

Platform Pear Picker Job Description
Final Draft
4/2/2019

Reports to: Platform Driver or Lane Coordinator

Minimum Requirements: Must be at least 16 years of age (14 years if accompanied by a parent or guardian and able to meet the other requirements), of good health, able to stand and work a three hour shift, raise arms above head, and carry a 10-20 pound bucket of pears.

- 1) Sign in and out at the sign in table.
- 2) Wash hands at the cleaning stations
- 3) Find a suitable bucket to wear. If unfamiliar with how to wear a bucket ask for help.
- 4) **Eye protection is mandatory.**
 - a. Prescription or personal eyewear is acceptable.
 - b. Eyewear side shields are optional and will be provided
 - c. If using a non-prescription pair of eye protection provided by the welfare farm, please use only one pair for the duration of the harvest. You are welcome to take it home but remember to bring it for your subsequent shifts.
- 5) Follow directions to the picking location – either walking or ride in the van
- 6) **Wearing of safety harness is mandatory.**
 - a. The harness must fit properly and provide the ability to hold the wearer if he/she falls.
 - b. Ensure the lanyard is properly attached to the harness and the platform.
- 7) While picking, trust the harness. You should be able to safely lean into the harness to pick pears.
- 8) Pick pears gently by using an upward twist of the pear. Generally the stem will break loose where it connects to the tree.
- 9) If a pear falls on the ground, leave it there. It will be bruised and possibly contaminated.
- 10) Empty the bucket into a bin gently, leaning over and minimizing the distance the pears fall into the bin.
- 11) **VERY IMPORTANT** - Ensure all filled bins are filled **LEVEL** and properly tagged. **DO NOT OVERFILL BINS.** A properly filled bin is level and just slightly below the top lip of the bin, so when bins are stacked pears in the bottom bin are not crushed.
- 12) If you need to use the bathroom while working, be sure to wash your hands before returning to work.
- 13) Keep hydrated. Water containers are located on the platforms. Get a drink whenever there is a break in the picking (turning around, dropping a bin, etc.).
- 14) When finished working, return your picking bucket to the proper bin at the sign in station.
- 15) Thank you for your service.