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| Revision #:  Written by: | Date: Month DD, YYYY  Approved by: |

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| Related Documents: |  |
| When to use this SWP: | Orchard ladders should be used for their intended purpose only as if used on smooth even surfaces, the ladder can slip out from under the worker. To prevent falls while using the orchard ladder for pruning and harvest operations. |
| Hazards & Risks: | * Falls * Damaged Ladders * Uneven ground * Incorrect Ladder for the task * Contact with electricity |
| Personal Protective Equipment: | * CSA/ANSI approved protective foot wear, safety glasses, hardhat, and gloves. |
| Training Requirements: | * Use of basic PPE * Ladder owner’s manual. |
| Communication Process: | Document the ladder inspection on the ladder inspection checklist. Have another person available while working on a ladder or using the ladder as a transition to another work surface. |
| Equipment & Supplies: | * First Aid Kit * Fire Extinguisher * Cell Phone or Two-way radio |
| **Practice:**   1. The back of the ladder should be towards the center of the tree. 2. With feet on the bottom step ensure ladder is secure. 3. On hills or slopes keep the pole uphill at a 90-degree angle. 4. Do not lean the ladder on the tree. 5. Do not stand on any part of the tree and use the ladder at the same time. 6. Start picking or pruning top of tree and work your way down. 7. Always face the ladder when going up or down. 8. All ladders shall be visually inspected prior to performing a task. 9. Use three points of contact when climbing a ladder. 10. Keep all ladders away from overhead power lines or electrical sources. 11. Never over reach while working on a ladder. If required, climb down and re-set the ladder. 12. Only one person at a time shall climb a ladder. 13. Hands are to be kept free for climbing, tools or materials that cannot be carried safely in a toolbelt must be raised or lowered by rope or handed by another worker. 14. Conduct a thorough inspection of the ladder regularly and document it on the ladder inspection checklist. 15. Use the correct ladder length for the job. 16. Ensure fixed ladders & their guards are free of corrosion, loose or worn steps/rungs & side rails. 17. Check footwear soles and rungs are clear of mud, snow, ice, water, and grease before climbing. 18. Wear footwear with a slight heal to ensure more grip on the rung when climbing. | |
| Emergency Procedures: | In case of emergency, contact 911 and your supervisor immediately. Remove yourself from harm’s way and ensure no one else is at risk. |