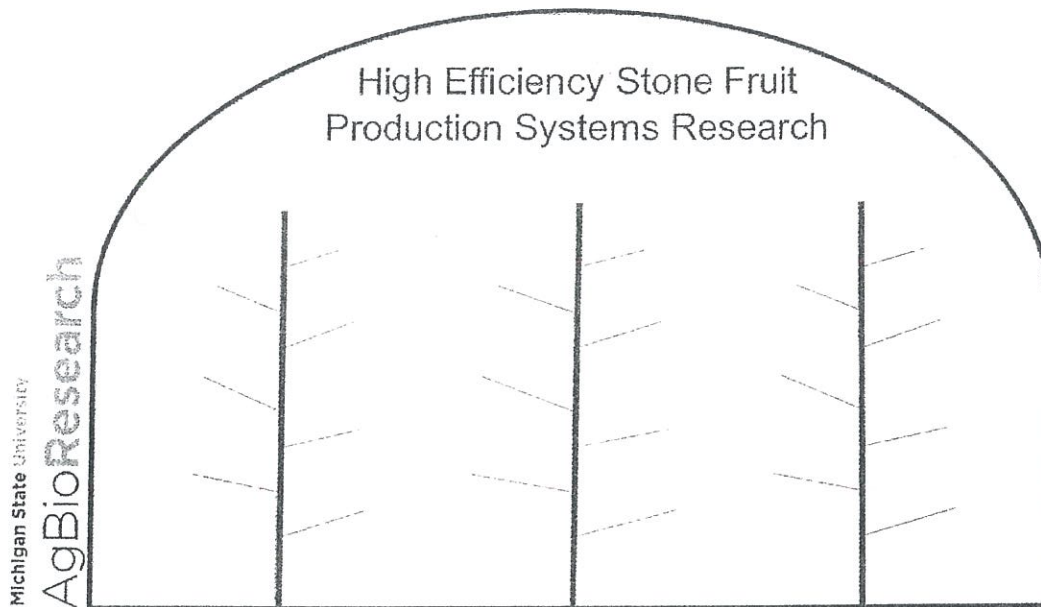


High Tunnel Fruiting Wall Apricots/Apriums, Nectarines, and Plums/Pluots/Plumcots



Principal Investigator: Gregory Lang, MSU Dept of Horticulture

Hypothesis 1: Fruiting wall canopy training systems for apricot/aprium, plum/pluot/plumcot, and nectarine varieties will achieve competitive yields, high fruit quality, and high orchard efficiencies in the absence of dwarfing rootstocks.

Hypothesis 2: High tunnel production systems for apricots/apriums, plums/pluots/plumcots, and nectarines will expand specialty crop production opportunities for Michigan stone fruit and farm market growers.

Canopy Architectures:

TSA, Tall Spindle Axe (nectarines); a spindle system with only the leader as permanent structure, with moderately vigorous and weak lateral shoots

UFO, Upright Fruiting Offshoots (all stone fruits); a narrow fruiting plane with only the horizontal cordon as permanent structure

PLM, Palmate (apricots, plums, plumcots, pluots, and apriums); a narrow fruiting plane of arched multiple leaders

SSA, Super Slender Axe (all stone fruits); a narrow fruiting plane of closely-planted single leaders with many weak lateral shoots

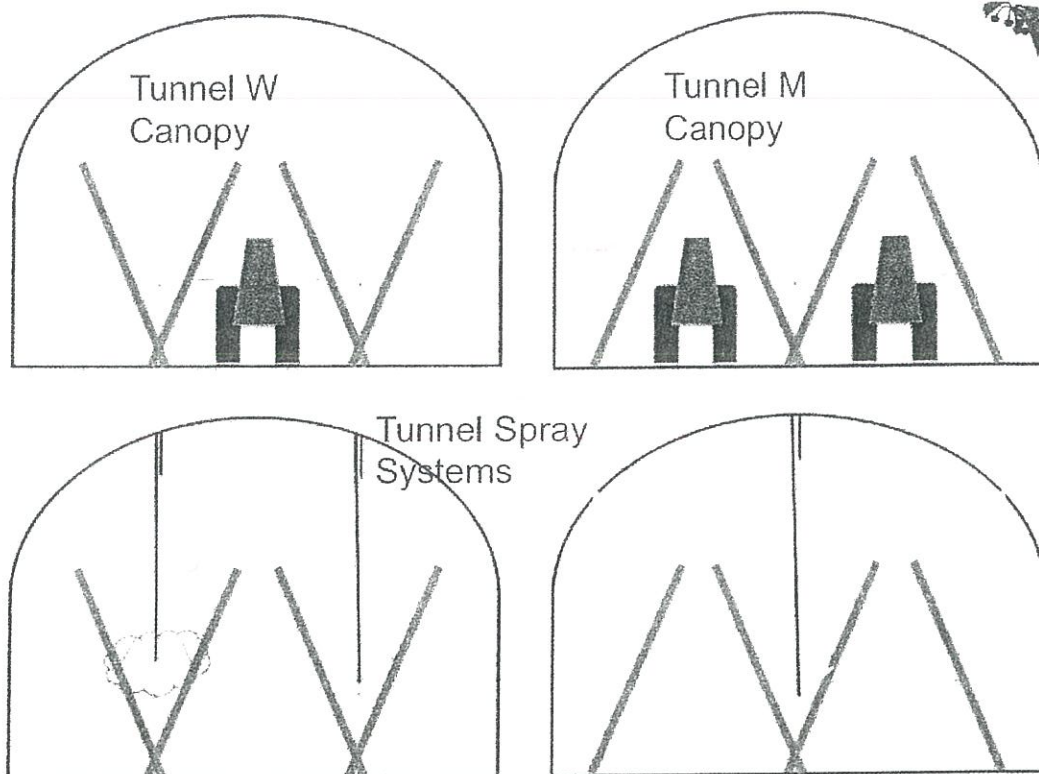
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Michigan State Horticultural Society

USDA-AFRI-Small Farms grant award 2012-68006-30188

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Haygrove Tunnels, Summit Tree Sales



High Quality, High Efficiency, Protected Sweet Cherry Production Systems

Principal Investigator: Gregory Lang, MSU Dept of Horticulture

Protected production:

- early bloom, early ripening, frost protection (1 heater per acre for 1°F increase)
- better pollination (open sky, closed to rain, temperature management)
- better yield (reduced rain-cracking, brown rot, leaf spot, wind-bruising)

Innovative canopy architectures:

- improved yield precocity = earlier returns on investment
- improved distribution of light, air movement, spray applications
- improved harvest labor efficiency
- improved potential for partial mechanization of pruning

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