

High Density Tart Cherry Orchard in Southwest Michigan

Ed Oxley
Oxley Farms
Lawton, MI



Oxley Farms

Primarily Juice and Wine Grape Growers
Lawton/Marcellus area



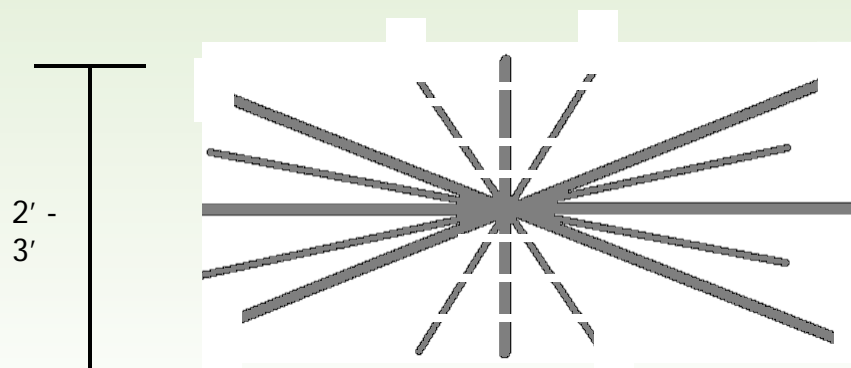
As grape growers, Oxley Farms
used to utilizing equipment to
manage efficiently



Korvan / OXBO self propelled Spindle/tine shaker
(commercial blueberry harvester – unmodified)



Top View



Dotted branches are recyclable, maintained within the 2' – 3' threshold for O.T.R. harvest. Jamie Burns, Res. Assistant, MSU, BSAE

Horticultural Practices



- Bush form
- Recycling branches
- Avoid branches perpendicular to row



Ed Oxley was presented with a catastrophic problem, April 2010 Hail Damage Event

- 3 yr old Montmorency Orchard, planted 19X19'
- 50 acres south of Lawton
- Trees damaged severely from hail.
- Restarted 20 acres by heading at 1.5 ft height and develop into bush for Over the Row harvesting for the future.
- April 2011 inter-planted tree rows = 6x19'

You think that the damage on the surface, is not too bad, then M. Longstroth peeled back bark!!!!



2009 Trial at George Wright's Orchard, Belding
Ed Oxley traveled from SW Michigan to watch our work with Oxbo 9000



Return visit 5/26/10, few weeks after making heading cuts

Some response good



Some response poor



Revist 10/19/10

Most trees by October forced
Adventitious lateral shoots

A small percentage did not respond



Spring 2011, 30 acres removed that were not headed



Spring 2011, 20 acres headed in 2010



April 2011; Inter-planted with Montmorency trees





