

## Ontario Tree Fruit Innovation and Technology Roadmap

### 3-Wheeled Bucket

#### Evaluating New Technologies

	Feasibility and cost	Implement	Labour Reduced	Changes in production	Training for staff	Impact on risk of COVID-19 Transmission
	low, medium, high	easy, medium, challenging	% estimate	easy, medium, hard	none, medium, high	none, low, medium, high
3-wheeled bucket (1 person) or "Cherry Picker"	high	medium	20	easy	medium	medium

Current Status - The bucket is mainly used for open centre trained tender fruit trees, pruning the tops of trees while other workers prune from the ground in separate operations. Growers are using individual and now newer multiple buckets for pruning and other hand operations replacing ladders.

Feasibility of Implementation - The costs can be high for the one-person unit and payback might be more than a few years.

Impact on Labour - Buckets increase worker efficiency with less worker fatigue compared to climbing and moving a ladder for long periods of time. Buckets are not used for every crop, mainly for open centre tree systems where trees are quite tall.

COVID-19 Mitigation Risk - The benefit of this technology is to help to reduce labour for pruning, as such this technology helps lower the risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission for growing operations.

Need for Change, Research and Training - Implementation would require training and a specialized set of skills for the operator of this equipment.