



December 17, 2018

Dear Gregg Herkenrath,

In regard to the school district's property at Okanogan and Crawford.

I visited the property and walked a few sections of the block. Most trees seem to have some level of infection with 1 to 20 strikes (infections) per tree in about 90% of trees, with an average of around 6 strikes per tree.

Most of the infections appear to be on flower clusters and one-year old wood with a few having cankers which extend into the older wood and scaffolds. A large percentage of trees are Anjou's and so it is not surprising that many of the cankers have stopped before extending to far into the tree.

It is critical that the infections and cankers be cut out of the block so that the bacteria does not spread to other orchards. Although this block is somewhat isolated bees can move the bacteria over relatively long distances.

From a small survey of orchardists effected by fire blight last year the cost of cutting out blight can be quite costly. It ranged from 2 to 64 hours per acre which cost between \$27 to \$864 per acre at \$13.50 per acre. In the next couple of years there will also be additional costs to the grower who takes it on in terms of sprays as there will be a lot of bacteria/inocula in the orchard for a few years until they get the situation under control.

If you can find someone willing to do the work of cutting out the fire blight and managing intensively it is likely worth keeping the block as upon an initial look it does not look like you will lose a large number of trees to the pathogen. However, if you can not find someone to take on the extra challenge it will be important to remove the block before springtime when those cankers will start to ooze bacteria.

I hope this information is helpful but please keep in mind that while I looked through the block I was not able to look at all sections or trees and so this is a cursory assessment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tianna DuPont'.

Tianna DuPont

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