyright © UC Regents Davis campus, 2011. All Rights Reserved.