

NUISANCE FRUIT REDUCTION

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Bloom-time is the time to deal with nuisance fruit. A wide variety of ornamental trees produce fruit that is inedible and is also a nuisance for property owners. Some of these trees include olive, crabapple, flowering pear, peach or plum, liquidambar and sycamore. Most of these trees can be sprayed a bloom time with plant growth regulators to prevent this fruit from developing. A commonly used material is called Florel, which contains the plant growth regulator ethephon. There may be other brands containing the same ingredient.

To be effective, Florel must be applied between the mid to full bloom stage. This means, property owners must be ready when the tree begins to bloom. Applications after bloom are not effective.

As with all chemicals, read and follow the label directions closely.